

Upcoming Events

- November
- 2nd - 20th
- PMAC Canned Food Drive
- 3rd
- K Kids 3pm
- 5th
- Girlfriends (during lunch)
- 6th
- Bucs Football Drills (specials)
- 7th
- Hawk Huddle 7:45am PE Court
- 11th
- Veterans Day Assembly 9am PE Court
- 12th
- Great American Teach In
- 13th
- PMAC Meeting
- 14th
- Fall Picture Retakes
- 17th - 21st
- Dental Sealant Program
- 18th
- Principal List Lunch - ChickFilA
- 19th
- Rotary Kid Lunch
- 20th
- PreK Pie Party 10:30am
- 21st
- Hawk Huddle 7:45 PE Court
 - Kindergarten Pow Wow
- 22nd - 30th
- Thanksgiving Holiday No School

AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS (3pm)

- K-Kids - 1st Monday of the month (starting October)
- Girl Scouts - Every Tuesday 3:15pm-4:15
- Beach Club - Every Thursday

If You See Something Say Something



www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern

Look for Warning Signs. If you see something suspicious Say Something.

Report by going to www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern



<https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleElementaryHawks>

<https://www.instagram.com/seminoleelementaryhawks/>



this issue

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Message From Mr. Cerreta

Dear Seminole Families,

As we begin the month of November, we keep in mind that November is a wonderful and appropriate month to express thankfulness and gratitude for all that we have and for the beauty that surrounds us. Thank you, Seminole Elementary families, for the many blessings we share each day and for allowing me the pleasure working with your children each day.

While many of you may be struggling this Thanksgiving, we hope you are able to take a moment to enjoy the moments with your family. Wishing you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Report Card Award Criteria

Intermediate 3-5 Award Criteria

*Only one award will be given to each student that has earned one, with exception to Perfect Attendance *

Positive Hawk	All Es & Vs in conduct	Ribbon
Honor Roll	All As and Bs academics & All S and above in conduct	Certificate & Ribbon
Principal's List	All As in academics and S and above in conduct	Certificate & Medallion
Perfect Attendance	No Absences	Certificate

Primary Grades 1&2

Positive Hawk	All Es & Vs in conduct including specials	Ribbon
Honor Hawk	All Es and Vs academics & All E's and Vs in conduct	Ribbon
Principal's Pride	All Es in academics & All E's and Vs in conduct	Ribbon
Perfect Attendance	No Absences	Certificate

Veterans Day Program— Join us on Tuesday, November 11 at 9:00 on the P.E. Court for our annual Veterans Day Program. All parents and Veterans are encouraged to join us for a brief concert featuring the Seminole Hawk Chorus as well as a patriotic presentation from our neighbors at the VFW. We have parking available on the PE field.

Great American Teach In- The Teach In is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12th. We are looking for guest speakers and presenters. Please contact Heather Plankey, our school community liaison, if you are interested in being one of our guest speakers.



Our school has purchased Accelerated Reader again. AR is a popular reading program used in schools. AR helps teachers track students' independent practice and progress with reading. Students take a short quiz to assess comprehension and vocabulary skills. Students have individual goals based on their reading level to meet. We have goals and recognitions for students who meet or exceed their goals.

2025-26 Accelerated Reader Individual Recognitions

Recognitions	Grade 1-2	Grades 3-5
Bubbled on morning show	25 points	50 points
Name in the newsletter	50 points	100 points
Accelerated Reader certificate	75 points	150 points
Reading medallion	100 points	200 points
Handprint on wall	125 points	250 points
Gold star on sidewalk	250 points	500 points
Name/design ceiling tile	375 points	750 points
Name on plaque in office	500 points	1,000 points

To find out if a book has an Accelerated Reader quiz, go to <https://www.arbookfind.com>

Reading Expectations

Students are expected to read Monday - Thursday and parents should sign reading logs

- 30 minutes minimally for grades K-2
- 45 minutes minimally for grades 3-5

PINELLAS COUNTY FALL READING CHALLENGE

November 22nd - 30th

All students Pre-K - 5th grade are encouraged to read as much as possible during break. Read books on MuOn and take an AR quiz. Students who read a minimum 200 minutes will be entered into a random drawing. 20 winners will receive a medal and tablet. 5 winners will receive a medal and laptop. Winners will be announced December 1, 2025

