



# The Orbiter



## Mission Ready...That's the Pointe!

Volume 16, Issue 6

February 1, 2024

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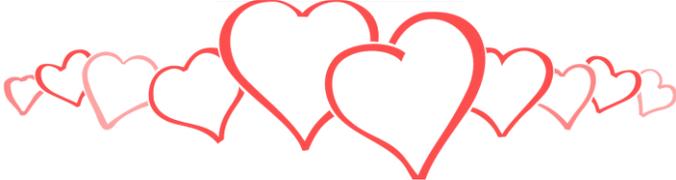
**Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday 8:00 – 4:30  
School Hours 9:40-4:10

**Supervision**  
There is no supervision before 9:15 each day. Please allow your children to remain in your car until this time.

### Attendance Matters

We are continuing to focus on making sure all students attend school, each day, when it's possible to do so. Missing school equals missing out on valuable opportunities, both academically and socially. The following are some ways our families can help with positive attendance habits: build regular routines for bed and the morning, have discussions at home about the importance of attending school, avoid non-emergency extended trips when school is in session, and seek support from the school staff when needed. As a reminder, February 7 is an early release day, and it's just as important to attend as a regular school day. Thank you for your continued support.

### February Happenings



**Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**- National Wear Red Day: Students may wear a Red shirt/dress to show support. Regular dress-code bottoms should be worn.

**February 1<sup>st</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup>** Candy Gram Sales - Delivered on **February 14<sup>th</sup>**

**February 14<sup>th</sup>** – Dress up for Valentine's Day (Must have lanyard to participate)

### Staff Honorees

Please join us in congratulating the following staff members as they will represent Palm Pointe this year at the Night of the Stars! We are so proud of this year's honorees!

**Teacher of the Year: Carmela Innamorato**

**Distinguished Minority Educator Award: Timorya McKeliver**

**Outstanding First Year Teacher: Kaitlyn McCue**

**School Related Employee of the Year: Patricio Larrinaga**

\*Mr. Larrinaga, Mrs. McKeliver and Ms. McCue were also chosen as a District finalist for their category! We will find out on February 3<sup>rd</sup> about district winners!



### Palm Pointe History Day Celebration

Palm Pointe hosted its 2024 History Day School Celebration on January 25th. Students in grades 6-8 social studies participate in this yearly project by researching a topic related to an annual theme and showcasing their work by creating an exhibit, documentary, performance, or historical paper. This year's theme is "Turning Points in History." Students analyzed topics ranging as far back as Antebellum America to as recently as 9/11. The top projects in each grade level were honored at the ceremony in front of the students' families, and the projects moving on to the district level of competition were announced.

Representing Palm Pointe at the District fair this year are:

**Sophia Aragonese, Isabella Cruzado, Colten Furman, and Fateen Bouchfaa.** Congratulations to all of our school finalists!

The District History Fair will take place on February 23rd.

### January Citizen of the Month

Students were selected based on Palm Pointe's School-wide Expectations: **Take Responsibility, Engage in Your Learning, Act Respectfully, and Make Safe Choices.** All assemblies are at 10:15am in the Auditoria. Parents/guests must register through Raptor prior to the ceremony to proceed directly there to get the pass to enter. Parents/guests will need to show identification to receive the badge. All those who do not RSVP must report to the office to check in prior to the ceremony. Congratulations!

**Kindergarten** – Waliy El Sayed, Leila Edmond, Bowen Combs, Joseph Zimmer, Wyatt Roberson, Josiah Beaubrun, Lincoln Delaney, Harlow Hancock, Kylar Diaz

**First** – Sawyer Dickerson, Kaleah Fenty, Belcy Huber, Tyde O' Brien, Tremain Spencer, Giovanni Millan, Jeremy Paredes, Sofia Koyama

**Second** – Envy Moncrief, Kaiden Dale, Lillian Van Allen, Xavier Williams, Jurnee Gray, Scarlett Jacobs, Xander Ghobrial, Kaynan Ortiz

**Third** – Madison Marino, Zion Jones, Donovan Molina, Cameron Ely, Amber Dejoie Carter, Christian Toth, Christian Allen, Haven Francis, Victoria Thomas, Zane Nofal, Quinn Dublin, Ethan Fontilien, Lucas Cornelius

**Fourth** – Maia Rivera, Brynn Roros, Mateo Pichardo, Emily Brusamarello, Lydia Estrada, Rylee Carroll, Sahil Rosario, Leah Savoree, Kumar Telsaint

**Fifth** – Ashton Johnson, Luca Julian, Xejeah Goffe, Valerie Catu Medina, Bradley Charles, Jaiden Singh, Isaiah Rolle, Elijah Arias, Dylan Stott, Aubrey Rowley

**Sixth** – Samantha Mieloch, Mason Schang, Rudolph Goldman, Aryel Villier, Maddison Schoonejongen, Ginelle Angrand, Kingston Timothee, Madyssen Escalante, Taleya Chavez, Allaina Anderson, Owen Key

**Seventh** – Kristoff Simmonds, Raphael Francois, Malaya Burton, Asher Ghobrial, Jacob Scrima, Easton Lunsford, Kaysen Kern, Lucca Domingues, Wyatt Friedberg

**Eighth** – Aaron Cabral, Britain Alcantara, Lucas Alguire, Sania Clarke, Sophia Rooney, Makenna White, Erin Pitman, Elizabeth Castelo, Nijah Bois, Jase Olavarria, Ruth Nazaire, Benjamin Jasmin

**Assessment News – Achievement Level Scales**

**Score ranges for the FAST, B.E.S.T., and End-of-Course assessments have changed.** When new standards and assessments are implemented, standard setting must be conducted to set Achievement Levels on a new score scale, and those proposed levels must be adopted by the State Board of Education. Because the assessments were implemented in the 2022–23 school year and standard setting/adoption took place in the summer and fall of 2023, scores for assessments taken prior to Winter 2023 were reported on a provisional scale linked to the previous assessment system (the FSA). Scores for assessments taken in Winter 2023 and beyond will be reported on the B.E.S.T. score scales.

