

PVA: View from the Valley

Palm Valley Academy: Week of 10/23 – 10/30

Dear PVA Families and Community,

I think it goes without saying we all have at least one of those extremely special, forever memorable events or occurrences from our childhood that we continue to hold close to our hearts and treasure as the most amazing and unforgettable experiences EVER! You know, those times we associate with the best parts of being a kid and still to this day, bring us joyous thoughts and smiles just thinking about them? Well, for me, as a kid growing up in the middle of Missouri a childhood memory, I'll NEVER let go of was our annual Fall Festival at Midway Heights Elementary... We had hayrides, all sorts of fall crafts, and snacks galore. We painted pumpkins, had CAKE WALKS and what seemed like endless hours to play games and win prizes! It has always been one of those special memories that nothing ever has ever come close to competing with as the BEST EVER... until yesterday. And now? It's a distant second to what I experienced yesterday. Ladies and Gentlemen, with your help yesterday's 1st Annual PVA Fall Festival and Trunk-or-Treat was a resounding success. We had an amazing CAKE WALK, (with more than 25 cakes decorated by the PVA Staff), we had food trucks, a spooky maze, live music in the form of a banjo and fiddle playing duo, we had GAMES for days, massive inflatables of all sorts, pumpkin painting, photo ops, a phenomenal cotton candy cart that spun over 700+ cones, and more than 40+ trunks/golfcarts who came decorated and ready to pass out all kinds of candy and treats! A HUGE thank you to the PVA PTO for all your work, all your patience and all your support and commitment to bring this thing to life. Thank you to our admin team, our maintenance crew and all our teachers and staff as a whole for everything. Thank you to everyone who decorated a trunk and showed out yesterday for the kids of Nocatee and thank you to EVERY SINGLE FAMILY WHO CHOSE TO SPEND THEIR SUNDAY AFTERNOON WITH US AT PVA! With more than 1,200 people in attendance, it was truly mind-blowing and heart-warming. Thank you all for making this year's Fall Festival one heck of a community event and without a doubt someone's BEST DAY EVER!

We may be worn out and exhausted, but our hearts are full and thankful- which I'll happily take every single day if I could.

Now, onto Red Ribbon Week...

Zach

INFO FOR ALL (K-8)

PVA Volleyball is @ Pine Island Tomorrow Night – Tuesday, 10/24

If you're wanting to attend to cheer on our Bobcats as they take on the Dolphins, please use the link below to purchase tickets!

<https://www.schoolpay.com/link/PIAVolleyball1024vsPalmValley>

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Red Ribbon Week is HERE!!! See the flyer below for the daily theme-



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.

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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 Loren's Kids alongside lifelong educators, abuse prevention experts, and developmental psychologists, with support 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 [Loren'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.

PTO HAPPENINGS (ALL GRADES)

- Please join us Nov. 8th for a General PTO Meeting @ 6pm in the PVA Cafeteria

UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE:

- Oct. 24th – Oct. 31st
 - Red Ribbon Week!
- Tuesday, October 24th
 - VOLLEYBALL AWAY @ PIA
- Wednesday, October 25th
 - Character Counts Breakfast Celebration @ 7:30am
 - Early Release
- Thursday, October 26th
 - VOLLEYBALL AWAY @ POA

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SAVE THE DATE!

- Tuesday, November 7th
 - SAC Meeting @ 4:00pm (Media Center)
 - Middle School Task Force Meeting (Parents/Staff)
 - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SAC
- Wednesday, November 8th
 - PTO MEETING IN CAFÉ @ 6:00pm
- Thursday, November 9th
 - Middle School Dance @ 6:00pm – 8:00pm