A Note from Principal Cerreta

A Message from Mr. Cerreta,
Reading and More Reading!

Having all of our students reading at or above grade level is a huge priority at Seminole Elementary. All the research supports the fact that students that are proficient readers are much more successful in school and one of the best ways to improve reading skills is by reading daily. The expectation at Seminole Elementary is for all our students to be reading every night and completing their reading logs. After students read a book, they log into Reading Counts and take a computer-based quiz. They earn points for scoring 80% or higher on the quizzes. We are asking for our parents to help us achieve this goal by encouraging reading every night and signing their child’s reading log each night. Students should be reading or read to daily as part of their evening homework. Please see our Seminole School-Wide Reading Program & Reading Goal Incentives attached to the newsletter.

MAP Assessments

All students in grade 3-5 complete an online assessment three times a year known as MAP Assessments.

MAP assessments are used to measure a student's growth in Mathematics and Reading. The Fall assessment gathers baseline. The Winter and Spring assessments measures progress. It is used to chart a student's academic growth from year to year. Most of our students have already taken their MAP assessments, and our few remaining classes will be finishing this week. The data from the MAP assessments helps the teachers carefully monitor the student's academic progress and provide remediation and enrichment when needed.

Coming Soon

Once again Seminole Elementary is offering the STEM Enrichment Program (Science Technology Engineering Math)

Does your child like a challenge? Do they like to solve problems? Then STEM is for them! We are looking for 2nd, 3rd and 5th graders for this exciting and challenging after school program!

The program utilizes an extended school day to offer students opportunities to conduct hands-on engineering design challenges, explore careers in STEM, and improve teambuilding and leadership skills.

The Seminole Elementary STEM Academy Program will start in November and run through May 2021.

The program will be after school on Tuesdays until 4:00 p.m.

2020-2021 STEM Academy Student Applications will become available in early October 2020.

All state and local social distancing guidelines will be followed.

Stay Connected:
The school district needs accurate contact information to send parents phone calls and emails about COVID-19 updates, severe weather and other emergencies. Please encourage families to update their contact information. Parents can contact their schools or use the Student Reservation System. Here is the three-step process:

1. Visit https://reservation.pcsb.org and log in with your parent username and password. If you do not have a parent ID or forgot yours, you can get help at your child’s school. Make sure to present a valid photo ID.
2. Select the option: “Change Phone and Email Address Only”
3. Enter your child’s name and date of birth or student ID number. And update your phone number and email address.

Students are expected to wear a mask and bring personal water bottles to school daily.

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

School Hours 8:45am-2:55pm

• Students cannot be dropped off before 8:10 in the morning.
• Students need to be seated in their classroom by 8:45 am.

Seminole Elementary Times
September/October 2020 Issue 1 www.pcsb.org/Seminole_es
2020 Reading Counts Point Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>1st Grading Period</th>
<th>2nd Grading Period</th>
<th>2nd Quarter Combined Totals</th>
<th>3rd Grading Period</th>
<th>3rd Quarter Combined Totals</th>
<th>4th Grading Period</th>
<th>4th Quarter Combined Totals</th>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>110</td>
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<td>3rd Grade</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>105</td>
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<td>150</td>
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<td>4th Grade</td>
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<td>85</td>
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<td>135</td>
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<td>5th Grade</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>65</td>
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2020 Reading Counts Personal Recognition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recognition</th>
<th>Grades K-2</th>
<th>Grades 3-5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Confetti on morning show</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name in the newsletter</td>
<td>50 points</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Counts certificate</td>
<td>75 points</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Medallion</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>200 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handprint on wall</td>
<td>125 points</td>
<td>250 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold star on sidewalk</td>
<td>250 points</td>
<td>500 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name on ceiling tile</td>
<td>375 points</td>
<td>750 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name on plaque in office</td>
<td>500 points</td>
<td>1,000 points</td>
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Reading Expectations

Students are expected to read daily and parents should sign reading logs.
30 minutes minimally for grades K-2
45 minutes minimally for grades 3-5
Volunteering
All volunteering on campus has been suspended for the first half of the school year. A communication will go out to all of our school families when our volunteer programs resume.

PE Shorts
Hi Seminole Families
The PE department would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with your children. It is so nice to see all the smiling faces again. The kiddos truly do make our job wonderful. We would like to ask you to please make sure the children are coming to school with sneakers on the 3 days a week that they have PE. We are not allowed to use the drinking fountains at this time, so we are asking that the students please bring a water bottle to PE – with their name on it. We have filling stations where the students can fill their bottles up when needed. We are in need of some equipment to make our fantastic PE program even better. We will be setting up an Amazon wish list with the equipment that would benefit your child’s learning experience in PE. We appreciate any contribution you are able to make. Thanks again for the opportunity to enrich your students through movement in our PE program.

Welcome back to school!
Pinellas County Schools is working to ensure families have what they need to support both traditional and virtual learning. Make sure to visit our Family Engagement Resource Roundup page for links to valuable resources and fun activities to support your child’s learning and ease the transition from summer to back-to-school.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT RESOURCE ROUNDUP
(Formerly Learning at Home Family Resources)
www.pcsb.org/resourceroundup
• Back to School Tips
• Welcome to Kindergarten, Middle School or High School
• Online Safety
• Health and Nutrition
• At Home Classroom
• Family Activities
• Creativity Corner
• Family Wellness
• Get Moving
• Teen Hub
Virtual Field Trips
Be sure to check back regularly as the information changes weekly!

