Palm Valley Academy

Volume 6, Issue 8 — April 2024

Calendar Highlights

04/1— 04/10 SPRING BOOKFAIR

04/2 SAC Meeting @4:00PM

04/2 FAMILY BOOK FAIR 5-7PM

04/3 MIDDLE SCHOOL TASK

FORCE MEETING @2:30PM

04/12 8th Grade Semi-Formal @The Link 6:30 to 8:30

04/19 NO SCHOOL

04/22 PVA Art Show @6:00PM

04/23 Interims Issued

04/24 CC Breakfast-ALL PILLARS

04/25 DANCE Tryouts @3:30PM

04/28 Family Fun Day @PVA SUNDAY 1 to 4 PM Dear Bobcat Families,

And just like that, its April! As we transition into the beautiful days of spring, I am excited to share some exciting updates and upcoming events with you.

Academic Highlights:

- Our students have been thriving academically, and I couldn't be prouder of their hard work and dedication. As we approach the end of the school year, I encourage students to stay focused and engaged in their classes. They've put in the work, now its time to "show what you know"!
- The testing window officially kicks-off this week with the BEST Writing Test for grades 4-8. We wish our upper elementary and middle school students the best of luck! Parents, you can assist this testing season by promoting a good nights sleep, a nutritious breakfast and some positive encouragement each morning to start their day of right. We are excited to see the results of all their hard work!

Upcoming Events:

- Spring Book Fair: The Book Fair is here! It will be running from 4/1 4/10. There will be a parent night on 4/2 from 5:00pm—7:00pm. We need volunteers to help run the Book Fair. Click the link below to sign up! BOOK FAIR SIGN-UP HERE!
- **PVA Art Show:** Celebrate the ARTS and join us for an evening event on 4/22 that will showcase student artwork and creations. Information and details to come.
- Spring Family Fun Day: Sunday, April 28th @ 1pm 4pm. Get ready for a day of excitement and fun because our School-wide Family Fun Day is just around the corner! We're thrilled to invite you and your family to join us for a FREE and spectacular event filled with games, activities, food, and endless entertainment. Including the SLIMING OF MR. STROM!

School Updates:

- Safety Reminders: As the weather warms up, please remind your children to stay hydrated, apply sunscreen, and dress appropriately for outdoor activities. Additionally, ensure they are following all safety protocols, including wearing helmets while riding bikes or scooters.
- Speaking of Dressing Appropriately—As the weather warms up, please keep in mind the SJCSD
 Dress Code as defined in the Code of Conduct. We are seeing more and more violations and we'll
 need your help to stay in compliance. See <u>SJCSD DRESS CODE POLICY HERE.</u>
- Volunteer Opportunities: We are always in need of parent volunteers to assist with various school
 events and initiatives. If you're interested in getting involved, please contact our PTO or school
 office for more information.
- **Student Achievements:** I want to take a moment to celebrate the accomplishments of our students both inside and outside the classroom. Whether it's academic achievements, artistic talents, or acts of kindness, we are proud of each and every one of our students.

Thank you for your continued support. Happy Spring, Families!

Zach Strom - Principal



PVA Policy Reminders

Cell Phones/Smart Watches

• This continues to be an issue for some. Parents- if you need to reach your children please call the front office. If a student is on their phone taking a call at any point during the school day, the phone will be confiscated. We really have ZERO wiggle room with this. Please see the below for State Mandates and SJCSD Policy:

It is a state mandate and SJCSD Policy that all cellphones and smartwatches are off and away during instructional blocks during the school day. Students may have phones/watches out upon arrival and dismissal, but they must be turned off and put away at all other times. The only exception to this is the middle school policy, which allows phones/watches to be on during transitions.

- Elementary (K-5): ALL Phones and Smart Watches are off and in their backpacks at all time.
- Middle School (6-8): Students will turn-off phones/watches and place in the teachers provided pocket chart, where they will stay until students are dismissed. Additionally, ONE EAR BUD may be used during arrival and dismissal, but off and away at any other point of the day.

We kindly ask that parents continue to assist us in discussing appropriate cell phones use regarding restrooms, pictures/videos, and social media. We appreciate your support and understanding.

At PVA, the progressive discipline for unauthorized phone use is as follows:

- 1. First violation is immediate confiscation of the phone or electronic device, which can be picked up at the front desk during dismissal.
- 2. Second violation is immediate confiscation of the phone or electronic device, which must then be picked up at the front desk by an authorized parent or guardian at the end of the day.
- 3. A third violation is immediate confiscation and a one week "ban" where the phone or electronic device should be left at home, or checked into the front desk of the office upon arrival. If checked, the device will remain off and away until retrieved by the student at the end of the day.



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.