Character Kids for October

PRE-K

Scott - Landon Lamping
Piper - Ben May
Green - Jack Cook
Williams/Bolden - Noelia Castro Marin

KG:

Conde - Joey Hoepner
Schuler - Buddy Lewarne
Schuler - Fletcher Frutos
Horton - Zadok Rivera
Horton - Samira Sanchez-Castellanos

1st:

Benjamin - Elly Yang
Luczaj - Amaya Croteau

2nd:

Calhoun - Evelyn Travis
Sadock - Bobby Lyon
Brady - Sophia Holland

3rd:

Rudolph - Ethan Espaillat
Morgan - Sebastian Murchake
Bramlett - Josiah Hernandez
Kopkau - Moayad Abdul Rahman

4th:

Rongey - Millains St. Martin
Croese - Giovanni Schement

5th:

Gorman - Mia Huang
Vidak - Arianna Kleyner
Moses - Kamryn Smith

Multi-Grade

Mucerino - AJ Morris

Quarter 1 Honor Roll Students

3rd Grade

Bianca Blau
Arabella Bolden
Bella Chau
Benjamin Daniels
Annalese Crisp
Ethan Espaillat
Olivia Finical
Zoey Khvorostov
Kaliyah Lacy
Sunny Lin
Brayden Mccafferty
Sebastian Murchake
Grantley Pedigo
Dustin Porter
Kailani Rivera
Emmaline Robles
Braxton Six
Everley Young

4th Grade

Jessalynn Alincy
David Conway
Rafael Espinal
Coleston Green
Cayson Gutillo,
Isaiah Herz
Harvic Hewett
Bennett Humphreys
Christian Losada Isaac

4th Grade cont.

Bryce Manning
Brayden Martinez
Ryleigh Mcknight
Ella Paige
Sophia
Singkhaophet
Caydan Stancik
Ella Twiss
Victoria Vanguela
Calzadillas
Myla Webber
Lopez
Fisher Wilson
Beryl Yi
Maya Castellanos
Jaidon Cunningham
Salvador Espinal
Liam Hootman
Mia Huang
Olivia Khvorostov
Arianna Kleyner
Ze Yang Lin
Lucas Scholz
Kamryn Smith
Quinn Sperling,
Jackson Turnbull

Outstanding Readers

One aspect of our School Wide Reading Program is for students to read 45 minutes for Grades 3-5 and 20-30 minutes for grades 1-2.

After students read a book or have a book read to them, they take an Accelerated Reader test to earn points.

Congratulations to the following students for earning 100 points grades 3-5 and 50 points grades 1-2.

1st- 2nd Grade (50 Points)

Nora Bramlett Mohammad Halaweh
Dorothy Rongey Grayson Speak Carson Speak

3rd – 5th Grade (100 Points)

Sophia Singkhaophet Ivan Lysikov

Quarter 1 Principals's List Students

Moayad Abdul Rahman Aiden Cochran
Nova Crowder Salma Halaweh
Luna Miranda-Diaz Colton Voisin
Avery Wright Marcus Colon
Giovanni Schement Lillian Soles
Rowan Plomatos Diana Rizo-Padilla



Message From Dr. McCafferty Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

Does your child have a Progress Monitoring Plan (PMP)? A PMP is a specific, detailed plan tailored to identify individual assistance that will be given to remedy a student's individually diagnosed deficiencies. The PMP is an active working document that reflects what is being done to help remediate a student's deficiencies. The PMP intervention process is a continual process that occurs four times during a school year (August, Cycle 1, Cycle 2, and Cycle 3). Families of students with a PMP from their last year's data already had a PMP generated, shared, and signed.

Students with data that generates a PMP from Cycle 1 of the current school year, will begin to have these PMPs shared with families for review and signatures. If a student had an August PMP but is making progress during the benchmarks in their current grade level, the PMP with teacher and parent input, the PMP can be faded! This means the child may not need the specific additional interventions that were in place because they are showing progress.

