

# BOBCAT

# DECEMBER Bulletin

Palm Valley Academy

Volume 6, Issue 4— December 2023

## Calendar Highlights

- 12/04 Girls Soccer Game  
4PM @ Davis Park
- 12/05 SAC Walkthroughs  
9AM @ PVA
- 12/05 Middle School Task Force  
2:30PM @PVA
- 12/11 PVA BAND Winter Concert  
6:00-7:15 @Nease
- 12/14 CLASSROOM WREATHS  
DUE!
- 12/14 8th Grade DC Trip Meeting  
6:00PM
- 12/16 Holiday Market @ HOPE  
PAVILION
- 12/19 NEASE MOVIE NIGHT
- 12/20 Cookies and Cocoa Night!  
6:00-7:15 @ PVA
- 12/21 Second Quarter/First  
Semester Ends  
**1 HOUR EARLY** release
- 12/22 Winter Break NO SCHOOL
- 01/08 CLASSES RESUME



December 2023

Hello Bobcat Families,

I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy. I reflect every month and can hardly believe how fast time flies. November provided opportunities for reflection and thankfulness. We now move into the season of celebration and giving.

Our PTO has provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to shop for their loved ones this holiday season in our Candy Cane Lane shop. The turnout has been great for this opportunity and we are thrilled to have been able to offer this event. We look forward to more fun and activities over the next few weeks.

We have enjoyed celebrating our Character Counts winners, our band will play in a few holiday concerts, our middle schoolers are trying out for the basketball team, and there will be many classroom parties and activities. If you are planning to come to the school to join in on the fun, please make sure that you are a cleared volunteer. Even if you have been cleared in years past, the clearance is only good for three years. Call the front desk if you are unsure of your status. We love having our parents and families in the building, and want to make sure everyone has a smooth experience during the check-in process.

Finally, thank you for all of your support in our events and endeavors these past few months. We could not do all that we do without you! We wish you and your families a blessed and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Zach Strom

Principal

# Happenings at PVA

 <b>12 DAYS OF Christmas</b>				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4	5	6 <u>Day 1</u> Mistle-toes", Cocoa and Cookies!  Wear festive socks or shoes!	7 <u>Day 2</u> Holiday Cheer  Wear a jersey or other fan-gear of your favorite sports team	8 <u>Day 3</u> Happy Hanukkah  Wear blue and white from head to toe
11 <u>Day 4</u> Feeling Frosty and Vest-ive!  Wear as much white as you can, or a favorite holiday VEST!	12 <u>Day 5</u> Mad for Plaid  Wear your favorite flannel or plaid	13 <u>Day 6</u> Rudolph Red  Wear as much red as you can	14 <u>Day 7</u> Jingle Bell Rocks  Holiday Music Trivia throughout the day	15 <u>Day 8</u> Shiny and Bright  Wear something that lights up or shines bright
18 <u>Day 9</u> Merry Grinchmas!  Wear green from head to toe	19 <u>Day 10</u> Whoville Day!  Crazy Hair Day	20 <u>Day 11</u> Baby, it's cold outside!  Wear your ugliest sweater	21 <u>Day 12</u> 'Twas the Night Before Break...  Polar Express and Pajama Day	22  First Day of Winter Break



## **SAVE THE DATE**

Further information is to come in the coming days, but please save the date for the following events:

*Thursday, December 14th— Classroom Wreath's Due*

*Saturday, December 16th—Holiday Kid's Market In Honor of Sofia (Hope Pavilion @ 11AM)*

*Wednesday, December 20th—Cookies and Cocoa @ PVA!*

*6-7:30pm*

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER



## When to contact us?

If you believe your child is experiencing difficulty at home or at school regarding academic achievement, family changes, social skills, or adjusting to transitions it may be helpful to contact your School Counselor via phone or email.

