

VIERA CHARTER SCHOOL



PANTHERS

October 2019

TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

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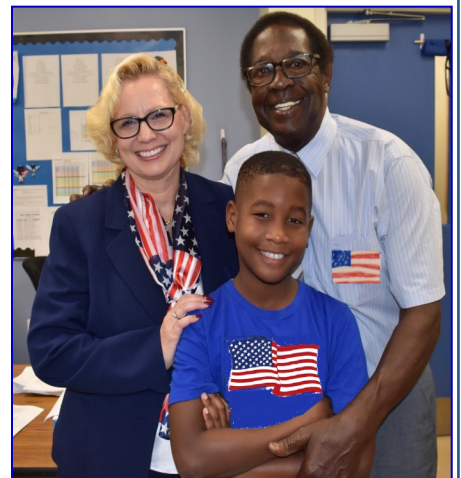
Principal's Message

Hello Panther Families!

We ended September with an amazing turnout for our Bring Your Dad's to School Day with over 640 family members attending. Then we started October with our Walk to School Day. Many students and parents enjoyed this event with us. The Fall Concert was outstanding, and our 8th graders are having a great time in Washington DC. We certainly have many wonderful events happening at VCS. One of my favorites is coming up; the Story Book Parade. I hope you can make it to the parade and do look forward to seeing you!.

Warmest regards,

Dr. Julie Cady



Dr. Cady celebrated Bring Your Dad to School day Sept. 25 with fourth-grader Jaedon Lawton and his great-great-grandfather, education icon and community leader Dr. Joe Lee Smith. Page 5.

Johnny Appleseed Launches Major STEAM Focus In Kindergarten and First Grade

Johnny Appleseed is more than an American legend. The icon heads up an important curriculum in all VCS kindergarten and first grade classes. Children get to perform science experiments, express themselves with art, weigh and measure, use equipment, and nibble delicious foods related to the ever popular apple.



Students used widthwise-halved apples to stamp colorful shapes, discovering that the center of the fruit is star shaped.

They measured baking soda and vinegar or



lemon juice dabbed with food coloring to create a lava reaction from inside a cored apple.

Parent volunteers are a treasured resource in each classroom, assisting with the festivities. The “core” of the lesson is thinking of others, like Johnny Appleseed did as he planted trees that would feed future generations across regions.



Dress Down Day Touts College Team Colors, Sparks Rivalries



Mrs. Wyatt shares her UF Gator passion with students across grade levels.

Mrs. Cundiff happily heads up fellow FSU Seminoles fans.



Generations of Knights pride was on display at the Oct. 3 College Colors Dress Down Day. Mrs. Jordan, Dr. Cady, and Mr. Smith were joined by students as they all displayed their loyalty to The University of Central Florida.

Panthers Fifth and Sixth Grade Volleyball Team Takes Top District Prize



Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Downie, top left, co-coached the team with PE teacher Ms. Hudson, celebrating via FaceTime their big win. Go Mighty Panthers!

Through the ups and downs of the Volleyball season, the fifth and sixth grade volleyball team put everything together when it counted the most on Oct. 12. After being the #2 seated in the tournament and winning their first round of the tournament in a suspenseful three-game match, they went straight to the championship game against the #1 seated and defending champion, Indian Harbor Charter School. It all came down to the third match, in which VCS would win by 3. For the first time in the school's seven-year history, VCS fifth/sixth grade now holds the title of tournament champions!

Performance Arts Students Shine, Win Top Prizes

Middle School and Elementary Music students performed the first concert of the year Oct. 10. In September, a record 10 VCS students advanced beyond the All State Music Exam.



Student of the Month for October: Responsibility

Manuela Mendonca was named Student of the Month from all of first grade students for the Character



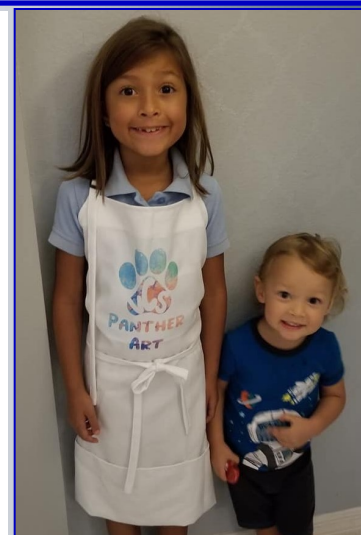
Quality: Responsibility. "Manuela is perfect. She never talks out of turn in class. She follows the rules. She does her work. She takes responsibility for her own actions and always displays her best behavior in class, setting a good example for others," said Manuela's teacher, Mrs. Cohen.

