#### **Palm Valley Academy**

Volume 6, Issue 9 — May 2024

#### **Calendar Highlights**

05/06 - 05/10 Teacher
Appreciation Week!

05/06 Spring Band Concert @ Nease Auditorium

05/07 SAC Meeting in Library @ 4:00PM

05/07 GIRLS Volleyball Open Gym 3:30 to 5:30 @PVA

05/09 GIRLS Volleyball Open Gym 3:30 to 5:30 @PVA

05/15 GIRLS Varsity Soccer Pre-season Pre-tryout 3:15 to 5:15 @Davis Park

05/21 <u>5th Grade PROMOTION</u> CEREMONY @PVA

05/22 5th Grade Celebration Day 9:00am—12:00pm

05/23 8th Grade BREAKFAST

05/23 8th Grade PROMOTION CEREMONY @Nease HS

05/24 4TH Quarter Ends
Report Cards Due
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
\*\*EARLY DISMISSAL\*\*



Dear Bobcat Families,

We hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the spring season! As we transition into May, we want to take a moment to reflect on the exciting events of April and share some important updates and upcoming activities.

#### **April Highlights:**

- Character Counts Celebration: This month we hosted our final Character Counts Breakfasts and celebrated those nominated for ALL PILLARS for their outstanding character throughout the year. Thank you students and parents for celebrating with us.
- Award Winning Students: District Prize Patrol was out last week to award two groups of middle school students here at Palm Valley for their award winning entries into *The Len Mattice Foundation's*#STOPTHEBULLYINGCAMPAIGN. These projects were focused on Kindness, Compassion, and Inclusion and were chosen for cash prizes from hundreds of District-wide entries! Our students are truly doing remarkable things here at PVA!
- The PVA Art Show: WOW! I think we were all at a loss for words... what an absolutely remarkable display of student creativity and skill. We have a talented bunch and it was truly on display. Thank you to Ms. Lieffers and Ms. Gwaltney for organizing the night and thank you to all those who were able to attend.
- Spring Family Fun Day: What an amazing event for families to cap off a number of events this year at PVA. Hundreds of Bobcat families enjoyed hours of fun with various games, bounce houses, activities, delicious food and seeing your Principal covered with more than 20 GALLONS OF SLIME! It was quite the memorable event for many... Thank you PTO for putting on such a great event.

#### **Upcoming Events in May:**

- Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10): Let's show our gratitude to our dedicated educators during this special week. We encourage students and parents to participate in planned activities and gestures of appreciation as communicated by your PTO reps.
- **Spring Concert (May 6):** Our talented musicians and performers are gearing up for a spectacular Spring Concert in the Nease Auditorium on Monday, May 6.
- **5th and 8th Grade Ceremonies:** Get ready to send our students off to the next stage of their academic journeys during the Promotional Ceremonies this month. Keep an eye out for additional info on these special events.

#### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

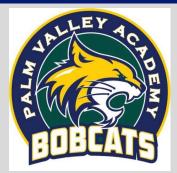
Parent Input: We truly believe that finding that right match and creating the opportunity for a solid
relationship between a student and a teacher is the basis for a successful school year. Remember, we do
not take teacher requests. However, if you would like the opportunity to share your child's specific needs
and the type of teacher that you feel they need, please complete the PVA Family Input Form.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in nurturing our students' growth and success. We look forward to a fantastic month ahead.

Mr. Strom

**PVA** Principal

# **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.



Ms. Frick K-2

Ms. Fennelly 3 - 5

Ms. Ferguson 6 - 8



THE 6 PILLARS OF CHARACTER













August
All Pillars
September
Fairness

per October

Responsibility

November Citizenship

December
All Pillars

January Respect February Caring March Trustworthiness

April
All Pillars

May
Citizenship
(Emphasis on Patriotism)

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**











# **Character Counts**









# **Assessment Calendar**



**Audra Wilson - Testing Coordinator** 

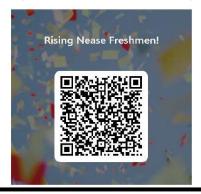
904-547-4223 audra.wilson@stjohns.k12.fl.us



#### 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 <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/xNqT8cd2tj">https://forms.office.com/r/xNqT8cd2tj</a>



#### **Important Information**

# **How to Access the Family Portal**



The Family Portal provides a central location for your student's assessment results.