### School Counselors

Ms. Frick K—3

Ms. Fennelly 4—5

Ms. Ferguson 6—8



## THE 6 PILLARS OF CHARACTER



TRUSTWORTHINESS



RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



FAIRNESS



CARING



CITIZENSHIP

## PILLAR OF THE MONTH—DECEMBER ALL PILLARS



At Palm Valley Academy, the St. Johns County Pillars of Character and student leadership are considered to be vitally important to our students' development. Incorporating these practices within our school environment and curriculum helps students become caring contributors to society and equips them for success in the 21st century. Critical skills and characteristics such as: trustworthiness, motivation, problem solving skills, goal setting, personal responsibility and the value of teamwork are embedded throughout the school day.

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Middle School Parents,

Last month, I had the opportunity to speak with 8<sup>th</sup> grade students about high school and career academies offered at St. Johns' high schools.

If you are just starting to begin the high school registration process, here is some background. Students zoned for Palm Valley Academy will matriculate to Nease High School. There is the option to apply for a Program of Choice such as a Career Academy at schools not in your home zone. They can also apply for Academies at their home zone school. If you want to learn more about Programs of Choice and Career Academies, please visit <https://cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us/programs/>. Academies are a way for students to learn about a career interest and often obtain certifications in those fields through their elective courses in high school.

The online application for Programs of Choice will be a lottery opening in January which you can enter through HAC and instructions will be sent by the district. Please note that the **Academies and Programs of Choice are all optional**. Transportation is only provided to your zoned school. No lottery completion is required if you plan to attend Nease High School and do not wish to enter an Academy, NJROTC, or the IB Program.

Nease High School will also be visiting Palm Valley Academy this month to present students with information about Academies, JROTC, and the IB program.

This event is for current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students only, but the school district posts a timeline [here](#) of events with opportunities for families to visit and learn about other schools. You are strongly encouraged to attend the [High School Showcase](#) with your child on December 13 at World Golf Village. Nease High School also offers an [Academy Night](#) on January 25.

If you or your child have any follow up questions, please reach out to me.

Kindly,

Monica Ferguson, Middle School Counselor

[Monica.Ferguson@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Monica.Ferguson@stjohns.k12.fl.us)





# SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Hey Bobcats!

Did you know that in addition to the notable holidays in December, it is also National Root Vegetable and Exotic Fruit month??

Next time you're at the grocery store pick up a parsnip and a persimmon, or some other unusual combination and give them a try. 😊

I would also like to thank each and every one of you, for the gift of being you. Every Bobcat is special and unique just the way you are, and that makes you awesome!

Here are Deputy Wilson's paws-itively awesome safety tips for December:

- When biking, skating or on your scooter, be sure to wear your helmet and safety equipment.
- Always look both ways before crossing the road.
- Follow the guidance of our PVA safety patrollers who wish to remind us to take it easy and be safe.
- If something doesn't seem right, tell a trusted adult. (See it, Say it, Stop it)
- Stay hydrated even in colder months.

I can't wait to see each of you back from winter break to kick off 2024 together.

