



BLAZER BULLETIN

A MONTHLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2020



VISION

Every learner is inspired and supported to be a confident, innovative, and dynamic thinker who will shape a new and better world for the future.

MISSION

Our learning community is committed to providing high quality learning experiences that will empower students to pursue personal passions and ambitious goals through self-efficacy, innovation, and perseverance.

THE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello October! October is a month to celebrate celebrating each other and our community. Get excited, Blazers! We have so many fun events planned for you to make this October memorable for your child.

We all face challenges with learning at some point or the other. This month, students are researching and sharing their findings about world famous women and men who have reached unparalleled success in their respective fields, when they overcame the challenges they faced. Be sure to ask your child who they are learning about! Blazers have also resolved to wear red on October 15 to celebrate our world in which students with Dyslexia have the tools and resources to soar.

I am beyond proud of the wonderful bond that we all share. This bond can only be strengthened through the kindness we show each other. Wear Orange on Unity Day to celebrate kindness and friendship on October 21!

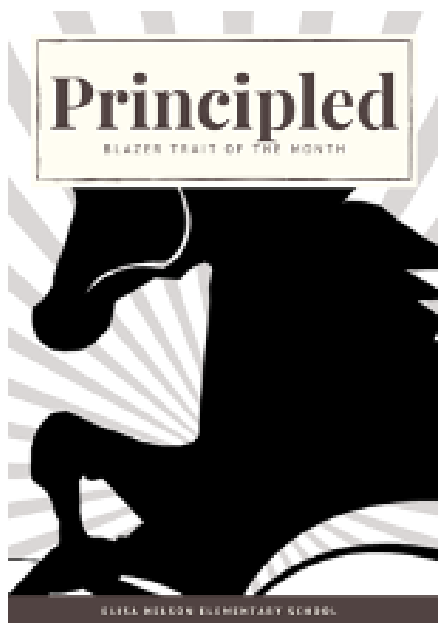
At the heart of the vision and mission of our school is our commitment to empower students by building student agency. Blazers are wrapping up their student-led conferences this week, and I want to thank you for supporting this process. Student agency and student voice are intrinsically linked. This week we have introduced the Books & Ballots Spirit week, Vote for Books – Reading Challenge, and Student Council election process to students. These opportunities for student voice and expression will strengthen students' confidence and build their sense of belonging in our community.

Thank you for spreading kindness in our community and for your continued support!

Go Blazers!

Hema Adhia

BLAZER TRAIT OF THE MONTH



Our commitment to excellence continues this month as we move to another Blazer Trait: Principled. According to our Blazer Traits, Principled asks the following of each Blazer: We exhibit honesty and integrity in all that we do and take responsibility for our actions and their consequences. We have a strong sense of fairness and justice and show respect for the risks and dignity of all humans and animals and recognize the value of our shared planet. Each day, we call for our Blazers to demonstrate this character trait and use it to propel their success. Please review this trait with your student and continue to support us at home.

DreamBox Family Virtual Night

Oct. 20th 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Pinellas County families are invited to join us for an informational night with DreamBox Learning to learn more about DreamBox and how to support at home.

http://bit.ly/PCS_FamilyNight

Sign up to get your DreamBox questions answered and receive valuable resources to help your child.

Not able to make it? DreamBox is also providing support EVERY week with Open Office Hours.

Sign up here to attend: http://bit.ly/PCS_Families



Dreambox Learning is an adaptive, online learning platform that will be used with all students. The program:

- aligns with the Mathematics Florida Standards.
- adapts to the individual user.
- personalizes instruction from intervention through enrichment.
- integrates assessment with instruction.



ELISA NELSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CENTER FOR GIFTED STUDIES & LITERACY INNOVATION

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

October 9th - 14th
Home Event for all Learners

Student Led conferences are a fantastic opportunity for our scholars to showcase their successes, growth, and principles. At Elisa Nelson Elementary, we believe that Student Led Conferences offer a method for increasing student responsibility for learning. These conferences empower our students to report to parents and significant adults on a range of topics and they will begin to see the importance of completing work, keeping track of work, and producing high quality work.