#### The Family Portal can be used to

- access your student's results for FAST Progress Monitoring testing.
- access prior statewide assessment results.
- print score reports.

#### How can I access the Family Portal?

- At the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal: https://fifast.org
- Or at the direct link:
   https://il-familyportal.cambiumast.com/

#### What information do I need to log in to the Family Portal?

- Your student's unique 6-digit access code (found in HAC under the Registration tab).
- Your student's date of birth.
- Your student's first name as it appears on their official school record.

# What information can I find on the Family Portal?

- Your student's results from Fall 2020 through present
- Your student's Individual Student Reports with interpretative guides.
- Glossary
- FAQs
- Performance Levels

#### Where do I get the Access Code?

The code can be found in the Home Access Center (HAC) under the Registration tab. The code will be located on the right side of the page under Additional Information.





#### **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 Kathleen.Mcclung@stjohns.k12.fl.us

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 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to submit an updated DH 680

form to include Tdap, prior to the start of 7th grade.



YOU ARE INVITED TO

# PALM VALLEY ACADEMY 5TH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY



TUESDAY, MAY 21ST 5:30-7:00PM PVA CAFETERIA

CAKE RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
LIMIT 2 GUESTS TOTAL PER STUDENT DUE
TO SPACE CONSTRAINTS

RSVP ON THE SIGNUP GENIUS LINK









#### Hello 8th Grade Parents!

The 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony is just over 4 weeks away! It will be held Thursday, May 23 at the Nease High School Auditorium.

#### Event Schedule:

- 5:00PM 5:15PM Student arrival. ALL students MUST arrive by 5:15pm.
- 5:15PM 6:00PM Doors open for guest check-in
- 6:00PM 7:30PM Graduation Ceremony

#### Ticket details:

- Ticket reservations begin Monday, April 29. An email with the ticket reservation link will be sent directly to parents/guardians by the school.
- Each student is allotted 3 tickets to reserve. You do not have to reserve all 3. Children <2 yrs. old
  do not require a ticket but <u>must</u> sit in a lap. Initial ticket reservations must be made by May 10th
  at midnight.
- If there are additional tickets available, families will be allowed to reserve 1 additional ticket (while supplies last) beginning May 15. Details on the reservation process for any additional tickets will be sent on that date. Additional tickets are very limited and NOT guaranteed.
- All ticket reservations close May 17 at midnight.
- There is no cost for tickets.
- Transfer of tickets between students is allowed; however, the party who is giving the ticket to someone else must email <u>pva8graduation@gmail.com</u> to notify the coordinators of the new recipient. Otherwise, the ticket count at check-in for each student will be incorrect and the intended party will not have their ticket.
- Information on how to reserve tickets is forthcoming. Just to reiterate, ticket reservations do not begin until April 29.
- Attire for this event is business casual/Sunday best.

If you have questions, please email: pva8graduation@gmail.com

Thank you!

The 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony Team



#### From the Health Clinic

#### **Health Clinic Updates**

https://www-pva.stjohns.k12.fl.us/clinic/

#### School Nurses - Alice Fasula and Kara Whitchurch

#### If your student currently has medication in the clinic:

- Please sign up for a time to pick up your student's medication (use link or QR code):
   Palm Valley Academy Nursing Clinic: End of Year Medication
   Pick Up (signupgenius.com)
- District policy does not allow for medication to remain in the school over the summer. It will be important for you to plan to pick up your child's medication since medications may not go home with the student.
- Any medication left in the clinic after Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. will have to be discarded according to district policy.



#### Paperwork for next year:

- New medication forms must be completed every school year. We will have paperwork for next year available when medication is picked up.
- Starting in June, medical forms can be downloaded from the PVA Health Clinic Page (see link above).
- Paperwork is standardized across all St John's County Schools should your student be transferring to high school or another district school. If your child has a physical examination during the summer months, this is a good time to get these medical forms completed.

# \*\*Please make sure to send a water bottle in with your student every day.

We suggest keeping a spare change of clothes in their backpack for any (fun, messy, wet) *End of Year Activities*.

#### May Testing: Make sure to catch your Zzzzz's

Students should strive for 8-10 hours of sleep per night.

Studies have shown that kids who regularly get an adequate amount of sleep have:

- Increased attention for learning
- Better behavior
- Boosted memory
- An overall improved mental and physical health.