**Scores on the B.E.S.T. scale are lower than the scores on the FSA scale.**

When a new scale is established, typically the number ranges in the scale change from the previous scale to help distinguish between the two scales. The actual number ranges selected for a scale are arbitrary; the meaning attached to them is established when Achievement Levels and cut scores are established at standard setting. So, for example, the FSA passing score for Algebra 1 was 497 on a scale score range of 425–575, and the B.E.S.T. passing score for Algebra 1 is 400 on a scale score range of 325–475. This does not mean that the test got easier or that the standard was lowered. The new score is simply placed on a new range of numbers (325– 475) vs. the FSA range (425–575).

**The new scale sets higher expectations for students.**

Higher expectations were established with the adoption of the B.E.S.T. Standards, which are more rigorous than the previous standards, the Florida Standards. The adopted cut scores for the FAST assessments and B.E.S.T. EOC assessments set higher expectations and ensure all our students are prepared for postsecondary success.

**No comparison between the FSA and the B.E.S.T. scales.** Because the two scales were established for two different assessment systems aligned to different standards and the B.E.S.T. Standards are more rigorous than the Florida Standards, performance comparisons should not be made. This link provides an FLDOE Q&A document for more information:

[Establishing the B.E.S.T. Scale Score for the FAST and B.E.S.T. EOC Assessments FAQ \(fldoe.org\)](https://fldoe.org/establishing-the-b.e.s.t.-scale-score-for-the-fast-and-b.e.s.t.-eoc-assessments-faq/)

**2023-2024 YEARBOOKS**

Preorder your Palm Pointe yearbook today!

Directions for online ordering:

Go to [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com)  
 Click on the “Yearbooks” tab and then “Buy Your Yearbook”  
 Enter school name: Palm Pointe Educational Research School  
 Fill out student information (first and last name, grade level) and then click “Shop for this Student”  
 Choose either Yearbook with Quarter Page Ad\* (available until all ads are sold) or Yearbook Only Option\*\* (available until 5/10/24 or until all yearbooks are sold)  
 Click ‘Get Started’, select homeroom teacher and select the number of yearbooks you would like  
 Click “Add to cart” and then Click “Checkout”  
*Checkout by paying with PayPal or credit card*  
*\*If you order the ‘Yearbook with Quarter Page Ad’ option, you will receive an email shortly after the order. Fill out the information and provide a photo for the ad prior to the deadline date.*  
*\*\*Yearbooks will be delivered to students during the last week of May.*



If you see something, say something  
 Go online to FortifyFL  
<https://getfortifyfl.com>

Conveniently purchase PPE planners, ear buds, spirit shirts and sweatshirts online! You can also purchase your prepaid Dollar Days pass to dress down on specific days this year!

**FEBRUARY  
2024**

Pay online all in one click with credit card or check. For more details, visit:  
<https://www.schoolpay.com/parent/mip/MdLJ>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b><i>Clubs &amp; Activities</i></b> Symphonic Band 8:15-9:15 Chorus Gr. 4-5 T 8:15-9:15 Book Explorers Gr. 5-8 T 4:15 Book Explorers Gr. 3-8 W 8:15 Champions Club Gr. 6-8 F 8:30 Chess Gr. 6-8 T 4:15 Comic Art Gr. 6-8 T/Th 8:15 Conditioning Gr. 3-8 Th 4:15 Crochet Basics Gr. 3-6 Th	<b><i>Clubs &amp; Activities Cont.</i></b> Haitian Creole Gr. 4-5 T 4:15 Odyssey of the Mind Gr. 3-5 & 6-8 M/W 4:15 Rockets Dance Gr. 6-8 Th 8:15 Science Explorers Gr. 2 M 8:15 Science Explorers Gr. 3 Th 8:15 Science Explorers Gr. 3-4 W 8:15 Songbirds Gr. 7-8 W 4:15 <b><i>Sports</i></b> Girls' Basketball 4:15-5:15 Flag Football M/W 4:15-5:30	1 C 10:15 Gr 3&4 Honor Roll Candy Gram Sales Begin	2 D National Wear Red Day (Shirts only)	3
4	5 E	6 F	7 A Jazz Band District MPA Early Release Day	8 B PBIS Texas Roadhouse Restaurant Fundraiser Dine In	9 C Candy Gram Sales Ends St. Lucie STEM Fair 3:30 NJHS Mtg 4:15-7:15 Gr. 7 Math Academy	10
11	12 D	13 E Dental Sealants	14 F <b>Progress Reports</b> Candy Grams Delivered Dress Up for Valentines Day to Support Sunshine (Must have and wear pre-purchased lanyard to participate)	15 A 8:45 SAC Mtg 4:15-5:30 Gr. 6 ELA/ Writing Academy	16 B 4:15-5:30 Gr. 6 ELA/ Writing Academy	17
18	19 Presidents Day Holiday	20 C	21 D 10:15 Citizen of the Month	22 E Crumbl Cookies Day	23 F St. Lucie History Day Competition 4:15-7:15 Gr. 6 Math Academy Non-Dress Code to Support PBIS Staff (Must have and wear pre-purchased lanyard to participate)	24 9:00-12:00 Gr. 8 Math Academy Regional Odyssey of the Mind Competition@ TCHS-TBD
25	26 A	27 B	28 No School for Students	29 C Gr. 1 Field Trip to Manatee Center (Wadsworth/Garcia)		