Dear Seminole Elementary Families,

There are only two weeks of school remaining before Spring Break, and the end of the third grading period. I hope everyone is anticipating a restful and fun spring break. When our students return from spring break, they will be working on their final MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Assessment from March 22-April 14. Our grade 3 students will be taking the FSA Reading Assessment on April 5–6, and our grade 4 students will be taking the Writing Assessment on April 1-7. Please make a special effort to assure your child(ren) has/have a good night’s rest before the test and that they arrive by 8:15 with plenty of time for breakfast before the start of school. I am confident that our students will continue to show tremendous academic gains. As we are preparing for the final grading period and end of the year, we are also preparing for our Summer Bridge Program.

We are pleased to be offering Summer Bridge at Seminole Elementary. Summer Bridge is offered to ALL students in grades K-4. (Including our “Rising Kindergarten” students). ALL of our Seminole students are encouraged to attend for continued learning and to prevent that “Summer Slide”. Summer Bridge is a 4-week program June 6-30, Monday- Thursday from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Before and after school childcare is available through our R Club for Summer Bridge students 5 days a week. Contact R Club at 727-578-5437 for registration information.

Congratulations to our outstanding readers: One aspect of our school wide reading program is for the students to read 45 minutes for Grades 3-5- and 30-minutes grades K-2. After students read a book or have a book read to them, they take an Accelerated Reader test to earn AR points. Congratulations to the following students for earning 100 points grades 3-5 and 50 points grades K-2:

Hunter Zukowski  Amari Longworth  Amaree Miller

Upcoming Events:

• March 10- Curriculum Night
• March 11- Field Day
• March 14-21- Spring Break
• March 21- Teacher Planning Day- No School for Students
• March 22 – Students Return
• March 24 – Spring Pictures
• March 22- April 14- MAP Assessments
• March 29- Report Card Go Home
• March 30 Grades 3-5 Awards Program in Centennial Building
  o 1:20 -Grade 4 Awards  1:50- Grade 5 Awards  2:25- Grade 3 Awards

Curriculum Night

Daddy Daughter Dance
April 22nd 6:00pm-7:30pm
In the Kid’s Café, fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or any significant male figures are invited to bring their special young ladies to an evening of dance and fun.

Students should not be dropped off at school prior to 8:10 am. There is no adult supervision provided until after 8:10 am. Thank you for your support of this safety practice.
Can you believe it’s almost time for Spring Break?! The countdown is on! Both teachers and students are ready for some much-deserved time off, but we all know what happens when the break is over and it’s time to wake up early again. Don’t let the Sunday Scaries get you down, prepare for a seamless transition back to school by easing back into your wake-up routine before the last day of break. A few days before break is over, have everyone at home go back to their school night bedtime routine, and wake up a little closer to when your alarm normally goes off on a school day. By easing back into those expectations, you are more likely to prevent a morning meltdown on March 22nd when we welcome students back to school. Have a great Spring Break!

FAMILY E-LEARNING COACHING
We want your child to succeed whether learning in the classroom or at home.

Our Family E-Learning Coaching Team provides free, computer technology service and education. We can help with Wi-Fi connections, email and programs designed to help your child complete his or her schoolwork online.

Do you need assistance setting up learning technologies provided by Pinellas County Schools?

We are available during the day and evening. For questions about the services provided, contact Andrea Lypka, E-Learning Program Manager at 727-588-4816, ext. 2141, or andrea.lypka@pinellaseducation.org

School Wellness and Safety Pointers from the Nurse

1. Adequate Hydration is 6-8 cups of water daily. (More if playing in the heat) Most water bottles have about 2 cups so you need to fill that size water bottle 3 times each day. Start hydrating before school with a big cup of water.
   We have already had multiple students in the clinic with the following signs of dehydration.
   - Feeling lightheaded, dizzy, or tired
   - Rapid heartbeat
   - Dry lips and mouth
   - Headache
2. Avoid wearing jackets, pullovers, sweatshirts, hoodies, jackets when outside – especially P.E. and recess. Leave them in the classroom when you go to PE and recess. Students are getting very overheated and dehydrated.
3. Closed toe shoes (sneakers) are required for P. E. and Recess. This is for your safety! No sandals or slides, cover your toes and heals.

Thank you! Leslie Dodge, RN

Ms. Ward’s Words

Behavior

February Character Kids -Tolerance

KG
Conde Lazy Palmese
D’Altitio Beryl Yi
Horton Daniella Mock Grayson Schulz
Schuler Alexa Mullen Ethan Yinger
1st
Brady Joby Brown Olivia Sanford
Harty Shayne Jackman Elsie Taylor
Luczaj Blakely Corry Alaina Phipps
Mucerino KC Dominguez-Infante Alice Abbott
2nd
Misener Paizley Jost Johnny Lyon
Patterson Joshua Daniels Blayne Fountain
Sadock Adrian Bailey Maya Walsh
3rd
Carlson Cameron Westbrook Raeleigh Vogel
Kopkau Reagan Stanton Jenna Ferguson
Poolson Adelynn Reed Bryson Goetttsch
Rudolph Kadince Byrnes Briella Custalow
4th
Crose Ruby Earich Mason Smith
Napoli Abigail Fogal Sydney Harbour
Rongey Cecilia Gasper Joshua Belmont
Sanders Kaycee Henshaw Rayne Torres
5th
Gorman Zaiden Vasquez Amaree Miller
Grimm Courtney Greene Elle Vaughan
Lentz Briella Chesley

School Counselor News

Mrs. Holly Schultz, School Counselor

Our character word for the month of February has been tolerance. It is a great time to remind your child or children that each person should be treated with the respect that they deserve. Also, each of us has strengths and talents that are unique (as well as areas we are still learning and growing in). Everyone has their own appearances and mannerisms, likes and dislikes. Problems with others can be more easily resolved when we realize that others may have different ideas, thoughts and opinions than ours. They may even have a new idea or see something that we missed! As the old saying goes, “Wouldn’t it be boring if we were all the same?”

