Dear Seminole Elementary Families,
Thank you for another great month of school. With only two weeks of school remaining before Spring Break, I hope everyone is anticipating a restful and fun spring break. When our students return from spring break, our teachers, literacy coach and part time hourly teachers will continue their work with students daily on specific skills. The during the day interventions and our before and after school tutor programs will help our students gain the additional minutes of learning and engagement in their daily lessons. I am confident that our students will continue to show tremendous academic gains. As I visit the classrooms, I know how hard the teachers and students have been working this school year. Thank you for supporting your child’s education and our school. Seminole Elementary is a wonderful school because of the dedicated staff and all of you.

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 20-30 minutes grades K-2.
After students read a book or have a book read to them, they take an Accelerated Reader test to earn Reading Counts points.
Congratulations to the following students for earning 100 points grades 3-5 and 50 points grades K-2:
Malakai Reynolds  Evan Hill  Diana Rizo Padilla  Roosevelt Robinson  Elsie Taylor
Blakeley Corry  Elle Amatuccio  Savannah Cleary  Bryce Hvidzak  Colton Taylor
Bryce Henshaw  Trinity Huidekoper  Leo Rosenberg  Alessandro Loiza-Garcia  Caden Drake
Jace Drake  Jessica Gassem  Alyssa Guptill  Kaycee Henshaw  Charles Jackson
Adam Mribha  Piper Plomatos  Elijah Postma  Layla Steinbach  Hunter Zukowski

Upcoming Events:
March 9- Field Day – Pre- K classes
March 10- End of 3rd Grading Period
March 10- Field Day grade K-5
March 11- March 19 Spring Break
March 20 – Students return to school

2022-23 Pride Award Winners

Congratulations to our Pride Award Winners
•  Katie Fitzpatrick – Writing
•  Elijah Postma – Math
•  Caden Drake – Science
•  Jace Drake – Social Studies

2023 SES Kid Art Winners

Congratulations Nicholas Ritchie and Isabella Reinhardt for being our 2023 Kid Tag Art Winners.

2022-23 I Can Award Winner

Congratulations to Addison Novak, our 2022-23 I Can Award Winner

2022-23 Joseph Carwise Recipients

Congratulations to Marquise Brayden Speed and Evangeline Nkomeje, our 2022-23 Joseph Carwise recipients.
A Message from Assistant Principal
Dr. Jennifer McCafferty

Dear Families,
I can’t believe it’s already March! Thank you for your continued support through iMoms, our PTA and SAC meetings, Daddy Daughter Dance, All Pro Dads, and all the other wonderful events we host as a Seminole family. We are appreciative of your support! Below please find the dates for the Progress Monitoring 3 F.A.S.T state test. Like with Progress monitoring cycles 1 and 2, all students, VPK – 5 grades will participate in this test. This cycle will determine student proficiency of grade level standards and will count in grades 3-5 toward our school grade. We are looking forward to our students showing what they know! As we get closer to these dates, teachers will let you know the specific dates your child will test.

The week of:
April 24th – VPK – 2nd grade students will test one day for ELA and one day for Math.
May 1st – 3rd – 5th grade students will take the ELA test
May 8th – 5th Grade will take the SSA paper-based test.
May 15th – 3rd – 5th grade students will one day math test.
Please let me know if you have any questions about testing.

Sincerely,
Dr. McCafferty

Say Something Week
March – 6th 10th
• Monday - Wear Red
• Tuesday – Dress Like a Past Decade
• Wednesday – Wear Pajamas or Sweats
• Thursday - Wear Your Favorite Team Shirt
• Friday - Wear Green

February Character Kids

Pre-K
Scott
Jost
Piper

Kindergarten
Schuler
Conde
D’Altilio
Horton

1st Grade
Luczaj
Brady
Mucerino

2nd Grade
Poolson
Carlson
Calhoun
Patterson

3rd Grade
Sadock
Rudolph
Kopkau

4th Grade
Rongey
Crose
Harty
Cap

5th Grade
Sanders
Napoli
Lentz
Gorman

iMoms Valentine’s Day Breakfast Sponsored by Anona United Methodist
Some Important Things Your Child Needs to Know About Mathematics

As a parent, you can help your child learn math by offering them insights into how to approach math. Your child will develop more confidence in their math ability if they understand the following:

1. There are many different ways to solve a problem. Even though most math problems have only one answer, there may be many ways to get to that answer. Learning math is more than finding the precise answer, it is also the process of solving the problem and applying what they have learned to new problems.

2. Wrong answers can be useful to help your child figure out where or why they made a mistake. Analyzing the wrong answer can help your child understand the concepts and learn to apply reasoning skills to arrive at the correct answer. Ask your child to explain how they solved the problem. This may help you discover the areas your child needs extra help with.

3. Take a risk. Help your child become a risk taker by showing them the value of trying to solve a problem, even if it is difficult. Give your child extra time to explore different methods to solving a difficult problem. As your child works, encourage them to talk about what they are thinking. This strategy will help your child strengthen their math skills.

