A View from the Valley

Palm Valley Academy: Week of 9/14 – 9/20

Good evening, PVA Community,

We hope this message finds you well and that your weekend has been a great one! Thank you for all the ways you support our school and partner with us in creating an environment where every Bobcat can thrive.

Be sure to check out the updates and reminders below so you're up to date on what's happening at PVA.

Wishing you a fantastic week ahead...Go BOBCATS!

Mr. Strom

<u>PVA Vision Statement</u>

Building purposeful leaders where everyone shines through achievement.

We <u>P</u>ursue Excellence. We <u>V</u>alue All. We <u>A</u>chieve Success.

We are PVA!

INFO FOR ALL (K-8)

A Message of Safety from Deputy Wilson (3 of 3)

Hey Parents and Friends of Bobcats everywhere! Please help us keep our students safe. As your school's assigned Deputy, I must ask that everyone please the protocols established for our campus and beyond. There is no perfect solution for everyone, but what is done helps us safely move well over a thousand students and staff, plus buses and cars each day. As a parent, I understand how hard it can be to balance life's daily challenges, but we must keep a safety-first mindset. If I can be of any assistance or need clarity on any topic, please let me know.

- E-bikes and scooters are being operated in a hazardous manner. They are too fast and hard to hear when they are overtaking walkers and other bikers. Before there is a serious injury, we would like to ask parents please remind or instruct your child on the proper operation and bicycle laws they must follow. On a multi-use pathway, pedestrians will have the right of way.
- Bicyclists, scooter and skateboard operators must wear a protective helmet at all times.
- Dress in brightly colored clothes to be seen easily when playing outdoors, especially in twilight or dusk.
- Golf cart pickup line etiquette... please do not bypass the line. If there's an emergency, make other arrangements.

Palm Valley Academy Picture Day

Elementary Picture Day is **Tuesday, September 16**, and Middle School Picture Day is **Wednesday**, **September 17**. Please have your child come ready with their best smile! Ordering information will be provided by Leonard's, so keep an eye out for those details.

Charleston Wraps Fundraiser Begins Monday!

Charleston Wrap is our Annual Fall Fundraiser that helps the PTO raise funds for different PVA initiatives throughout the year! It is one of our many fundraising opportunities that is vital to the success of our support for PVA!

This year our Fundraiser will run from **now until September 29th** and all orders placed will be delivered before Christmas! Charleston wrap offers not just wrapping paper but home decor items, specialty gifts, gourmet items and much more! Kiddos will receive different prizes for hitting sales marks. Please note that this year some of those prizes will arrive once the fundraiser ends.

To add some additional fun we are including some of our own PTO sponsored fun incentives this year for our kiddos, these are detailed below!

<u>The TOP 5 classes</u> with the highest average sales per student will win a donut breakfast! (This way, every class has a fair shot, no matter the size.)

<u>The Top OVERALL Class</u> in Sales will win Chic Fil A Lunch!

<u>The Top OVERALL Grade</u> in Sales will win Popsicles!

<u>The Top OVERALL STUDENT</u> will win LUNCH WITH MR STROM and DINO THE DINOSUAR!!

LETS GET OUR SALES IN AND HELP SUPPORT PVA!

<u>Best School Fundraising 2025 | Charleston Wrap</u>

ORGANIZATION ID: 20489







PVA Fall Health Screenings Upcoming

In compliance with Florida Statute 381.0056 (4)(a), regarding school health services, we are notifying you that students in the St. Johns County School System will be offered the following health screenings:

Vision (Grades KG, 1st, 3rd and 6th) Hearing (Grades KG, 1st, and 6th) Height/Weight (Grades 1st, 3rd, and 6th) Scoliosis (6th grade only)

These screenings are offered in an effort to decrease health barriers to learning and may be performed by school nurses, other school personnel, and trained volunteers. If your child is tested and the results are not in the "normal" range for the particular test, you will be notified by letter. Your child will be screened unless you notify the school nurse, in writing by completing the Microsoft Form below, no later than <u>September 18, 2025</u> that you do <u>NOT</u> want your child to participate. It should be understood that such screenings do not substitute for a thorough examination by a health care provider.

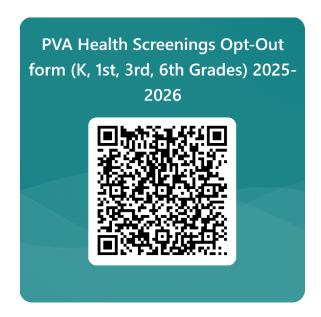
We are pleased to be able to offer programs that support the health and well-being of our students. Please contact the Palm Valley Academy Clinic at 904-547-4221 if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Alice Fasula, RN, BSN School Nurse

ONLY COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW IF YOU <u>DO NOT</u> WANT YOUR CHILD TO BE SCREENED.

PLEASE SUBMIT ONE ENTRY PER STUDENT.



