

A View from the Valley

Palm Valley Academy: Week of 1/13 – 1/17

Dear PVA Families,

Happy Sunday! As we continue our journey together, I want to thank you for your ongoing support in making our school a vibrant place for learning and growth.

A few quick updates for this week:

- **PTO General Meeting:** Wednesday, January 15th @ 9:00am in the Café
- **Basketball Season:** Is HERE! Our PVA Teams host LPA Tuesday in the Bobcat Den! Girls tip is at 5:30pm and boys will follow. Come cheer on our Bobcats!
- **Kindness Matters!** Our Middle School WEB kiddos are about to launch their first *kindness challenge* of 2025. Stay tuned next week for details from them on how this will look!

Let's continue working together to ensure every student feels supported, engaged, and excited to learn. If you have any questions or need assistance, don't hesitate to reach out.

Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Strom

PVA Vision Statement

Building purposeful leaders where everyone shines through achievement.

We Pursue Excellence.

We Value All.

We Achieve Success.

We are PVA!

INFO FOR ALL (K-8)

SJCSD Character Counts 6K/3K

Join the CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee for its 12th Annual CHARACTER COUNTS! 6K/3K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at 9 a.m. The run/walk will begin and end at Palencia Elementary School, located at 355 Palencia Village Drive, St. Augustine. Walkers and runners will enjoy a course running through the neighborhoods of Kensington and Las Calinas and can choose to participate in the 6K (3.73 miles) or 3K (1.86 miles) distance. [Registration forms and more information are available online.](#)



PVA's January Service Project

For this month's service project, NJHS has organized a clothing drive to benefit those in Steinhatchee, FL as they are still recouping from the devastating hurricanes that passed through that area last Fall. Our drive runs from now through January 24th. While they will accept all clothes, they are specifically in need of gentle used children's clothing and jackets. As you clean out those closets and drawers for the new year, please keep this in mind for all your gently used clothing that may not fit your kiddos any longer! See the flyer below for additional details.

PVA and NJHS

Are reaching out to the community for help.

Clothing Drive

To help Hurricanes survivors.

Start going through those closets and drawers and look for any gently used clothing that does not fit any longer or you are looking to get rid of.

Donations will go directly to hurricane victims in Steinhatchee, Fl who are still recovering from the devastation of the hurricanes this past year.

Specifically targeting children's clothes and jackets.

The drive will run from January 6 - January 24

Donation boxes can be found in the front office and where students walk into the building.



Dismissal Change Forms

As a reminder, all transportation changes must be made through [PVA DISMISSAL CHANGE FORM](#) on our School Website. Emailed transportation changes to your teacher are not accepted. When completing the online form, please ensure it contains all information necessary and is submitted by the NOON deadline. If you have an emergency same-day transportation change, please telephone the front office at (904) 547-4200 before NOON each day. We will be happy to assist.

The cutoff time for early pick-up from the front office is 2:15 p.m. (Wed.-1:15 p.m.)

DISMISSAL CHANGES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE 12:00PM NOON DAILY DEADLINE

Attendance Matters

Attending school every day is vital for your child's learning, growth, and overall success. When students miss school, they miss valuable opportunities to learn, build relationships, and develop essential skills. Research shows that even a few absences can impact academic achievement, especially in foundational years like elementary and middle school. Here are a few key reasons why consistent attendance is important:

- **Building strong foundations:** Regular attendance helps students develop good habits, stay on track with lessons, and build a solid academic foundation.
- **Social connections:** Being in school allows students to engage with friends and teachers, fostering a sense of community and belonging.
- **Future success:** Studies show that students with good attendance are more likely to excel academically and develop skills that set them up for long-term success.

We understand that occasional absences due to illness or emergencies are unavoidable. If your child needs to miss school, please inform the front office promptly so we can work with you to support their learning. Our goal is to work together to help every student thrive. Let's partner to make daily attendance a priority!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses 2 days a month..	When a student misses 4 days a month..
They will miss 20 DAYS a year.	They will miss 40 DAYS a year.
They will miss 30 HOURS of math over the school year.	They will miss 60 HOURS of math over the school year.
They will miss 60 HOURS of reading & writing over the school year.	They will miss 120 HOURS of reading & writing over the school year.
They will miss over 1 YEAR of school by graduation.	They will miss over 2 YEARS of school by graduation.

DID YOU KNOW!?! ATTENDANCE FACTS

- ✓ Good attendance is missing not more than 1 day of school a month, whether excused or unexcused. Chronically absent is when you miss 18 days of school a year or 2 days a month.
- ✓ Students with good attendance: Read better, Have higher GPAs, and Will be on track for high school graduation.
- ✓ Poorer student performance due to absenteeism begins as early as kindergarten and extends across grades, creating a cumulative effect.
- ✓ Ensuring regular attendance is one of the best things a parent can do to ensure their child's success in school and life.

FORTIFYFL
Suspicious Activity Reporting App

See suspicious activity at your school?
Report it.

Visit www.getfortifyfl.com to submit a tip or download the app

#FORTIFYFLORIDA

Building PRIDE and Character the PVA WAY!

January is a wonderful time for setting goals and reinforcing positive habits, and here at PVA, we are doing just that through our PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) program.

PBIS is a proactive approach to creating a positive school climate by teaching and reinforcing appropriate behaviors. The program focuses on setting clear expectations for students, acknowledging and rewarding positive behavior, and providing support when challenges arise. By working together, we aim to create a safe and respectful environment where all students can thrive academically and socially.

At Palm Valley Academy, our PBIS expectations are summed up in the acronym PRIDE:

- **P:** Prepared
- **R:** Respectful
- **I:** Inspired
- **D:** Determined
- **E:** Engaged

We encourage students to embody these values in all areas of their school experience, from the classroom to the playground.

