

Palm Valley Academy: Week of 1/19-1/23

It has been wonderful welcoming our students and staff back and seeing our campus come alive again. Classrooms are buzzing, routines are back in place, and our Bobcats have jumped right back into learning, growing, and connecting with one another.

As we move deeper into the second semester, we're excited about the opportunities ahead—from academic goals and student celebrations to events and activities that bring our community together. Thank you, as always, for your partnership, encouragement, and support. We are grateful to share this journey with you and look forward to all that lies ahead this spring.

Sincerely,

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)**

### **Class Photo Day**

PVA's Class Photo Day is Tuesday (1/20) and Wednesday (1/21) this week. In addition to class photos (K-5), all grades (including middle school) will take grade level group photos in the gym.

Tuesday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>: Grades K, 1, 2, and 3

Wednesday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>: Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8

### **Basketball season is back at PVA!**

It's time to pack the stands and cheer on our Middle School Bobcats as they hit the court this season! Come out and support our student-athletes, show your school spirit, and be part of the excitement.

Check out the schedule and be on the lookout for ticket links coming soon.

Go Bobcats! 

### **PVA Basketball Schedule**

Date	Home	Away
13-Jan	PIA	PVA
15-Jan	LPA	PVA
20-Jan	LA	PVA
3-Feb	VRA	PVA
5-Feb	PVA	MCA
10-Feb	HCA	PVA
12-Feb	PVA	LPA
19-Feb	PVA	POA
24-Feb	PVA	PIA
26-Feb	PVA	LA
3-Mar	FCA	PVA
5-Mar	PVA	VRA

## **Palm Valley Academy Recognized by the FBI for Online Safety Excellence**

We are incredibly proud to share that Palm Valley Academy has been named a national winner of the FBI's Safe Online Surfing (FBI-SOS) Challenge Award for November 2025 in the Sharks category. This recognition is awarded to schools where more than 100 students successfully complete the FBI's online safety program and assessment.

This marks the fifth out of six years PVA has earned this honor—an outstanding testament to the dedication of our students and the intentional instruction happening in our classrooms.

The FBI-SOS program is a national initiative for students in grades 3–8 that teaches critical digital citizenship and online safety skills, including protecting personal information, recognizing trustworthy websites, creating strong passwords, avoiding scams, and being responsible virtual citizens.

During a visit and presentation to PVA last week, FBI Jacksonville praised the hard work of our students, noting the growing importance of online safety education as more crimes originate online. We are proud to partner in preparing our students to navigate the digital world safely, responsibly, and confidently.

Congratulations to our students and teachers on this impressive achievement—and thank you for continuing to make Palm Valley Academy a leader in student learning and safety.

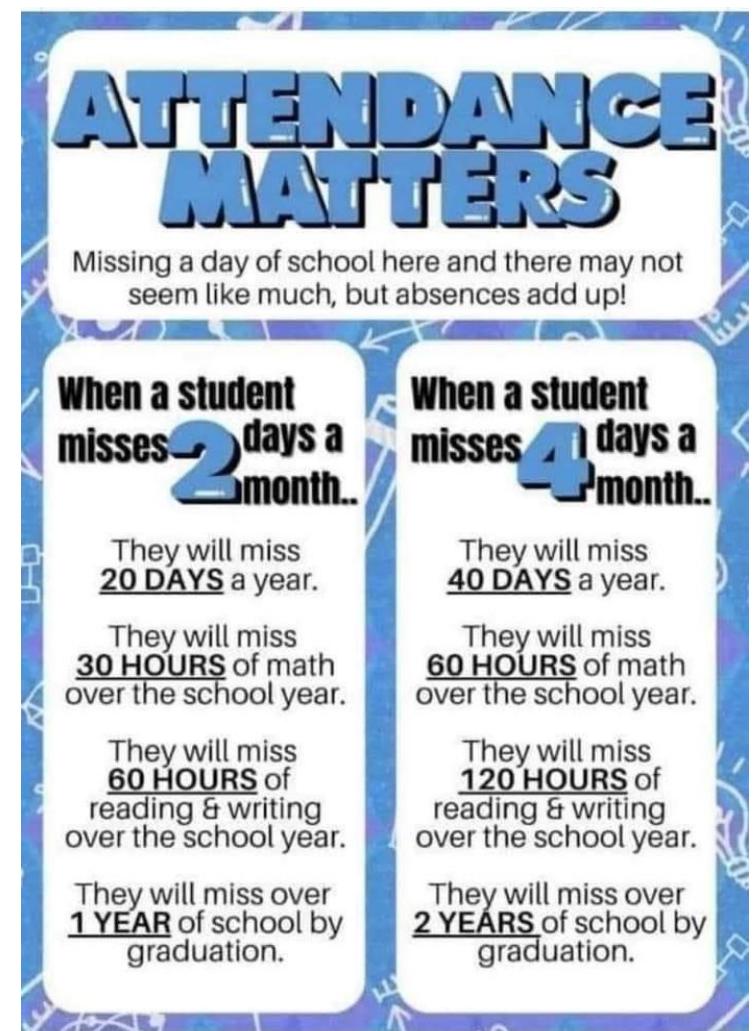


## Attendance Matters

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



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at your school?  
Report it.

HOME SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Visit [www.getfortifyfl.com](http://www.getfortifyfl.com) to submit a tip or download the app

#FORTIFYFLORIDA

## **ELEMENTARY INFO (K-5)**

### **Volunteer for Elementary Lunch Duty**

We're looking for family volunteers to help out during **elementary lunch**! Your support makes a big difference in keeping things running smoothly—whether it's assisting with opening snacks, helping students find their seats, or simply being an encouraging presence in the cafeteria. [If you're interested, please sign up HERE!](#) Even just one lunch period helps our staff and brightens our students' day!