To support your child's success in reading, math, and science proficiency, please ensure they are reading for their required minutes, practicing their math facts, and exploring the fascinating world around us!

Please contact your child's teacher or me, if you have any questions.

Dr. McCafferty

AVID NEWS

AVID in Elementary School: Building Strong Learners

our school, we use AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) to help students develop strong learning habits that last a lifetime. Through AVID, children learn important skills like staying organized, setting goals, and working well with others. These strategies build confidence and independence, helping students take charge of their own learning. By starting AVID early, we're giving our students the tools they need to succeed now—and in the years to come!

Guidance Corner

From Ms. Moore



As we begin the countdown to the holidays, I wanted to make sure you are all aware of the opportunities to help, as well as opportunities to be blessed by our Seminole community. If you would like to help families at Thanksgiving, you can donate a **Thanksgiving Blessing Basket**. Watch for more information on SES social media and in Mr. Cerreta's weekly update. Contact me with any questions.

If you would like to help families at Christmas, you may stop by my office during November to pick up an **ornament from our Holiday Giving Tree** with a wish list for a student from our school.

If you are in need of community support this holiday season, here are some available resources:

1. **Seminole Holiday Meal Assistance Form** (yellow sheet sent home in August)
 - a. You will be contacted as resources become available if you turned one in
2. **Seminole Holiday Giving Tree** (pink sheet sent home in August)
 - a. You will be contacted with gift pick up information in December if you turned one in
3. **Toys for Tots** - register online and follow their instructions for pick up
4. **Christmas Toy Shop** (550 16th St. N St. Petersburg, FL 33705):

Registration-Distribution

In December 2025 the Christmas Toy Shop will distribute toys to eligible children ages infant thru 12 years of age.

You **must** register in person at the Christmas Toy Shop to receive toys.

There is **NO** online registration.

Registration dates: November 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, and 15.

Time: 10:00 – 3:00

PLEASE NOTE: There are a limited number of toy pickup appointments available. Once all appointments have been filled, we will close registration.

To register you must present the following:

Parent/Guardian driver's license or photo ID

Proof of public assistance (food stamps-Medicaid-WIC-SSI)

Proof of Pinellas County residency

Proof of child's age (birth certificate **OR** immunization record **OR** recent report card)

Park in the Christmas Toy Shop parking lot. Any questions, please contact us at 727-898-3962 on Tuesday or Wednesday 9:30 – 3:00.

NO CHILDREN ALLOWED AT REGISTRATION

We will continue to let you know as more opportunities to give or receive become available. We look forward to partnering with our families to help make this holiday season special and fun for everyone.



2025-2026 Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan

School's Mission Statement: To close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.

Measurable Outcomes: 100% Student Success
Building Capacity of Families

- Partnering with PTA, SAC, and community members.
- Our night events will be geared to ensuring involvement of parents and to support a partnership among families, school and community.
- Night events will include literacy night, winter fest, multicultural night, all aimed at supporting family engagement in education.
- Math and Reading at Home Plans
- Progress monitoring plans
- Resources provided in the monthly school newsletter.
- Flyers sent home
- Weekly messages from Principal via email.
- School messenger messages from Principal as appropriate
- Facebook postings
- Instagram postings
- School website
- PCS website

Staff Professional Development related to Family Engagement

How will school leadership actively build teacher and staff capacity related ongoing family engagement connected to academic goals?

- Family conference night
- Encourage participation at Night events.
- Training held during pre-school and/or professional development days geared at increasing capacity and knowledge of how to leverage the power of family engagement and involvement.
- Ways to communicate with families to streamline communication to make it more effective, timely, and purposeful

Office News

If you need to come into the front office, please make sure you are parking in a visitor space or pull forward to the end of the car circle so you are not blocking people from pulling forward.

If you are planning on picking your student up early please notify the office in advance so we can have your student ready for you. Early pick up of students should occur before 2:15 p.m.

Volunteering:

Please reach out to Heather Plankey in the front office to inquire about how to become a volunteer and any volunteer opportunities.