#### Ways to help sleep at night:

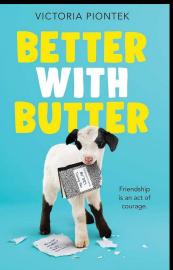
- Set aside electronics before bed and keep them out of the room.
- Limit caffeine and sugar in the evening
- Try a quiet activity before bed such as reading, listening to music or journal writing.





### **Media Center News**







In April we had the author **Victoria Piontek** of "Better with Butter", a SSYRA book, visit with our 3rd, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes. The students were able to ask her questions and enjoyed her discussion about her writings.

#### \*\*Reminder to all students!!\*\*

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



Have a great summer!!



# **Around PVA**



### SAFE SUMMER TIPS







MANY SUMMERTIME ACTIVITIES CARRY HEALTH RISKS FOR CHILDREN.
HELP THEM AVOID THESE HAZARDS WITH PRECAUTIONS.

#### **BEAT BUGS**



Protect against mosquitoes by keeping children indoors at dawn and dusk. Apply insect repellent with no more than 30% DEET.



Check for ticks in hair and skin after kids spend time outdoors. Have them wear pants, long-sleeve shirts, socks and shoes in woods or tall grass.



Get immediate medical attention for serious reactions to bee and wasp stings, such as hives, swelling in the throat, dizziness, nausea or difficulty breathing.

# STOP SUNBURN AND HEAT SICKNESS



Slather kids with a water-resistant, broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30.



Dress them in light, loosefitting clothes, wide-brimmed hats and sunglasses.



Make sure they drink water to stay hydrated.



Limit time outdoors when the sun's rays are strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

#### **SWIM SAFELY**



Watch children at all times when they are in or near water.



Teach kids to swim or enroll them in swimming lessons.



If you have a pool, install a fence with a self-closing and self-latching gate.

### **Middle School Athletics**



GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK
May 20th to 24th

SPRING FOOTBALL GAME

May 11th 2PM@Bartram Trail HS

JV BASEBALL PLAYOFFS
May 1st vs LPA/POA



VARSITY BASEBALL PLAYOFFS
May 7th opponent TBA



#### **Middle School Athletics**



# Girls Volleyball Team Open Gym

Who: Rising 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Girls interested in trying out for next year's PVA volleyball team.

When: Tuesday May 7th and Thursday, May 9th

Where: PVA Gym

Time: 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Questions: Email Coach Henson - al.henson@stjohns.k12.fl.us

To Register, Complete the Form by Following the Link Below:

https://forms.office.com/r/Zr3NQ5UGWi







#### **Middle School Athletics**

### PALM VALLEY ACADEMY

# GIRLS' VARSITY SOCCER

#### **JOIN THE PROGRAM**



# **PRESEASON Pre-TRYOUT**

May 15th (Wednesday)

3:15pm-5:15pm

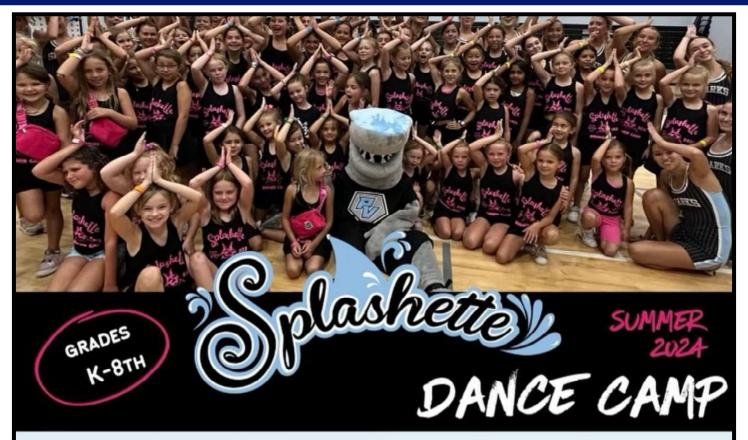
**DAVIS TURF PARK** 

#### **COACHES:**

Coach McArthur (Mac)

**Coach Samilian (Brian)** 

cmac252525@yahoo.com Student Coach: Olivia S.



June 3-5 9 AM - 1 PM PVHS GYM Jazz, Pom, & Hip Hop Choreography

INCLUDES:
3 DAY CAMP
SPLASHETTE TANK
&
TRUCKER HAT

REGISTER TODAY!