THE 6 PILLARS OF CHARACTER













APRIL PILLAR OF THE MONTH— 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.

Character Counts

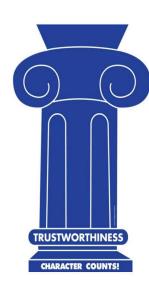
MARCH RECOGNIZED TRUSTWORTHINESS

Be honest • Don't deceive, cheat, or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country





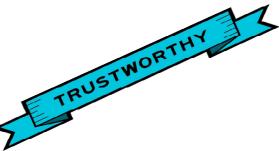






Character Counts

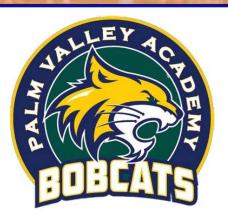














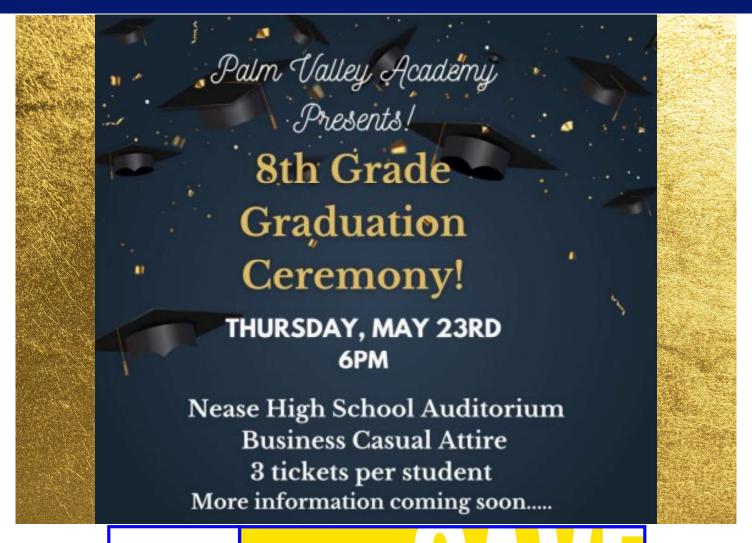
Assessment Calendar

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2024	(3)	1	2	3	4	5	6
APRIL		Grade 5 Writing	Grade 4 Writing	P (1990)	Middle School Writing		
APF	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	Grade 2 Reading	Grade 1 Reading	17	Kindergarten Reading	Holiday	20
	21	Grade 2 Math	Grade 1 Math	24	Kindergarten Math	26	27
70	28	29	30	4	2	3	4
	Assessment Calendar is subject to change. Make-up exams will be given as soon a student's return to school.						
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2024 X X	28	29	30	T Remain	Civics EOC Grade 3 Reading	Grade 4 Reading	4
Ž	5	Grade 5 Reading	Middle School Reading	8	Grade 3 Math	Grade 4 Math	11
	12	Grade 5 Math	Middle School Math	15	Grade 5 Science	Algebra/ Geometry EOC	18
	19	Grade 8 Science	21	22	23	Last Day of School	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	T.

Audra Wilson - Testing Coordinator

Assessment Calendar is subject to change. Make-up exams will be given as soon as possible upon a student's return to school.

Important Information





CLASS OF 2031 5TH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY

> MAY 21 2024

5:30-7:00pm PVA Cafeteria

MORE INFO TO COME!

SAYE THE NATE

Important Information



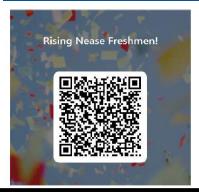
https://pvayardsigns2024.itemorder.com/shop/home/



RISING NEASE FRESHMEN!

Please use this QR code to share some very important information that our Link Crew Coordinators, Mrs. Milian, Mrs. Townsend, and Ms. Carlos, and our Link Crew junior and senior leaders will need to make "Freshmen Orientation" an AMAZING and memorable experience for you. We NEED all this information before summer begins, because we spend all summer getting ready for this event. We can't wait to meet you

and welcome you into "Panther Nation". Please make sure you start following Link Crew on Instagram at nease_linkcrew for lots of valuable info and updates. We can't wait to welcome you to Nease! Remember - #wearenease https://forms.office.com/r/xNqT8cd2tj



Important Information



THE 2024-2025 STUDENT REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Be sure to scroll down and look for 2024-2025 school year!

https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/student/enrollment/update

School tours will be available over the summer for registered students.

To enroll for Kindergarten, your student must be 5 years old on or before September 1st.

Elementary Contact: Kathleen McClung <u>Kathleen.Mcclung@stjohns.k12.fl.us</u>

Middle School Contact: Mary Dominguez Mary.Dominguez@stjohns.k12.fl.us



6th GRADE PARENTS

The Tdap immunization is required for all 7th graders.