PVA Health Screening Opt-Out Form 25.26

ELEMENTARY INFO (K-5)

K-5 Required Instruction (K-5)

This week, our counselors will begin teaching the required safety lessons and will continue throughout the year with all elementary classes. They will be using a curriculum called *Safer, Smarter Kids*, which follows a developmentally appropriate sequence of instruction for each grade level of an elementary student. Each grade level's theme focuses on developing skills for staying safe, as it relates to the expansion of a child's world. This curricula includes videos, in-classroom activities and parent education materials. To learn more about this program, visit www.SaferSmarterKids.org.

MIDDLE SCHOOL INFO (6-8)

8th Grade Students – WASHINGTON, DC TRIP STILL OPEN!

DC registration for 8th graders is still open! Only a few spots remain! Sign up by September 15th and save \$50! Please sign-up by following the follow the link HERE. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. LaCoste at Katherine.lacoste@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Bobcat Brigade

Calling all Middle School parents! We are in need of volunteers to sign up to become Bobcat Brigade families for the 25/26 school year. This initiative allows PVA families to show appreciation to Middle School teachers and professionals who don't have traditional room parents to coordinate gifts like in Elementary classrooms. By volunteering, you agree to provide 3 gifts (suggested value \$25 each) plus 1 \$25 Venmo donation which will be used to purchase a Birthday gift card for your assigned teacher/professional. If you are interested in volunteering, please click here to get started! Email bobcatbrigade@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you for helping!

🧆 8th Grade Banners Are Here! 🦠

Celebrate your 8th grader with a personalized 2'x3' mesh banner that will line the fence at the school entrance! Banners will remain on display throughout the spring, creating a lasting memory for your student's milestone year. DEADLINE TO ORDER AT CURRENT PRICE IS OCTOBER 25th

☆ Pricing:

- \$60 for PTO members
- \$85 for non-members

Scan the QR code today to place your order and show your Bobcat pride! 🕾



PTO Happenings (ALL GRADES)

- Our September PTO meeting is Wednesday evening, 9/17 at 6:00pm in the PVA Cafeteria. Join us to hear all the latest happenings and for priority volunteer sign-up opportunities!
- TRUNK OR TREAT IS BACK! We know it still feels like summer but it's never too early to start
 planning for our favorite Fall event...Our Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat!! Grab your
 friends, pick a theme, and decorate your car so the kids can get candy during our
 much anticipated Trunk-or-Treat!! Join the fun and <u>SIGN UP HERE FOR A TRUNK!</u>



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

See suspicious activity at your school? Report it.

DATES OF NOTE:

This Week:

- <u>Tuesday, September 16th</u>
 - K-5 Photo Day
 - MS Volleyball AWAY at FCA @ 5:30/6:30pm
- Wednesday, September 17th
 - Early Release
 - MS Photo Day
 - o PTO Meeting @ 6:00pm in Café
- Thursday, September 18th
 - MS Volleyball AWAY at MCA @ 5:30/6:30pm
 - Kindergarten Talk like a Pirrrrate Day! ARRRRR!!!
- Friday, September 19th
 - NO SCHOOL

On The Radar:

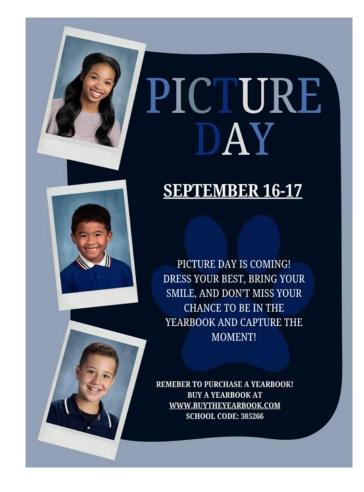
- Tuesday, September 23rd
 - MS Volleyball HOME at TCA @ 5:30/6:30pm
- Wednesday, September 24th
 - o Early Release
 - o Character Counts September Breakfast Celebration in Café @ 7:30am
- Thursday, September 25th
 - o MS Volleyball HOME at MCA @ 5:30/6:30pm

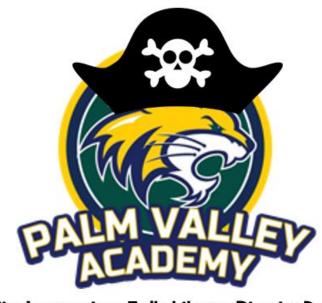
That's all for this week!

Sincerely,

Zach Strom

PVA School Principal





Kindergarten Talk Like a Pirate Day

Thursday, Septembagarr 18th

National **Arts** in **Education** Week

Stronger Together for Arts in Education

September 14-20, 2025





IT'S NATIONAL ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK!

STRONGER TOGETHER FOR ARTS IN EDUCATION







Students in schools that offer arts-integrated learning are more likely to show better academic outcomes, transfer knowledge from arts to non-arts domains, and demonstrate greater motivation and engagement in learning.

(Burnaford et al)







Arts education prepares students to contribute to the workforce and helps them to cultivate skills that employers are looking for in professionals. A 2019 survey found that employers seek to hire professionals with written communication skills, problem solving capabilities, and teamwork. Arts education helps students to hone these skills. (National Association of Colleges and Employers)

#ArtsEdWeek

Arts Education for All Act (H.R. 2485): Expands access to arts learning for all students, in and out of school



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