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL INFO (6-8)**

### **Retesting/Make-Up Work Opportunities**

As part of our continued effort to support student success, we're introducing a few new school-wide options for retesting and make-up work. While teachers will continue to provide opportunities within their own classrooms using a variety of strategies, we've also added designated "Study Hall" sessions for students who need extra time to complete or retake assignments.

#### **Study Hall Options:**

- **After-School Option:** 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from **2:30–3:20 PM** in the 1002 computer lab (arranged through the teacher)
- **Morning Option:** 2nd Wednesday of each month during **1st period** (arranged through the teacher)

The decision on which session to attend must be worked out between the student and teacher based on need and scheduling. If your student attends the after-school session, pickup will be at 3:20 PM in the bus loop. If they finish early, they will be expected to use the remaining time productively while waiting. We hope these additional options provide flexibility and continued support for students to demonstrate their best work.

### **8th Grade Baby Photos and Yearbook ADs**

Calling all 8th grade families (8<sup>th</sup> Grade ONLY)! Please submit one baby photo of your 8th grader for a special section of this year's yearbook. Help us celebrate how far our students have come and the amazing people they are becoming. Don't miss your chance to be part of this fun tradition! Questions please contact: [allyson.lindsay@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:allyson.lindsay@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

- When submitting baby photos, please include first and last name of the child and only one photo.
- Once you purchase the Ad it will allow you to create your masterpiece. It will have templates to choose from.
- To design your ad, please go to [buytheyearbook.com](https://buytheyearbook.com) – log in – click on MY ACCOUNT – click on MY ADS – click on Design or Edit. This will open your ad space. Templates are in the top left icon and upload photos under the icon that looks like a picture. The below link is also very helpful from their Help section. You can also reach out to Pictavo Customer Service at 800-290-0036.

Creating Ads: <https://howto.buytheyearbook.com/index.php/creating-ads/>

\*Ads must be designed on a computer or tablet, in either Google Chrome or Edge, the design space is not mobile compatible.

### **8th Grade Fence Banners – ORDER TODAY! 🎉**

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. This first and second round of ordering at the discounted price has passed, the FINAL DEADLINE TO PLACE AN ORDER FOR A FENCE BANNER IS FRIDAY, MARCH 13.

#### **Pricing:**

- \$80 for PTO members
- \$100 for non-members

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



## PTO HAPPENINGS (ALL GRADES)

- **Papa John's Partnership – Support PVA While You Eat!** We're excited to share an easy way for families to support PVA all year long—just by ordering pizza!
  - **All Year Long:** Use code **PVA10** when placing your Papa John's order, and 10% of your purchase will go back to our PTO.

It's a simple (and tasty!) way to support our school while enjoying a family meal. Thank you for helping us bring in extra support for our Bobcats!

- Get your **8th Grade Fence Banners** TODAY! Scan the QR code above!

## DATES OF NOTE:

- Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>
  - NO SCHOOL
- Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>
  - PVA CLASS PHOTOS
  - PVA Basketball AWAY @ Lakeside. Girls tipoff at 5:30pm with boys to follow
- Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Early Release
  - Character Counts Breakfast 7:30-8:00am (Café)
  - PVA CLASS PHOTOS
  - General PTO Meeting @ 9:00am (Café)
  - MS Study Hall/Retakes -AFTER SCHOOL

**On the Radar:**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Washington D.C. 1/26 – 1/29  
Celebrate Literacy Week 1/26 – 1/30

- Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>
  - NO SCHOOL
- Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>
  - PVA CLASS PHOTOS (K-3)
  - PVA Basketball AWAY @ Lakeside. Girls tipoff at 5:30pm with boys to follow
- Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Early Release
  - Character Counts Breakfast 7:30-8:00am (Café)
  - PVA CLASS PHOTOS (4-8)
  - General PTO Meeting @ 9:00am (Café)
  - MS Study Hall/Retakes -AFTER SCHOOL

That's all for this week!

Sincerely,

Zach Strom

PVA School Principal



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Suspicious Activity Reporting App

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HOME SCHOOL COMMUNITY



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# CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK



JANUARY 26-30TH

## 1/26: MONUMENTAL MONDAY

WEAR RED, WHITE, AND BLUE

CELEBRATE 250 CHAPTERS OF AMERICA  
BY REVISITING FAVORITE STORIES AND BOOKS

## 1/27: TEAM USA TUESDAY

WEAR FAVORITE USA SPORTS TEAM

CELEBRATE AMERICAN ATHLETES, COACHES, AND  
TEAMS! BRING ON THE BIOGRAPHIES, AS WELL AS  
FICTION AND NON-FICTION TEXTS!

## 1/28: WILD WEST WEDNESDAY

WESTERN WEAR (DENIM, FLANNEL, BOOTS, ETC.)

CELEBRATE AMERICAN HISTORY AND  
FAMOUS FOLKTALES!

## 1/29: TRAVEL THROUGH TIME THURSDAY

DRESS LIKE A TOURIST

CELEBRATE TRAVEL AND TIME  
BY DISCOVERING A NEW REGION  
OR DIVING INTO A DIFFERENT DECADE!

## 1/30: FIREWORKS AND FLASHING LIGHTS FRIDAY

WEAR STARS, STRIPES, AND SPARKLES

CELEBRATE AMERICAN AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS!  
READ BY FLASHLIGHT!

**READ,  
WHITE and BLUE**  
*Celebrating 250 Chapters of America*

★ CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK 2026 ★

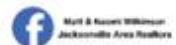
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Smiles by  
DR CRAIG HADGIS  
ORTHODONTIST