What is the purpose of a Student Led Conference?

The purpose is to provoke discussion and reflection on student strengths and personal growth. Student Led Conferences are not in lieu of Parent/Teacher Conferences, but as an avenue for the student to share their personal points of pride. Student Led Conferences provide a framework for analyzing student progress to encourage student ownership of learning.

How will this work?

Students will review portfolio and individual goals with parents at home. Students will be selecting artifacts (digital or paper) to be placed in their portfolio as the weeks progress. Parents will be provided with guiding questions and reflection tools to be completed and returned to the teacher with the student's portfolio. More information will be provided by your child's teacher in the coming days.

BOOKS & BALLOTS

Elisa Nelson Elementary Celebration of Literacy, Elections, and School Spirit

It's time to celebrate Literacy and the Election process in our first Books and Ballots Spirit events. Over the course of the next month, our Blazers will participate in several activities including:

- myOn Reading Contest
- Student Council – Opening of club and election process
- Spirit Week (Dress Up Days)



STUDENT COUNCIL

Elisa Nelson Elementary

Student Council at Elisa Nelson Elementary gives students the opportunity to practice leadership skills throughout the school and work in various groups. Students will have opportunities to report to classes, administrators, sponsors, and other student council representatives.

Student Council will be comprised of one student from each classroom, grades one through five, and are chosen by their peers based on honesty, leadership skills, personal responsibility, and good behavior.

Fifth grade student council members will have the opportunity to run for President of the school. This will include a school wide election, speeches, and voting.

Members of Student Council will attend monthly meetings.

Attention: All PK-5 students in Pinellas

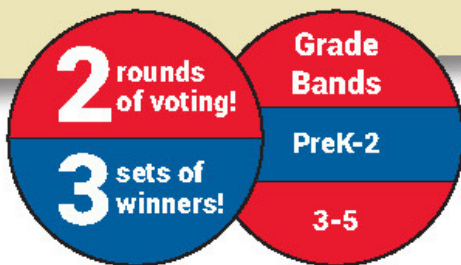
Join our Fall 2020 Reading Challenge!

October 12–November 3

VOTE FOR BOOKS

Here's what you need to do:

- BE INFORMED**—Read all 5 books for your grade band.
When: Between October 12 and October 23
- VOTE IN ROUND 1**—Vote for the book you liked best.
When: By October 23
- GET READY TO VOTE AGAIN**—Review the 2 books that got the most votes in your grade band during Round 1 of voting.
When: Between October 26 and November 3
- VOTE IN ROUND 2**—Vote for the book you liked best from the 2 books you reviewed.
When: By November 3



Winners will be announced on November 4!

TOP BOOK IN EACH GRADE BAND—the books that received the most votes in Round 2 of voting.



TOP SCHOOL— the school with the highest percentage of students voting in Round 2. Top School will receive recognition on social media channels and a banner.

TOP READER IN EACH GRADE BAND— selected through a random drawing of students who read all five books in their grade band and voted in Round 2.



Top Readers will receive great prizes!

Visit readonmyon.com to get the list of books for your grade band and vote!

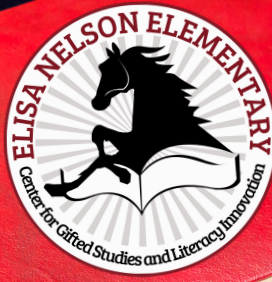
RENAISSANCE
myON

www.ReadonmyON.com

pcs
PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

jwb
Juvenile Welfare Board

United
Way
United Way Suncoast



BOOKS & BALLOTS SPIRIT WEEK

10/27 - 10/30

TUESDAY

WEAR
RED
WHITE &
BLUE

WEDNESDAY

WORD
WEDNESDAY

WEAR A
SHIRT WITH
WORDS!

THURSDAY

DRESS
FOR
SUCCESS!

WEAR YOUR MOST
PROFESSIONAL
ATTIRE

FRIDAY

BOOK
CHARACTER
DAY

DRESS LIKE A BOOK
CHARACTER AND BRING IN A
DESCRIPTION OF THE MAJOR
STORY ELEMENTS INCLUDING:
MAIN CHARACTER, SETTING,
AND MAJOR EVENTS OF THE
BOOK.