Deputy Wilson



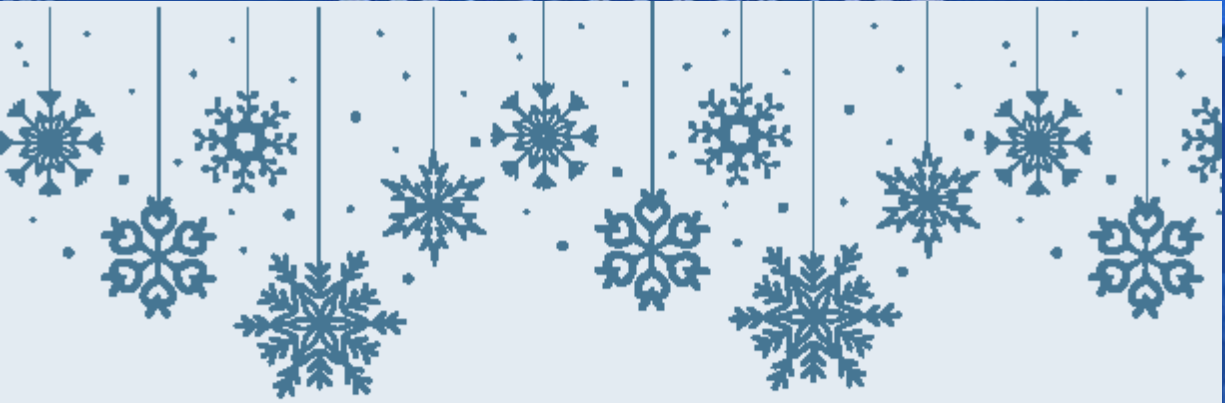
# Assessment Calendars

2023 DECEMBER	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
	3	Grade 2 Reading	Grade 1 Reading	Grade 1 Math	Kindergarten Reading	Kindergarten Math	9
	10	Grade 2 Math	Grade 5 Reading		Middle School Reading	Grade 4 Reading	16
	17	Grade 3 Reading				Holiday	23
	24	Holiday					30
	31	1	<b>**Assessment Calendar is subject to change. Make-up exams will be given as soon as possible upon a student's return to school**</b>				

2024 JANUARY	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Holiday					
	7	8	9	10	11	Grade 4 Math	13
	14	Holiday	Grade 5 Math	17	Middle School Math	Grade 3 Math	20
	21	22	23	24	25	Last Day to Test	27
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
	4	5	<b>**Assessment Calendar is subject to change. Make-up exams will be given as soon as possible upon a student's return to school**</b>				

Testing Coordinator Mrs. Audra Wilson [audra.wilson@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:audra.wilson@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

## Happenings at PVA



# PVA Band

## *Winter Concert*

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Monday  
December 11, 2023

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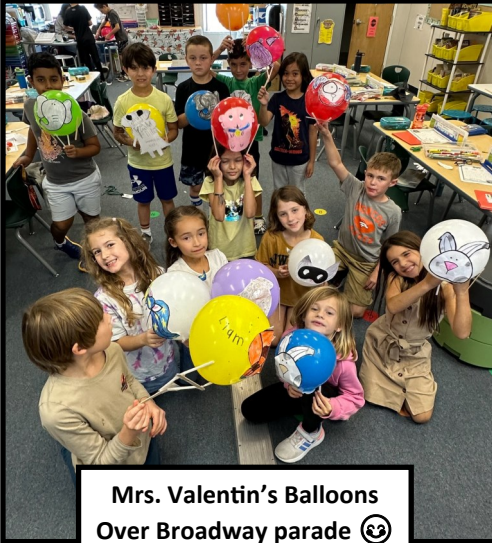
6:00-7:15 PM

Nease High School  
10550 Ray Rd, Ponte Vedra, FL





# Happenings at PVA



Mrs. Valentin's Balloons  
Over Broadway parade 🎈



Recycle bin creation contest  
winners - Mrs. Willis' class



Mrs. Willis' Tuesday  
Fun Class



Boys Soccer and  
Cheer



Turkey Day at  
Mrs. Munoz' Class



In the media center we have a student who has finished reading all  
**15 SSYRA books** for grades 3-5.