BRING:

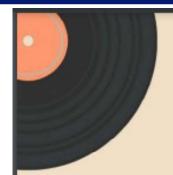
WATER BOTTLE

WEAR:

BLACK SHORTS
SNEAKERS

**SNACK PROVIDED** 

https://splashettesummer2024.eventbrite.com





ST. JOHN'S COUNTY SCHOOLS PRESENTS

# SUMMERJ CHOIR CAMP

JUNE 3RD- JUNE 13TH

MONDAY-THURSDAY

9:00-12:00

BEACHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FINAL PERFORMANCE: THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH AT 11:00 AT THE BEACHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



This free choral camp is being offered to incoming 6th-8th graders. Students will work with choral clinicians to learn proper singing technique and improve their singing skills.

The two-week program will end with a free concert for families to enjoy! Use the QR code to sign up below. Space is limited, so sign up quickly.



Scan or Click the Code to Sign-Up for Summer Choir Camp!







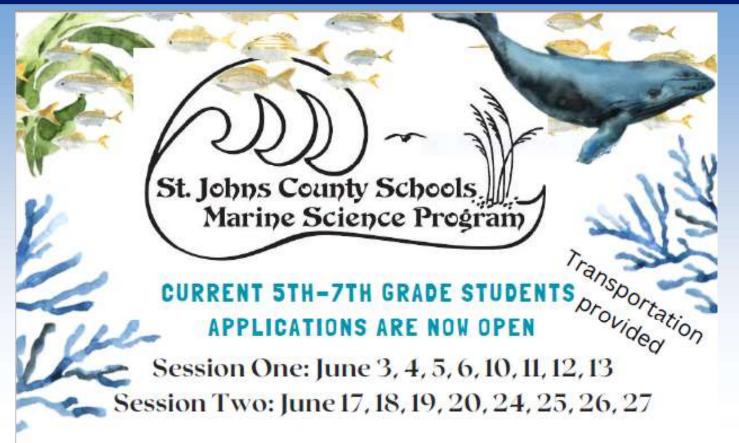
Dear parents and caregivers,

There is a free fine arts summer camp for your kiddos from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, June 3<sup>rd</sup> – June 13<sup>th</sup>, 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.







# 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



#### 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!

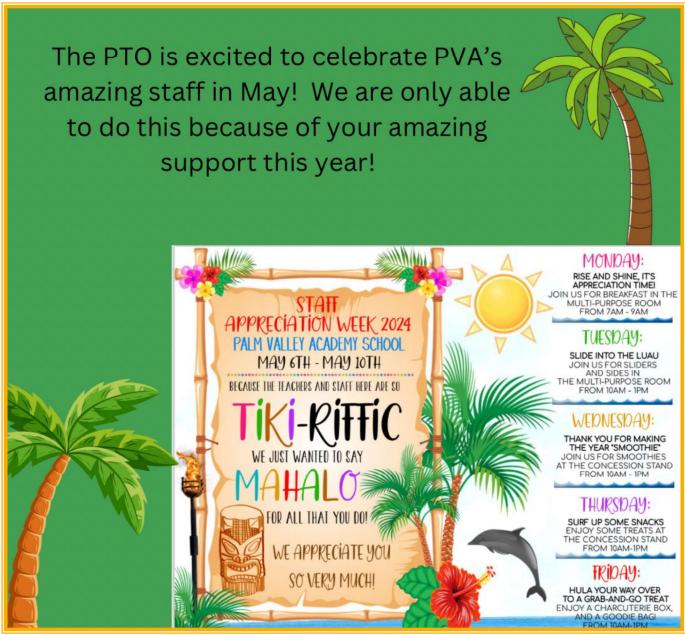


# From the PTO

# Congratulations to our 2024-2025 PVA PTO Board!

- · President- Amy Stellwagen
- · Past President- Beth Gassner
- · Treasurer- Brittany Hulsey
- Elementary VP- Laura Granados
- · Middle School VP- Barbara Hager
- Co-Recording Secretaries- Brittany Dunning & Wanwisa Chanasit
- Corresponding Secretary- Emily Britt





# 2023-2024 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



#### 2023-2024 Partners in Education



#### Heroes















#### Champions



















#### Supporters











