NEWS

The library is up and running for student checkout! if you have any books that have not been returned from last school year, please do so ASAP. Notices will be sent out via email and a letter home in the next couple of weeks.

TECHNOLOGY RETURN

If your child is a face-to-face learner, and you checked out a school computer it is time to return those computers!

Computer and chargers may be returned in the car line or the front office.

If you are currently a my PCS online learner and are returning after the first quarter, computers may be brought into school and returned to the child's classroom teacher.

martinrac@pcsb.org

Thank you! Ms. Martin

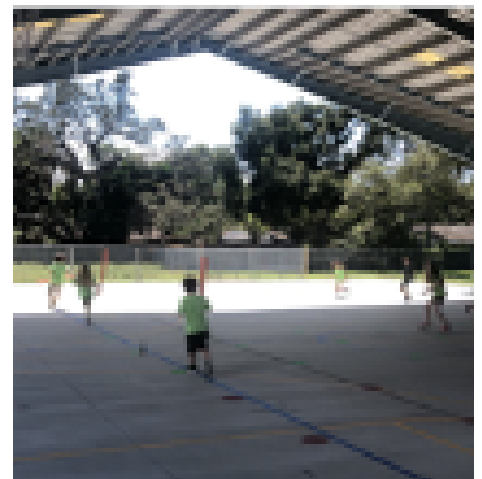




PE NEWS

Fitness Education has been working on Fitness this quarter. The students are working very hard and we are very proud of them. We are preparing for our FitnessGram test which includes pacer run, push up and sit up test. Our equipment use is very limited per district guidelines. Some activities we have worked on include locomotor skills, noodle tag, no hands kickball, hopscotch, pattern puzzle and vertical jump. We have discussed terms like sportsmanship, fair play, cardio endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility and circulation

The students have done a tremendous job social distancing. We look forward to an exciting year in Fitness Education!



Ms. Rosenburg & Mr. Hemburger



ART NEWS

Mrs. Vertullo's Art Studio Students in each grade level have finished their first projects and are diving right into their second one for the first quarter! As always, I am impressed and inspired by their creativity!

5th grade - just finished a fundraising project called Kid's Tag Art where they created a design for a vanity tag that can be purchased through the Pinellas County Tax Office, to raise awareness of the Arts in Pinellas County Schools! More to follow!

4th grade - is learning about illustrating Form by using Value and Contour lines, as well as Complimentary Color Schemes.

3rd grade - is learning about creating a sense of visual Space and Depth in their artwork.

2nd grade - just finished a creative Sun and Moon which illustrates their knowledge of Warm and Cool colors.

1st grade - Learned about the parts of a weaving while creating some wiggly, patterned worms hiding in the grass!

Congratulations to the following students whose artwork has been accepted to be displayed in Creative Start Student Art exhibit: Zachary S., Sophie S., Joseph D., Heidi M., and Olivia M.!

Also: Srideeksha K., whose work scored a perfect 4, receiving a Certificate of Excellence with Distinction in the Florida Art Education Association's virtual competition, and is featured in a Virtual Exhibit on the FAEA website!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about our Art program at: vertullos@pcsb.org

Mrs. Vertullo

A MESSAGE FROM THE FRONT OFFICE



We miss our volunteers!! While we are unable to have parent volunteers on campus, at the moment, I would love for you to be ready when we are allowed to welcome you back. If you are already a registered volunteer, please be sure to log in and reactivate your account. If you have not had a chance to register as a Level 1 volunteer, please do! We would like all parents

and families that come on campus to have a Level 1 security clearance. It is easy and FREE to get this clearance. Please register here <https://asd.pcsb.org/schoolwiresforms/volunteer/> Level 2 clearance can be obtained after signing up for Level 1 and having your fingerprints done at one of the approved vendors. Please feel free to contact Kelly Reiser with any questions.



The Great American Teach In (GATI) is scheduled for November 18. Everything is virtual this year so there will be live virtual sessions in the classrooms and/or pre-recorded sessions to share. This is a great opportunity to reach beyond normal borders and schedule speakers across the country.