In 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Claire Poling



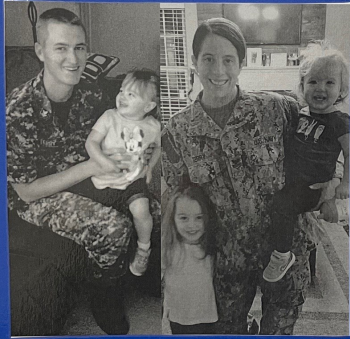
**Attention all SSYRA readers!!!**

**Try outs for Battle of the Books will be at the end of January**

**Keep an eye out for the date**



# Veterans Day at PVA



**My Hero**

David Terry and Cathy Terry  
Hero's Name

Faith  
Student's Name

Mom and Dad  
Relationship to the Student

Navy  
Branch of Military

**Honoring  
ALL WHO  
SERVED**

**THANK YOU  
VETERANS**

## Mike Green

United States Air Force  
24 Years of Service



Honored By: Ms. Messina Straw

**My Hero**

Jay Rudometkin  
Hero's Name

Ames Rudometkin  
Student's Name

Father  
Relationship to the Student

US Coast Guard  
Branch of Military



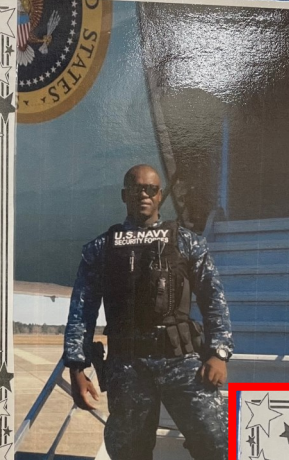
**My Hero**

Emanuel  
Hero's Name

Ava  
Student's Name

Stepdad  
Relationship to the Student

Navy  
Branch of Military



**My Hero**

Katie Kennedy Ryan Baxter  
Hero's Name

A. Michelle Baxter  
Student's Name

Aunt Dad Mom  
Relationship to the Student

United States Air Force  
Branch of Military



## James Brophy Jr.

Emma Wilson's Great Grandpa



He was in the Navy, initially he worked to repair tanks and later worked as a Carpenter building furniture.

He did not serve in any wars

He served for 4 years in Hawaii

He was 17 years old when enlisted

Best: Getting to live in Hawaii  
Worst: There was not a bad part



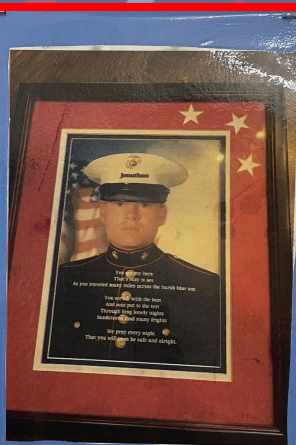
**My Hero**

Jonathan E. Wright  
Hero's Name

Nicholas S. Wright  
Student's Name

Father  
Relationship to the Student

U.S. Marine  
Branch of Military



**My Hero**

Emilio Miller  
Hero's Name

Addison Webb  
Student's Name

Sister  
Relationship to the Student

Air National Guard  
Branch of Military





# Happenings at PVA

Classes Resume on January 8th, 2024



Please remind your students to check the **Lost and Found** for any items they may be missing.

PALM VALLEY ACADEMY  
**BOBCATS** 





# Happenings at PVA

## Candy Cane Lane Shop



**OPEN UNTIL December 8th**



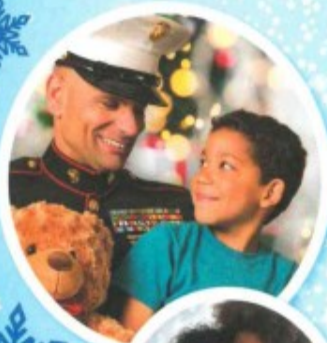
**The Holiday Gift Shop® is coming to our School!**



**While shopping at this year's Holiday Gift Shop® your students can take part in giving back!**

For every gift designated to support Toys for Tots purchased at your program, Fun Services will donate the same or similar toy!

**We've Joined FORCES!**



Dear Parents,

We are inviting you and your child to participate in the upcoming "Holiday Gift Shop" program at our school. This program makes it possible for children to experience the joy of choosing their own special holiday gifts for family and friends. The "Holiday Gift Shop" program will be set up at the school and supervised by our parent volunteers. They will help the children pick that perfect gift for the price they want... in a familiar, comfortable atmosphere.

We believe this program will create wonderful memories for the children while teaching them to budget their money and make their own decisions. There will be a large variety of gifts in different price ranges to choose from. Imagine the fun they will have surprising a loved one with a "secret" gift they bought... all by themselves!

We welcome you to be part of this great experience. A "money control" envelope is provided for you to help them decide who they should buy gifts for and how much they should spend. You can even suggest ways that your child can earn extra shopping money.

