

PVA: View from the Valley

Palm Valley Academy: Week of 10/30-11/5

Dear PVA Families and Community,

Good evening, all. I hope everyone has had a wonderful weekend and are ready for another eventful week. We have two more days of both Red Ribbon Week and October before jumping right into another busy month. I'll keep the narrative short, but please note the important information below that includes a PVA Veteran's Day tradition, a Middle School Dance and plenty more.

Have a great week everyone!

Zach

INFO FOR ALL (K-8)

Veteran's Day Celebration: PVA's HALL OF HEROES

For the last couple years, PVA staff members have recognized and celebrated ALL veterans, past or present, we are related to through our Hall of Heroes display in the main hallway near the cafeteria. Nominations were formatted to include the veteran's name, years of services, and the branch served, then printed and arranged to create a MASSIVE American Flag display that is just as beautiful, as it is special to all of us at Palm Valley. However, like last year, this Veteran's Day we want to continue a tradition that's sustainable, long-lasting, and meaningful for the whole community with a display that exudes PRIDE and HONOR. This November, like last, and for all to come, we will RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE ALL VETERANS near and dear to our hearts and yours. Please be sure to see the Veteran's Day Packet Attachment for details.

Note- all Hall of Heroes submissions are DUE TO YOUR TEACHER BY WEDNESDAY 11/8!

All photos must be school appropriate

The WINNING TRUNK!

Receiving the most votes, this year's TRUNK-or-TREAT 1st PLACE TRUNK CHAMPION is... CANDY LAND from Ms. Beatty's 2023-2024 Kindergarten Class! Congratulations families!! No small accomplishment by any means! It may only be a week behind us, but we are already excited to see the creative trunks next year!

GRADE SPECIFIC INFO (K-8)

Gifted Screener (2nd Grade Only)

Each year 2nd Graders across the county are administered a *Gifted Screener*. Our kiddos are scheduled to take this assessment in November. Please see the attachment for further information, including procedures for opting-out.

Upcoming State Mandated Curriculum (K-5)

Over the next couple of weeks and ongoing throughout the course of the year, our two Elementary School Counselors will be working their way through each classroom (K-5) and delivering instruction as part of new state legislation. The counselor's will be using Lauren's Kids **Safer, Smarter Schools** curriculum to fulfill the mandates. Developed by Lauren's Kids alongside lifelong educators, abuse prevention experts, and developmental psychologists, with support

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and oversight from the Florida Department of Education and the University of Florida this Pre-Kindergarten through 12th Grade personal safety and abuse prevention program incorporates age-appropriate engaging videos and in-class activities to enable all children to effectively learn critical safety strategies, no matter their learning style. The curriculum is large enough that it will take two/three resource cycles to get through the entire content for all classes. The schedule is as follows:

Kindergarten:	Oct 26 - Nov 13 Jan 8 - Jan 25 March 2 - March 28
First Grade:	Nov 14 - Dec 4 Jan 26 - Feb 12 April 1 - April 17
Second Grade:	Dec 5 - Dec 21 Feb 13 - March 1 April 18 - May 6
Third Grade:	Dec 5 - Dec 21 Feb 13 - March 1
Fourth Grade:	Nov 14 - Dec 4 Jan 26 - Feb 12
Fifth Grade:	Oct 26 - Nov 13 Jan 8 - Jan 25

Attached you will find the K-2 and 3-5 Parent Information Letter. For additional information on the program as a whole, including but not limited to grade-level specific topics, visit the [Lauren's Kids website HERE](#).

PVA Health Screenings (K, 1, 3, 6)

In compliance with Florida Statute 381.0056 (7), regarding school health services, we are notifying you that students in the St. Johns County School System will be offered free screening for vision, hearing, and height/weight measurement for growth and development in this year. A screening for scoliosis is also given for 6th grade students. Please see the attachment for further information, including procedures for opting-out.

Middle School Task Force (Middle School Families)

Last year, Dr. Reichenberg was able to get the Middle School Task Force together and gain some momentum with it. This is something I'd definitely like to continue. The group of teachers, staff, and community members will meet immediately following November's SAC Meeting on Tuesday, November 7th (planning for 4:30-5:15pm). On the agenda is setting a time and date for future meetings that works best for all, as well as, any hot topics of interest. All Middle School Staff and Parents are welcome to join us.

PTO HAPPENINGS (ALL GRADES)

- Dome hats that were on back order should be in within the next week and will be delivered to the address used when ordering.
- Please join us Nov. 8th for a General PTO Meeting @ 6pm in the PVA Cafeteria
- Upcoming Middle School Dance (see attached flyer) November 9th @ 5:30 - 7:30pm!
 - [Buy TICKETS HERE!](#)

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UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE:

- Monday, October 30th
 - RRW: Wake Up Drug Free! School Appropriate PJ Day
- Tuesday, October 31st
 - RRW: Bobcats Commit to Character! Wear a costume and commit to being a kid with character! NO MASKS. School Appropriate Only!
- Wednesday, November 1st
 - Early Release
- Thursday, November 2nd
 - 3rd Grade Field Trip – Icemen
 - MS Band Performance – Icemen

SAVE THE DATE!

- Tuesday, November 7th
 - SAC Meeting @ 4:00 - 4:30pm
 - MS TASK FORCE Meeting @4:30 – 5:15pm
- Wednesday, November 8th
 - General PTO Meeting in Café @ 6:00pm
 - LAST DAY FOR ALL HALL OF HEROES NOMINATIONS
 - Early Release
- Thursday, November 9th
 - Middle School Dance 5:30 – 7:30pm
- Friday, November 10th
 - VETERAN'S DAY OBSERVED – NO SCHOOL