Proof of this immunization on the DH 680 Form can be brought to the front office, faxed (904-547-4205), or emailed to (Mary.Dominguez@stjohns.k12.fl.us even if your student is still in 6th grade. Please do this as soon as your child receives their shot.

Per district policy, all 7th grade students are required to submit an updated DH 680 form to include Tdap, prior to the start of 7th grade.

8th Grade Events



Who: 8th grade students

What/Where: Grad Night at Bush Gardens

When: Friday May 10, 2024

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

12:30pm-3:30am

Payment Deadline: April 19, 2024

** PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ON SCHOOLPAY **



Safety Spotlight

Deputy Wilson's Safety Tips for Bobcats

- *Please follow the 10MPH Speed limit while on campus.
- *A gentle reminder: The school zone (parent loop) is a hands free cell phone zone.
- *Please do not drop off your Bobcats off in the bus loop unless you have a special exemption from administration.
- *For all my Bobcat friends, thank you for wearing your helmets! You're doing a great job at staying safe. Keep encouraging your friends to practice safety first!

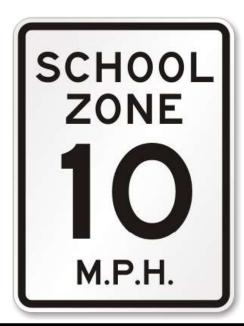
Gooo Bobcats!

Mark E. Wilson

Sr. Deputy | Youth Services - Palm Valley Academy









Health Clinic

Health Clinic Updates



LET'S TALK HEAD LICE

Spread by direct head-to-head contact

Brushes, hair ties and hats can provide an indirect transfer only if quickly shared between heads

They are not likely to leave a warm head to hide in clothing or furniture where it is cold and no food.

Lice do not jump or fly

Lice can only survive 24- 48 hours off a head.

The best method of controlling an outbreak of lice is regularly checking your child for live bugs and/or nits.





If you find of live bugs or nits, DON'T PANIC!

It is recommended you follow these steps:

- Evaluate everyone in the household as direct head-to-head contact is the method of transmission.
- Begin treatment. There are many resources available. Contact your pediatrician or check out our PVA website for more information.
- Contact the school nurse or teacher so we can:
 - Inform those who may have been exposed via letter
 - Deep clean the classrooms
 - Provide further information if needed
- After treatment is completed, please have your child check in with us for clearance or any further guidance.

Please keep the following in mind:

- Everyone in the house should be checked daily for 7-10 days following exposure.
- Please be courteous and tell your close friends and family, sleepaways, and sports teams. This goes a long way to prevent more cases in the community.

Clinic Website: https://www-pva.stjohns.k12.fl.us/clinic/ See our LICE page!
School Nurses - Alice Fasula and Kara Whitchurch

Media Center News

In the media center we have some students who have finished reading all 15 SSYRA books for grades 3-5. Way to go Bobcats!

In 5th Grade Isabelle M.









BATTLE SE BOOKS

In March we had our Battle of the Books competition. Although we didn't bring home the trophy our teams did an amazing job.

Great effort bobcats!!



Reminder to all students!!

All books will need to be returned to the media center no later than Friday, May 3rd**

Around PVA

<u>The Players Character Cup</u> is an annual district competition that focuses on Physical Education, and Character. These 5th graders were selected by their peers and competed against other 5th graders from the district. Congratulations to these students for being selected and giving it their all!

The 2024 PVA Team

Girls: Ruby Hulling, Natalie Theien, Madelyn Broome, Morgan Bolden and Alivia Seden (Alivia placed 2nd in the Free Throw event and 3rd in the Chipping event)

Boys: Charlie Mann, Sammy Brown, Drew Whitacre, Mason Monti and Micheal

Weber

Coaches: Al Henson and Nicole Weber





Around PVA













BOBCAT BOLT



Middle School Athletics

TENNIS

J۷

Varsity 04/04 vs Sebastian Middle @4PM

04/04 vs Cathedral Parish @4PM



04/04 vs Swiss Point @Palencia 04/11 vs Fruit Cove @Palencia 04/15 to 19 TBD vs Landrum White 04/23 vs Pacetti Bay @Slammer & Squire 04/29 to 05/03 TBD vs Landrum Blue ALL MATCHES BEGIN AT 4:00 PM

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

04/04 @ 6:40 and 7:20 04/11 @ 6:00 and 6:40

Matches played at Sports Edge Beach



Varsity
04/02 vs Fruit Cove @Mills Field
3:45 - 4:30
04/04 vs Landrum @Cornerstone
04/09 vs Pacetti @Cornerstone
04/11 vs POA/PLA @Cornerstone
04/16 vs MCA @Davis Park
04/18 vs Swiss Point @Davis Park
04/23 PLAYOFFS BEGIN