Estimados Padres,

Por medio de la presente queremos invitarlos a participar en nuestro próximo evento "Holiday Gift Shop" junto a sus hijos, el cual se llevará a cabo en la escuela. El propósito del evento es proporcionarles a sus hijos la experiencia de escoger sus propios regalos, ya sea para sus familiares o amistades, durante esta época llena de días festivos. El "Holiday Gift Shop" estará ubicado en la escuela y supervisado por los padres que quieran prestar servicios, voluntariamente. Los voluntarios estarán ahí para ayudar a los niños a escoger el regalo perfecto, dependiendo del presupuesto del niño, en un ambiente familiar y cómodo.

A través de este programa, buscamos que sus hijos se queden con un hermoso recuerdo y a la vez enseñarles a los niños el valor del dinero, como manejarse con el dinero y tomar las mejores decisiones a la hora de hacer una compra. Tendremos una gran variedad de productos con excelentes precios. ¡Imagínese la alegría que tendrían sus hijos al sorprender a un ser querido con un regalo que compraron ellos mismos!

Queremos que ustedes sean parte de esta gran experiencia, por lo tanto les vamos a obsequiar un sobre para que ayuden a sus hijos a tomar la primera decisión, a quién le van a hacer un regalo y cuánto quieren pagar. También podrían sugerirles a sus hijos cómo obtener más dinero para sus compras. ¡Los esperamos!

**No cash?  
No problem!  
We accept credit/debit cards.  
Mastercard & Visa only.**



- Pay now at [www.funhgs.com](http://www.funhgs.com)
- Select your child's school and complete transaction.
- Complete voucher.
- Send the voucher in with your child on their shopping day.
- Purchased amount does not include the service fee.

### SHOPPING VOUCHER

For use in Fun Services' Holiday Gift Shop® only.

**STUDENT'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AUTH CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT PURCHASED:** \_\_\_\_\_



Parents/Guardians: transactions can be looked up by the chairperson if voucher is lost or destroyed.  
Volunteers can give change back if voucher is not fully spent.

# Middle School Events



Who: 6<sup>th</sup> grade students

What/Where: Wild Adventures Field Trip

When: Friday April 5, 2024 from 7:00am – 8:00pm

Cost \$120 (bus, admission and lunch included)

Payment Deadline December 8, 2023

**\*\* All field trips can be found and paid for in School Pay on our website \*\***



Who: 7<sup>th</sup> grade students

What/Where: Sea World Adventure

When: Friday April 26, 2024 from 6:00am – 8:00pm

Cost:

Bus only (if you have an annual pass)	\$85
Bus and ticket	\$125.00
Lunch option - One Time Dining	\$20.00
Lunch option - All Day Dining	\$40.00

Payment Deadline December 8, 2023 – For Bus +Ticket or Bus only

\*\* Lunch Options need to be purchased by  
March 8, 2024 \*\*

**\*\* All field trips can be found and paid for in School Pay on our website \*\***



Who: 8<sup>th</sup> grade students

What/Where: Grad Night at Bush Gardens

When: Friday May 10, 2024 from 12:30pm – 3:30am

Cost: \$175 (bus, admission, t-shirt and dinner voucher included)

Payment Deadline: December 8, 2023



**\*\* All field trips can be found and paid for in School Pay on our website \*\***



# Middle School Athletics



**JANUARY**

**PVA BOYS AND GIRLS**

**BASKETBALL**

**SEASON BEGINS**

**JANUARY 2024**

## PLAYOFFS

### GIRLS SOCCER PLAYOFFS

December 4<sup>th</sup> HOME playoff game at Davis Park 4:00pm vs LANDRUM.

Playoffs dates: 12/4 (quarters)

12/6 (semis), 12/8 (finals)



The PVA girls soccer team finished 9-1 in the regular season. PVA shared the league title (league Co-CHAMPS).