Great American Teach In:

Please contact Heather Plankey in the school office if you would like to share your hobby or career with our students for the Great American Teach In. This is taking place on Wednesday, November 12th.

Social Work Corner

From Ms. Sullivan

Here Today, Ready for Tomorrow!

Success in school starts with being present daily and on time. Seminole Elementary's attendance goal is 95% Daily Attendance Rate. We are currently at 94.1% Daily Attendance. Parents, Thanksgiving break is coming up in November, please try to have your child here every day so we can meet our goal!

Our Classroom Winners for the September

Attendance Awareness Challenge are

VPK-- Ms. Pipper & Ms. Green (Winners last month)

K-2-- Mrs. Calhoun (Winner for last month)

3-5 --Mrs. Bramlett

These classes will have a special attendance banner on their classroom door and will receive additional time at recess on the last school day of the month. GREAT JOB!

Attendance Matters!

Regular attendance helps children feel confident, connected, and successful at school.

- Arriving on time is important—being just 10 minutes late each day adds up!
- Help your child get enough sleep and plan morning routines ahead.
- Celebrate milestones: consider a small reward or praise when your child comes to school on time every day for a week.

Social-Emotional Focus: Managing Big Emotions

Children experience many feelings—excitement, worry, or frustration. Helping them **name and manage emotions** is key to success at school and home.

Tips for Families:

- Ask your child to name their feelings each day: "How are you feeling today?"
- Model calm responses when frustrated.
- Teach a "calm down corner" at home or simple breathing exercises:
 - Take 5 deep breaths
 - Count to 10 slowly
 - Stretch or move around

Art News



Artists in 5th grade are studying visual texture, and can use it to draw and watercolor a dragon or monster eye. In 4th grade they are studying architecture and creating spooky houses with a watercolor background. In 3rd grade, they became art scientists and mixed paint colors to create tertiary colors to complete a color wheel. After that they cut out the color wheel and turned it into a eye with spider webs around it. Second grade artists have been studying symmetry and the Mexican holiday Dia de Los Muertos that uses sugar skull decorations. They are touching on the culture of Mexico by creating an "ofrenda" table setup with the sugar skull in mixed media. In first grade we learned how to mix 2 primary colors to make a secondary color and painted pumpkins that when cut collage paper was added, turned into Jack O lanterns! In kindergarten, students studied shapes and turned traced and cut out shapes into "shape monsters" with drawn and cut out details. In the photo on page 4, you see a giant check being presented to the Art department from Curlew Hills Funeral Home because 4th graders participated in a remembrance of 9/11 art exhibit.

OT News - Mrs. Myers

Handwriting doesn't come easily to all students and practicing it too much can make them not like it!

Does your student struggle to write? Many students started writing even before kindergarten and often learned incorrect letter formations which can eventually make it hard to write legibly especially when writing has to be done in a shorter amount of time. Encouraging the correct letter formations early is key. When practicing at home, keep sessions short with the emphasis on making it fun!

Here are a few FUN ways that you can practice handwriting skills at home with your child:

Use dry erase markers on a sliding glass door to practice writing letters of the alphabet or sight words they're working on in the classroom.

Use a cookie sheet with shave cream or salt to use a finger to write letters or words.

Sidewalk chalk is a great way to practice writing skills. Try writing HUGE letters on the driveway or sidewalk and for an even better strengthening activity, use a vertical surface like the side of the house...just make sure the chalk will completely wash off the house first!

Use a spray bottle on "stream" setting to spray letters on to the driveway.

Shave cream on the wall during bath time makes a great opportunity to practice writing letters, one on each tile!

Designating an area of the bedroom for a chalkboard painted wall is a great way to let kids draw and be creative. Use a piece of woodwork mounted upside down on the wall as a tray for the chalk.

Write in the sand at the beach with sticks or shells.

Tic Tac Toe using other letters beside just using only X and O. You could even do sight words instead of using letters.

Unified Champions

November: Perseverance

This month we're focusing on perseverance. The ability to keep going when things get difficult is a life skill that will serve your child well.