School Counselor News
Guidance
Hi Families and Students,
This year we will again be recognizing students who show good character throughout the month, though we will not have our Character Kids assemblies at this point. The month of August was focused on RESPECT, and September was RESPONSIBILITY. We hope that you will emphasize these at home as well. We want to nurture these good qualities in each of our children. Also, I will continue to provide counseling services to individual students as well as referral services for families with other needs. Groups are limited as I cannot place students from two classroom cohorts together. I also enjoy going into classrooms and providing guidance lessons on a variety of topics, but that will look differently this year, using virtual lessons which will reach our students, both in the building and on MYPCS online. If you missed it, I have a link to a counselor video on our Seminole Elementary home page. Also, I would like to remind you of the 211 referral service. They are a general referral source for needs from medical and dental to counseling, etc. They can be reached by calling 211 or going online (211.org). You can also find more specific help with homework needs and questions at the HOMEWORK HELPLINE at 547-7223 or by going to the PCSB website and typing in homework helpline. There is also a general school board website for information on bullying or harassment (bullying.pcsb.org or harassment.pcsb.org). During the month of October, we will be concentrating on Cooperation. We will also celebrate Red Ribbon Week during the last week of the month. This will be a time when we talk about staying drug and alcohol free. Also looking ahead, I know many families may need help during the holidays (food, toys, & clothing). Many organizations that offer their assistance begin asking early. So, if you are interested in being considered for help for this year, please let me know.
Mrs. Holly Schultz, School Counselor

Box Tops
Introducing the All-New Box Tops
NO MORE CLIPPING – SCAN YOUR RECEIPT
Skip your scissors and use the App:
The NEW and improved Box Top Mobile App scans your receipt finds participating products and instantly adds Box Tops to your school’s earnings online. No clipping required!

Art News
Welcome to a new school year filled with heART! I am excited to create with your little artists this year, either online or face to face. We use a variety of materials in the art room, and if you have done some cleaning and have the following to donate to the art room, we would appreciate it!

Hair dryers (for speed drying paintings)
Large plastic forms/ sculptures for sketching from life
Fabric
Tiles and ceramics/plates with patterns on them (broken or not for mosaics)
Exterior paint (for our eventual mural on the outside of the Art building)
Thank you, Ms./ “Art”/ Barth

PTA:
Thank you to everyone who attended the PTA meeting via zoom. All PTA meetings will be done virtually until further notice. Our next PTA general meeting will be on November 10th at 6:00 p.m. Membership Information: Memberships will remain at $8.00 this school year. You are able to purchase your PTA membership online by visiting https://seminoleelementary.memberhub.store/

2020-21 Battle of the Books List
2020-21 List for Grades 3-5
1. Attack of the Not-So-Virtual Monsters by Kim Harrington
2. Beatrice Zinker, Upside Down Thinker by Shelley Johannes
3. Bernice Buttman, Model Citizen by Niki Lenz
4. Caterpillar Summer by Gillian McDunn
5. Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott
6. How I Became a Spy: a Mystery of WWII London by Deborah Hopkinson
7. Inkling by Kenneth Oppel
8. Klawde: Evil Alien Warlord Cat by Johnny Marciano & Emily Chenoweth
9. Olga and the Smelly Thing From Nowhere by Elise Gravel
10. Operation Frog Effect by Sarah Lynn Scheerger
11. Planet Earth is Blue by Nicole Panteleakos
12. Power Forward by Hena Khan
13. Strongheart by Candace Fleming
14. The Unicorn in the Barn by Jacqueline Ogburn
15. Voyage of the Dogs by Greg Van Eekhout

2020-21 Battle of the Books List
2020-21 List for Grades 6-8
1. The Other Side of the Door by Sarah Cross Nixon
2. The Riddle of the Castaway by Fish
3. The Boy Who Cried Wolf by Shepherd
4. A Week of the Dark by Lowry
5. The Boy Who Cried Wolf by Shepherd
6. The Riddle of the Castaway by Fish
7. Blackbeard: An Adventure in Piracy by John Paul
8. The Unwanted by Ronan
9. The Unwanted by Ronan
10. The Unwanted by Ronan
### October 2020 Cafeteria Lunch Menu

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<td>Max Cheese Sticks or Cheese Quesadillas with Country Baked Beans &amp; Marinara Cup or Salsa Cup &amp; Fruit Juice <del>OR</del> Cheesy Turkey Wrap or PBJ Kit with Carrots &amp; Dip &amp; Fruit Juice <del>OR</del> Chicken Caesar Salad &amp; Fruit Juice</td>
<td>Breakfast for Lunch with Roasted Potatoes &amp; Fresh Fruit <del>OR</del> Chicken Caesar Wrap or PBJ Kit with Fresh Celery &amp; Grape Tomatoes &amp; Fresh Fruit <del>OR</del> Fruit &amp; Yogurt Plate with Celery &amp; Grape Tomatoes</td>
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<td>Chicken Nuggets or Tenders with Roll or Chicken Sandwich &amp; Baked Beans &amp; Fruit Juice <del>OR</del> Cheesy Turkey Wrap or PBJ Kit with Carrots &amp; Dip &amp; Fruit Juice <del>OR</del> Chicken Caesar Salad &amp; Fruit Juice</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</td>
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### Thank You Business Partners

**Business & Community:** Thank you to the following community partners for their generous donations:

- **McDonald’s of Seminole,**
- **Cici’s Pizza,**
- **Calvary Church Seminole,**
- **Anona United Methodist Church,**
- **Our Pack A Sack Community Partners**

**Kiwanis**

Thank you, Kiwanis, for your generous donation of $800 to our school.

![Kiwanis Thank You Image](image_url)