PBIS/Character Counts! Character Trait of the Month: Respect

Each month, we recognize a character trait that is aligned to our PBIS program and the Character Counts! initiative, and January's focus is on respect. Respect is the foundation for healthy relationships and a supportive school community. This month, students will participate in activities and discussions that help them understand the importance of respecting themselves, others, and their environment.

Parents and guardians play a crucial role in fostering respectful behaviors. Here are some ways you can support this month's focus:

1. **Model Respect:** Demonstrate respectful behavior in your interactions with others. Children learn a great deal by observing adults.
2. **Practice Active Listening:** Encourage your child to listen attentively when others are speaking and to respond thoughtfully.
3. **Teach Manners:** Reinforce polite words and actions, such as saying "please," "thank you," and "excuse me."
4. **Celebrate Diversity:** Discuss the importance of respecting different opinions, cultures, and backgrounds.
5. **Set Expectations:** Clearly communicate what respectful behavior looks like at home and in public spaces.

Together, we can empower our students to embody respect in all areas of their lives. Thank you for your continued partnership and support in making Palm Valley Academy a wonderful place for our students to grow and learn. If you have any questions about PBIS or Character Counts! Please don't hesitate to reach out – we are eager to share more about this great program!



ELEMENTARY INFO (K-5)

Parent Volunteer Opportunities
[January Volunteer Opportunities](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOL INFO (6-8)

Parent Volunteer Opportunities
[January Volunteer Opportunities](#)

High School Academy Nights - *8th Grade Parents

Is your 8th grader interested in applying for one of the academies offered throughout the district? If so, please see the below flyer for upcoming SJCS D High School Academy Nights and additional information.

SJCS D High School Academy Nights

- Academy Nights offer students the opportunity to:
- meet students and teachers from each academy
 - see classrooms and lab spaces
 - ask questions and gather information



Nease	Bartram Trail	Beachside	Creekside	Pedro Menendez	Ponte Vedra	St. Augustine	St. Johns Technical	Toco Creek
1/22/25 6:00PM	1/8/25 6:00PM	1/21/25 6:00PM	1/9/25 6:00PM	1/7/25 6:00PM	1/16/25 6:00PM	1/23/25 6:00PM	1/23/25 5:30PM	1/15/25 6:00PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering • Communications • Hospitality • IB • Navy ROTC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Tech • Vystar Business • Design • Airforce ROTC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Tech • Global Logistics • Veterinary & Biomed • AICE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering & Environmental Science • Future Teachers • Emerging Tech • Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vystar Business • Healthcare • Architecture • IB • Early College 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Tech • Future Teachers • Biotechnology • Business & Marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Teachers • Aerospace • Law & Homeland Security • Early Career • SJCCA • AICE • Army ROTC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquaculture • Culinary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Tech • Future Teachers • Healthcare • Construction Management • Early College

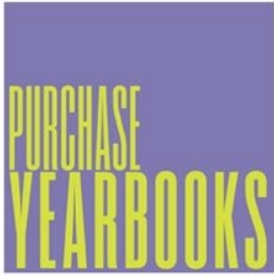


8th Grade Baby Photos and Yearbook Ads

The submission deadline for the 8th Grade Baby Photos has been extended to THIS COMING FRIDAY – 1/24. Also, yearbook ads are still on sale! See the graphic below for additional details.

- Go to www.buytheyearbook.com
- School Code: 385266
- Click on “SHARE PICTURES”
- **LABEL Baby Pictures with First and Last Name**
- 8th Grade ads are due **Jan. 31st** use “**BUY ADS**” link

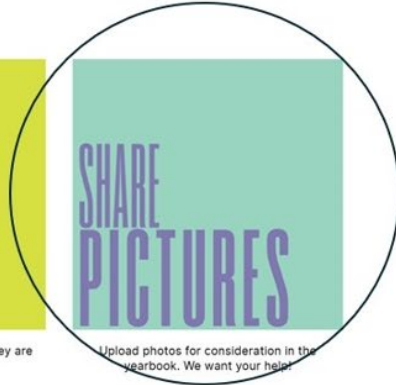
PONTE VEDRA, FLORIDA



Preserve the memories of the year in a book to be cherished forever



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



Upload photos for consideration in the yearbook. We want your help!

BABY PHOTOS

DUE DATE:



JAN
17TH

INFORMATION:

8TH GRADE ONLY, PHOTOS AGING FROM NEWBORN TO 2 YEARS

SEND TO:

NO FEE TO SEND IN! PLEASE UPLOAD TO WWW.BUYTHEYEARBOOK.COM SCHOOL CODE: 385266, IN THE UPLOAD PHOTO PORTION

THIS WEEK'S DATES OF NOTE:

Tuesday, January 14th

- PVA Basketball HOME vs. LPA. Girls tipoff at 5:30pm with boys to follow

Wednesday, January 15th

- General PTO Meeting @ 9:00am in the Café

Thursday, January 16th

- PVA Basketball AWAY @ PIA. Girls tipoff at 5:30pm with boys to follow.
- Report Cards Issued

UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE:

Monday, January 20th

- MLK Day – No School

Tuesday, January 21st

- PVA Basketball HOME vs. FCA. Girls tipoff at 5:30pm with boys to follow

Thursday, January 23rd

- PVA Basketball HOME @ TCA. Girls tipoff at 5:30pm with boys to follow.

Friday, January 24th

- Final Day of the NJHS Clothing Drive

CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK – January 27th – January 31st

Have a fantastic first week of 2025, Bobcats!

Sincerely,

Zach Strom

PVA School Principal

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