JV 04/01 vs Fruit Cove @Cornerstone
3:45 - 4:30 04/03 vs Landrum @Cornerstone
04/08 vs Pacetti @Cornerstone
04/10 vs POA/PLA @Mills Field
04/15 vs MCA @Davis Park
04/17 vs Swiss Point @Kehoe
04/22 PLAYOFFS BEGIN

BASEBALL

04/02 vs Fruit Cove @Davis Park 04/04 vs Murray @Treaty Park

04/08 vs PIA @Davis Park

04/09 vs Sebastian/Gamble @Davis Park

04/15 vs Murray @Davis Park

04/18 vs Swiss Point @Aberdeen

04/22 vs Landrum @Davis Park

04/24 vs Fruit Cove @Aberdeen

04/29 vs VRA @Davis Park

ALL GAMES BEGIN AT 4:00 PM



NJHS Community Drive and Collection

Donation Dates – April 8-22 MOVERS FOR MOMS_®

Wish List

TWO MEN AND A TRUCK® locations across the country collect donations for women every spring and deliver them to local women's and family shelters on or before Mother's Day. Franchises partner with local shelters, schools, and other community organizations to collect goods that make Mother's Day special for moms in shelters. This annual campaign is called Movers for Moms®.

This year, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK® Jacksonville and St. Augustine will pick up and deliver the collected items to Sulzbacher Village, Betty Griffin Center, and Quigley House around Mother's Day

All items are welcome; however, much-needed items include:

Personal Items full-size shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, disposable razors, tampons and sanitary pads, cold & pain medicine, NEW women's underwear & socks

Grocery Items Non-perishable food items (canned proteins like peanut butter or tuna, canned veggies and fruits, boxed meals, box potatoes, macaroni & cheese, jelly, kids snacks, drinks). Grocery store gift cards

Baby/Kid Items Diapers (preferably size 3 and up) baby food and any type of formula, NEW children's underwear & socks

Linens: XL twin sheets, towels

Office Supplies- paper, pens & pencils, spiral notebooks, stamps

Cleaning Supplies- household cleaning supplies and paper products (paper plates, napkins, toilet paper, paper towels, plastic silvenware, etc. – no Styrofoam, please).

Please note: Shelters do not have the space capacity to accept used clothing.



Dance Tryouts

Palm Valley Academy



DANCE TRYOUTS!

AGES 10 AND UP

Dance Clinics:

4/22, 4/23, and 4/24 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm in the GYM Closed TRYOUTS:

4/25 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm in the GYM

Scan to Register!





Pickleball



PICKLEBALL



REGISTRATION OPEN



Join us for Our FIRST Season!

Register Today @ SJMSAA.ORG/PICKLEBALL



Beginning @ End of March Games: April thru May



\$260 per student-athlete Includes: Team Jersey, Paddle & Ball, Coaching & Games

SJMSAA Pickleball offers currently a spring season for students age 10 through 8th grade.

With plans to add more seasons! All seasons will include practices with a Pickleball coach and a season where teams will play against one another. The season will include playoff and championship games.

Summer Program



Two Part Application Process-Click Here

- 1. Parent online application
- 2. Student essay/teacher recommendation

Canoe, Kayak, Windsurf, SUP, Surf, Fish and much more! Don't Miss The Fun

Check out our website site at: https://www-grms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/marinescience/

Kristina Bransford
Program Coordinator
marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us



Summer Program

Dear parents and caregivers,

There is a free fine arts summer camp for your kiddos from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, June 3rd – June 13th, Monday – Thursday (no Fridays.)

This camp will be car rider only and will be hosted at Valley Ridge Academy. Your child will be responsible for bringing his/her own lunch. Scan the QR code for more information and to register. Space is limited.





Summer Camp

BAILEN BASKETBALL SUMMER CAMP

This summer, Coach Bailen and his crew are celebrating 11 years of camp teaching the fundamentals of the game while mentoring elementary and middle school aged kids of all skill levels and experience.

Camp rules are as follows- 1. Have Fun 2. Get Better 3. Be a great Teammate! They teach the importance of Attitude, Effort, and Character.

Check out the flyer for more information!



From the PTO

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

PALM VALLEY ACADEMY'S

FAMILY FUNDAY

SUNDAY, APPIL 28TH



1:00PM - 4:00PM PVA School Yard

FREE EVENT

Planet Pizza Food Truck & Mr. Softee on site

GAMES, FOOD, MUSIC, BOUNCE HOUSES & MORE!

SPONSOPED BY THE PVA SCHOOL PTO

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



2023-2024 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



2023-2024 Partners in Education



Heroes















Champions



















Supporters















SIGNS













In Kind