For questions regarding [SJMSAA Sponsored Sports](#), please contact PVA SJMSAA Athletic Director, **Lori Danko**, at [lori.danko@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:lori.danko@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

### Golf

Registration: **OPEN NOW!!** [https://](https://tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=2740888)

[tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=2740888](https://tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=2740888)

**Season:** March through May (Palencia Golf Course)

Saint Johns Middle School Athletic Association **SJMSAA**



### Tennis

Registration: **OPEN NOW!!** [https://](https://tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=2741882)

[tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=2741882](https://tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=2741882)

**Season:** January through May

Saint Johns Middle School Athletic Association **SJMSAA**



# Important Information



Please make sure you order your 2023-2024 yearbook at BUY THE YEARBOOK !

<https://buytheyearbook.pictavo.com/PictavoSchool/FindSchool> School ID: 717935

## ATTENTION PARENTS:

**Recognize Your 8th Grader in the  
PALM VALLEY ACADEMY**

**2023 Yearbook!**

Don't miss out on this opportunity to showcase your  
8th Grader's accomplishments and memories.

Go online today to purchase and design your ad to  
take part in this special tradition.

Visit Leonard's Pictavo Community at  
**BuyTheYearbook.com**



## ADS

Show your loved ones how special they  
are with an ad of congratulations

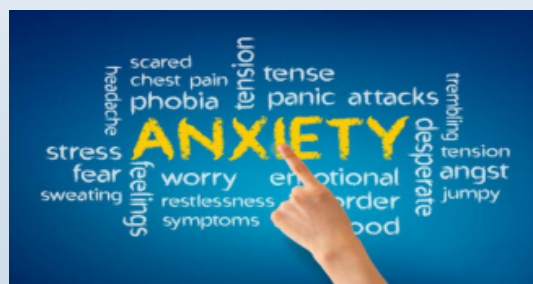
## Parents and Caregivers

Please join us on December 5, 2023, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm for a virtual discussion titled:

"Strategies Parents and Caregivers Can Implement to Address  
Anxiety Related Symptoms in Their Students."

The discussion will be presented by guest speaker  
Marlena Jenkins.

[Learn](#) more about this event





The graphic is a winter-themed promotional poster for PVA PTO gear. It features a light blue background with a white border decorated with snowflakes and stars. In the top right corner, there are three circular logos: a green one for 'PALM VALLEY ACADEMY', a white one for 'CLARK OF 2024', and a blue one for 'BOBCATS 2024'. The main text is centered and reads: 'All I Want This Winter is... PVA Gear!'. Below this, it says 'Shop closes December 4th' and 'Limited Edition Winter Line'. The website 'PVApttoHolidayShop2023.itemOrder.com' is listed at the bottom. The central part of the graphic displays a collection of PVA gear: a dark blue beanie, a white travel mug, a blue travel mug, a dark blue hoodie with 'palm valley' in script, a dark blue t-shirt with 'palm valley' in script, a dark green beanie, a dark blue t-shirt with 'BOBCATS' in yellow, a dark green hoodie with 'BOBCATS' in white, a pair of blue and yellow plaid pants, and a pair of green and white plaid pants. A snowman illustration is on the bottom left, and a broom is on the bottom right.

**All I Want This Winter is...  
PVA Gear!**

**Shop closes December 4th**  
Limited Edition Winter Line  
[PVApttoHolidayShop2023.itemOrder.com](http://PVApttoHolidayShop2023.itemOrder.com)



The gear items shown include: a dark blue beanie with a yellow bobcat logo; a white travel mug with a yellow bobcat logo; a blue travel mug with a yellow bobcat logo; a dark blue hoodie with 'palm valley' in white script; a dark blue t-shirt with 'palm valley' in white script; a dark green beanie with a yellow bobcat logo; a dark blue t-shirt with 'BOBCATS' in yellow; a dark green hoodie with 'BOBCATS' in white; a pair of blue and yellow plaid pants with a yellow bobcat logo; and a pair of green and white plaid pants with a yellow bobcat logo.



# 2023-2024 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



## 2023-2024 Partners in Education



### Heroes



### Champions



### Supporters



### In Kind