Please sign up here https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BZM8c9c5GkaGb_3ye_PH_6Gn7O9PPpFGiLvCVVkl75JUNThaTjFVVEVJS0tBODRJU0VWQlpQSlpFWC4u

A MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE



Is it Flu or is it COVID-19?

COVID-19 and influenza can cause similar symptoms. Influenza symptoms show up 1-4 days after you are exposed to a sick person. COVID-19 symptoms appear 2-14 days after being exposed.

Common symptoms of BOTH influenza and COVID-19

- Fever/chills
- Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- Stuffy, runny nose
- Cough
- Extreme tiredness
- Headache
- Vomiting and diarrhea

Symptom more common in COVID-19: **Loss of taste or smell**

If your child is sick:

- Children with symptoms should stay home from school or child care.
- If your child has been exposed to COVID-19, or you are concerned about your child's symptoms, call your pediatrician immediately.
- Everyone 6 months old and up should get the flu vaccine every year to stay healthy and **#FightFlu!**

The Fall
Annual

FLU BOO



Don't boo hoo
with the flu...
Get a flu shot at
no cost to you!

.....
Thursday, October 22, 2020
5 - 7 pm

*Ages 3+, weather permitting &
while supplies last!*

Clearwater Health Department
310 N. Myrtle Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33755

Download and complete your registration form at
www.pinellashealth.com
Contact us at 727-824-6932
for more information



Save the Date

Inviting all Blazer Families

FOR A VIRTUAL PRESENTATION ON
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER
27TH AT 6 PM**

**SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH
READING DIFFICULTIES**

Presenter

Sue Sasko

Certified Structured Literacy Tutor

Sponsored by Elisa Nelson PTA

Program Information

The Adopt A Class Program creates a partnership between the local business community and our school.

For a tax-deductible donation, your business or family has the opportunity to "Adopt-A-Class" or a special area (ex: media center, guidance). Your donation will be used to purchase one or more items from your classroom's wish list such as software, books, classroom supplies, student incentives, and rewards.

The Adopt-A-Class program is set up to begin in September and run through April. Adoptions are assigned as they are received. Our goal is to have all areas adopted as all students should be afforded the benefits of the program.

The students benefiting from this program are your customers, clients, and employees of the future. Let us join together to ensure that the future leaders of our community are given the best we have to offer.

**We look forward to working
with you!**

Objectives

To create an environment where students and staff at Elisa Nelson Elementary feel that the local business community is dedicated to their education and future.

To create an atmosphere among the students at Elisa Nelson of pride and respect for our local business community.

To gain financial support for our classrooms and special areas of our school.

To offer an opportunity for students to become aware of future careers available to them.

Thank you for your donation.



Family & Business Partnerships

ADOPT A CLASS PROGRAM 2020-2021

**Elisa Nelson
Elementary School**

415 15th Street
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Phone: 727-298-2788
Fax: 727-754-8396

Elisa Nelson Elementary School Adopt A Class Partnership Form

Name of Business or Family: _____ Contact Person: _____
Complete Address: _____ City: _____ Zip code: _____
Phone: _____ Email Address: _____
Student Name: _____ Student Grade: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Elisa Nelson Elementary School
415 15th Street Palm Harbor, FL, 34683

Please consider the option designating your donation to any class that has not yet been fully adopted. A class is considered "fully adopted" when the class has received \$150 in funding. Donations of any amount are always welcomed and appreciated.

Please indicate your choice by checking the appropriate box:

- Adopt certain teacher/program: _____ Adopt the following area(s):
- Split money between teachers listed and/or programs
- 1st Choice: _____ Media Center
- 2nd Choice: _____ Administration
- 3rd Choice: _____ Guidance

Please note special instructions: _____

What type of work is your business involved in?

Would you be interested in speaking to classes during the Great American Teach In November 18, 2020? Yes or No (please circle one)

Unless otherwise specified in special instructions above, any unused funds will be carried over in the ADOPT-A-School program for school-wide use in future school year.



School Pictures

**Monday
November 16th**

*More details
to come*