As a Special Olympics Champion School, we want each student to understand that something that is easy for him or her might be difficult for someone else, and vice versa. Through perseverance members of our community can support one another as we all learn and grow.

Here are a few conversation starters you can use when talking about perseverance with your child:

*Share with your child a story about a time you worked extra hard to reach a goal.

*Ask your child what's easy for him or her. What's more difficult?

*Who helps your child when things get difficult? In turn, who does your child help?

*Does your child have a goal that he or she wants to meet? How could perseverance help?



Business Partnerships

Seminole Elementary has many opportunities to partner with the businesses and organizations in our community. To find out how your organization can partner with our school please contact Heather Plankey in the school office at (727)547-7668 or plankeyh@pcsb.org



October Do Re Mi-mutes

We are so proud of the 2 4th and 5th grade singers who after auditioning for the Florida Elementary All State Chorus were selected to sing in the Florida Southern Regional Honor Choir. This takes a lot of courage and bravery from our singers, and furthermore, it proves that music is alive and thriving here at Seminole Elementary. Please acknowledge the following singers for being selected for this amazing opportunity: Giovanni S and Kynyn W. Southern Regionals will take place this Saturday in Lakeland. We are proud of the dedication from these singers and their home adults.

Our fifth-grade musicians have the opportunity to attend an orchestra concert in this month as part of the district performing arts curriculum. The field trip for The Florida Orchestra concert is that no charge for students and will take place during the day on October 29 at the Mahaffey theater in St. Pete. Permission slips have been sent home. Please have a conversation about concert etiquette and how to be a respectful audience member, so we can have a successful trip. We have finalized the music calendar for the year.

Every Thursday and Friday 8:10-8:40 AM - chorus rehearsal in the music room

Thursday, November 6, 2025 3:00-4:00 PM - after school social (4th and 5th grade chorus)

Tuesday, November 11th 8:15 AM call time for singers - Veterans Day (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 9:00 AM)

Thursday, December 4th 5:15 PM call time for singers - winter concert (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 6:00 PM)

Thursday, December 11th 3:00-4:00 PM - Winter Party (4th and 5th grade chorus)

Friday, December 12th - 5:15 PM call time for singers Winter Fest (2nd grade)

Thursday, February 19th 5:15 PM call time for singers - Valentines Day (K/1: 6:00 PM performance)

Thursday, March 12th 5:15 PM call time for singers - Multicultural Night (3rd grade: 6:00 PM performance)

Tuesday, April 21st 5:15 PM call time for singers - Spring concert (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 6:00 PM)

Reach out to robinsonrea@pcsb.org with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Ms. Robinson and Realm

PE News

Happy Fall! After the first quarter, we learned a lot of skills and had fun playing in the cooler weather. We learned how to work together to make the parachute fly and play games using it. We look forward to having the Tampa Bay Bucs here on Nov. 6th please scan the QR code to sign the waiver or sign and return the paper copy that your child brings home. **They can't participate without it.**



Rotary Student of the Month



Congratulations to Liam H., our Rotary Student of the Month

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Seminole Elementary

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Seminole FL 33772
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www.pcsb.org/seminole-es

Mr. Louis Cerreta
Principal

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty
Assistant Principal

Dr. Dywayne Hinds
Area III Superintendent
(727)588-5020



Please consider doing business with the business and community organizations that partner with our school. We would like to thank the following organizations for their support of our school:

Astro Skate	Seminole Lake Rotary	Seminole First Baptist Church	Beach Pizza
VFW Post 9272	Seminole Women's Club	Seminole Elementary PTA	Calvary Chapel Church
El Jalisco	The Backpack Lady Project	Oakhurst United Methodist	Plumbing by Paul
Apple Butter Café	Frios Gourmet Ice Pops	Smuggler's Cove Mini Golf	Oh's Taekwondo
Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast			

Thank you Best Buy and Intel



Thank you Intel and Best Buy for your generous donation of \$10,000 to our school.

Thank you Curlew Hills Funeral Home



Thank you Curlew Hills Funeral Home for your generous donation to our Art Department

Thank you Chick-Fil-A for partnering with us for Walk to School Day