It is time for the Florida Department of Education’s annual Exceptional Student Education Parent Survey. Each year, the department survey parents of students with an individual education plan (IEP) who receive special education services to determine how well schools are supporting their involvement in their children’s education.

If your child receives special education services, make your voice heard. Take the ESE Parent Survey at www.esesurvey.com.
Feedback helps the state and the school district improve educational services for children with special needs and their families. The survey is confidential, but Pinellas County Schools receives overall results and improves ESE services based on parent feedback. Thanks to feedback from families, PCS has created the ESE Parent Connector program, which designates a point person at every school to share ESE information and resources with their school communities. The survey closes May 31. If you have questions, contact Tracy McMannus at 727-588-6062 or MCMANNUST@pcsb.org.

Thank you! Mrs. Holly Schultz, School Counselor
Our field day will be Friday March 11. It will take place during the grade level specials time:

**5th grade:** 8:45 – 9:30  
**Kinder:** 9:35 – 10:20  
**1st grade:** 11:30 – 12:15  
**2nd grade:** 12:20 – 1:05  
**3rd grade:** 1:10 – 1:55  
**4th grade:** 2:10 – 2:55

Parents are welcome to attend. Thank you to the families who have already donated Pop Ice and cases of water. If you would like to donate a bag or box of Pop Ice or a case of water, please send it in with your child by March 7. Please be sure your child wears sneakers and comfortable clothing appropriate for physical activity. We look forward to a fun field day!

**Art News**

Too good not to share...We’ve been creating magic in the art room—embroidering in 5th, sewing in 4th! Great pics for yearbook or the news! Thanks to the taxpayers for supporting the Tax Referendum so I can order these supplies!

**More Art News**

Congratulations to Kadince and Reagan in Rudolph and Kopkau’s 3rd grade class who had their Monoprinted Printmaking Hot Cocoa artworks accepted into the Clearwater Arts Alliance’s “March is Youth Art Month” K-8 Exhibition! These and many others artworks will be on display at Creative Pinellas, 1211 Walsingham Rd., Largo, from March 2 to April 3. An in-person reception and awards ceremony will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, March 6th.

Ms. Barth

**The Fine Motor Corner -**

by Kimberly Meyer, MS OTR/L our school based Occupational Therapist

Using Music in Learning

I realize I am older than most of my readers in this column so many of you may not be familiar with “Schoolhouse Rock” which I grew up with. Songs from this program were played between cartoons on Saturday mornings which my brother and I looked forward to watching every week. Cartoons were not available 24/7 when I was a kid! We only had them Saturday mornings! The songs they played were catchy with simple videos accompanying them. We knew them forward and backward after a few weeks. In school, these songs came in handy in nearly every subject.

Schoolhouse Rocks gained popularity for a while when my kids were growing up. We played them in the car on a regular basis and my kids loved them and still can sing along even in their 20’s now!

Many persons with Alzheimer’s disease or other types of dementia can still remember the words and tune to sing “Happy Birthday” and the “ABC’s” because the brain remembers music in a different area of the brain. This information is stored differently.

Try searching Spotify or Pandora for playlists for Schoolhouse Rocks. There are many of them and you can play them on the way to and from places you drive or just in the background at home. If your child struggles with remembering the spelling of their first or last name or a parent’s phone number for emergencies, just make up your own fun, catchy, rhyming song and sing it a lot with them. You’ll be surprised at how much learning can be accomplished with a little music!

**School Social Worker**

The messages we give to our children play a significant role in their happiness and wellbeing (Mightier, 2017). At the elementary age, children are still discovering how the world around them makes them feel. When parents use words that promote self-love, children become more confident about new experiences. Even when children are experiencing uncomfortable emotions, parents can use positive talk that helps them overcome these emotions. Parents should guide children through the process by using phrases like “I believe in you.” It is also important that parents validate the child’s emotions throughout the process - “I see that you are feeling anxious,” “Your feelings matter.” Elementary aged children need affirmations that are focused on actions and feelings that are under their control.

**Music Notes from Mrs. Marr**

A big congratulations to this year’s All County Music Participants: Josiah Tatham (Orff), Landon Race (Drums), Jaylynn Huntoon (Chorus), Elenna Morris (Chorus) and Rodney Sunter (Chorus)! These students were chosen to represent our school as some of the best in Pinellas County. They rehearsed for many weeks and had a phenomenal performance this weekend at the beautiful Mahaffey Theater. You all did such an amazing job. I’m so proud of you! -Mrs. Marr 😊 🎶
All Pro Dads

100th Day of School

Magnetic Mrs. Misener’s Class
Mrs. Misener’s class explores magnetism and demonstrates how magnets can move objects without touching them during science.

Kindergartener’s on Twos-day 2/22/22
Ties and Tutus

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Web Site: www.pcsb.org/seminole-es
Louis Cerreta - Principal
Rebecca Pembrook-Assistant Principal
Dywayne Hinds Area III Superintendent
(727)588-5020

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

Thank you Wilson Sounds for providing quality sound production for our Veteran’s Day Celebration.

Wilson Sounds
Live-Streaming Static Lighting
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WilsonSoundsNOW@gmail.com