The honor is all the more significant because Manuela arrived this year without knowing a word of English, only Portuguese. Her mother is an engineering project manager for a company headquartered in Brazil that is expanding in Melbourne.

Keep up the good work, Manuela!

Aprons: A Work of Art

Students can now wear an artistically designed art apron during Art and benefit the PTSO. Go to Panther Parents on Facebook.



Boosterthon Fun Run Caps Off Two Weeks of Character Education and Fundraising



Bully Mallone and his band of miscreants fell to students who used good character qualities as super powers, defeating lying, cheating, and stealing during the two weeks of character education. The curriculum is perhaps even more important than the money that is raised for the school during the Fun Run, which caps off the excitement.

Students watched a video each day with the character quality theme, and heard from Boosterthon team members



in their classrooms each day, underscoring good character qualities as well as building excitement and pledges from home for the fundraiser. "Boosterthon is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and the only one where students are directly involved," said PTSO President Mrs. Sizemore. "Not only do the students get daily character trait lessons, but they also get the excitement of the Fun Run to round out the two weeks. We over exceeded our goal smashing our goal of \$35,000, earning over \$44,000.00, which will go toward supporting the school's expansion."



Leader "Mega" Marisa led her Boosterthon staff in reviving up the students to learn about good character, and earn prizes getting pledges from family members for their Oct. 17 Fun Run, top left and center. Mrs. Jordan's students earned the privilege of wrapping the Boosterthon team in toilet paper like mummies. Mrs. Thomas' class earned Crazy Hair and Crazy Sock Day fun, bottom. For more Fun Run photos, see page 6.



Panthers Meet at the Flag Pole for Prayer and Fellowship

Students, parents, and faculty members surrounded the VCS flag pole to pray for the school, the community, and the country, and sing hymns, during the National See You at the Pole Day event before school Sept. 25.

"It was well attended and very moving," said second-grade teacher Mrs. Grant, who also is the faculty advisor for Christ on Campus, a popular monthly club that meets the first Friday, kicking off Oct. 4.



Dads Take Their Children to School in Huge Numbers

One of the busiest days of the school year is when students get to have their dads join them to see their school day in action. Whether it was a dad, granddad, mom, or any special adult, children loved proudly showing off that special adult in their lives Sept. 25.

Take Dad to School
Red White and Blue



Students also got to show off their teachers to their dads. Just to make the day even more festive, we celebrated being American by wearing red, white, and blue.



Walk to School Promotes Good Health

Students, parents, faculty and administration took part in the popular annual Walk to School Day Oct. 3, gathering at school partner Calvary Chapel's parking lot, and walking to the school at the break of dawn, the sun glinting from the surrounding ponds. Families also walked in from Viera High School and from surrounding



Dads Also Rock the Book Fair



Celebrating the Boosterthon Panther Fun Run

Hats off to PTSO volunteers April Lorvick and Leslie Riley for coordinating a successful Boosterthon. For more information or to view more photos, go to [Facebook.com/vcsptso](https://www.facebook.com/vcsptso). Website: vcsptso.com.



Coming Events

October

- Tuesday, Oct. 22, 6 p.m. PTSO meeting.
- Wednesday-Friday, Oct. 23-25, Eighth Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.
- Monday-Thursday, Oct. 28-31, Red Ribbon Week:
 - * Monday, Wear Red to Say No to Drugs.
 - * Tuesday, Hats Off to Being Drug-Free, Wear a Crazy Hat Day. **Also McDonald's Spirit Night.**
 - * Wednesday, Sock It To Drugs, Crazy Socks.
 - * Thursday, Halloween, Wear Fall Colors, Character Book Parade in the morning for Kindergarten, First, and Second Grades.

November

- Wednesday, Nov. 6, Make Up Picture Day.
- Friday, Nov. 8, Patriotic Day in Advance of Veterans Day, Wear Red, White, and Blue.
- Monday, Nov. 11, Veterans Day, No School.



PTSO volunteers open popsicles to cool off Fun Runners.

FALL FESTIVAL FRIDAY NOV. 23, 3-6 p.m.