4. Doing math in your head (mental math) is important. Math is not restricted to paper and pencil. Mental math is a valuable skill that comes in handy as they make quick calculations of costs in stores, restaurants, or gas stations. Let your child know that using mental math will allow their math skills to become stronger.

5. It is OK to use a calculator to solve mathematical problems. Knowing how to use a calculator correctly when allowed to use them in class is important. Let your child know that to use a calculator correctly and most efficiently, they will need a strong foundation in math operations, otherwise how will they know whether the answer they get is a reasonable answer.

These are some examples of how to support your child in math.

The Fine Motor Corner-

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

Promoting and Developing Life Skills in our children starts early and makes an impact for life. These skills include the following but there are so many more! How many of these does your student already demonstrate? Opportunities present themselves in situations where we can teach/encourage life skills.

- **Caring** (to feel concern for others)
- **Common Sense** (thinking through situations)
- **Cooperation** (Working together toward a goal)
- **Courage** (Facing adversity)
- **Curiosity** (A desire to learn or know about an array of things)
- **Effort** (trying your hardest)
- **Flexibility** (the ability to change plans when necessary)
- **Friendship** (maintaining a relationship through trust and caring)
- **Initiative** (seeing what needs to be done and doing it without being asked)
- **Integrity** (knowing what is right/wrong and acting accordingly)
- **Organization** (planning, arranging, and implementing things in an orderly way)
- **Patience** (waiting calmly for someone or something)
- **Perseverance** (to continue in spite of difficulties)
- **Pride** (Feeling satisfied with yourself for doing your personal best or for achieving a goal)
- **Problem Solving** (looking for a solution for a difficult situation)
- **Responsibility** (being accountable for your own actions)
- **Sense of humor** (laughing and being playful without hurting others)

If you are interested in volunteering at our school, please register at [www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration](http://www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration)

Thank you to our PTA for hosting the Daddy Daughter Dance. There will not be a PTA meeting in March due to Spring Break.

Please bring your photo ID when you come into the school office to sign out your student, check in for conferences, or to meet your student for lunch. Families can eat lunch with their student on Wednesdays and Fridays.

**Lost and Found**

Our lost and found is overflowing with jackets. If your student has lost a jacket, please have them check our lost and found in the front office.

**Clothes Closet**

Please consider donating any gently used shorts to our clothes closet. We are still in need of shorts (sizes 6-14). You can bring donations to the front office. Thank you!

**Art News**

Congratulations to Savannah Holland for her acceptance into the Clearwater Arts Alliance’s “March is Youth Art Month” K-8 Exhibition at the Creative Pinellas, 1211 Walsingham Rd., Largo, from March 4 to April 9, 2023! In addition, a reception and awards ceremony for students will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, March 5th.

**Music Notes**

On February 18th members of our Seminole All County performers performed at Mahaffey Theater under the direction of our own Mrs. Marr who led the orf section during the All-County Elementary performance. Congratulations to the following students who were a part of the All-County ensemble:

- Addison Bragg
- Sydney Harbour
- My’Ani Durham
- Evangeline Nkomeje
- Isabella Reinhardt
- Farrah Rollins
- Jorge Bueno
- Brayden Speed
Thank you to everyone who attended our 2nd annual Our Daddy Daughter Dance on Friday February 17th in the Kid’s Café.

Business & Community Partners:

Thank you to Slyce Pizza for donating academic incentive coupons for our students.

Thank you to Publix on 113th for donating ice cream for our PBIS reward.

Seminole Elementary would like to thank the Hustle & Heart Group of Remax Collective for continuing to sponsor our Girlfriends group. They are generously donating for all of the needs of this group for the entire school year and attending the meetings. The Girlfriends group is a group of girls nominated by their homeroom teachers for being great examples to other students. The Girlfriends is a Pinellas County Schools program that focuses on empowering girls to be leaders at their current school and in the future. Thank you to the Hustle & Heart Group of Remax Collective for making this possible.

If you would like more information on how your business or organization can partner with Seminole Elementary, please contact Heather Plankey in the front office plankeyh@pcsb.org

We are currently looking for businesses to sponsor advertising space in the academic planner for the 2023-2024 school year. Please contact Heather Plankey in the front office for details.

Seminole Elementary RISE
Schoolwide Expectations
R - Respect/Responsibility
I – Integrity
S – Self-Control
E - Empathy

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

We would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their generous donations and support to Seminole Elementary:

- Best Buy (Clearwater)
- VFW Post 9272
- Rotary Club of Seminole
- Pinellas Education Foundation
- Smuggler’s Cove
- The Hustle & Heart Group of Remax Collective
- Publix (113th Street)
- Beall’s Outlet
- Seminole First Baptist Church
- Oakhurst United Methodist Church
- Vampire Penguin
- Pool Perfection Swimming Pool Builders
- Serafyn Salon
- Horace Mann Insurance
- Frankiewicz Financial
- Danielle Sapp- Berkshire Hathaway
- Northeast Orthodontics
- Seminole Elks Auxiliary
- Seminole Women’s Club
- Jessica Saydeh-Mary Kay
- Yard DeSign
- Spenga Fitness
- Coastal Dreams Events
- Seminole Fresh Market
- Seth Michael Photography
- Bay Dermatology