

## this issue

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## Upcoming Events

- December
- 1<sup>st</sup>
    - K Kids 3pm
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Winter Performance 6pm
    - Osceola Middle
  - 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - All Pro Dads 7:30am Centennial
    - Girlfriends Lunch
  - 4<sup>th</sup>
    - PMAC 3pm
  - 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>
    - Holiday Shoppe
  - 10<sup>th</sup>
    - Girlfriends Gift Wrapping 3pm
  - 11<sup>th</sup>
    - Chorus Afterschool Party 3pm
    - PTA General Meeting 4:30pm
    - Winterfest 5:30pm-7pm
  - 13<sup>th</sup>
    - Giving Tree Pick Up 8am
  - 15-19<sup>th</sup>
    - Holiday Spirit Week (M Green Grinch, T Favorite Character, W Holiday Hat Headband, Th, Holiday Colors, F PJs)
  - 17<sup>th</sup>
    - OMS Music visit 11:30am
    - Holiday Staff Luncheon
  - 19<sup>th</sup>
    - End of Grading Period
    - Hawk Huddle
  - 20<sup>th</sup> – January 4<sup>th</sup>
    - Winter Holidays (No School)
  - January 5<sup>th</sup> Kids 3pm
    - School Reopens
- AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS (3pm)**
- K-Kids – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month (starting October)
  - Girl Scouts – Every Tuesday 3:15pm-4:15
  - Beach Club – Every Thursday



## Message From Mr. Cerreta

Dear Seminole Elementary Families,

It is the time of year when we express gratitude. I hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday and enjoy the time with family and friends. It is hard to believe that we are almost halfway through the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period which ends on December 19. I want to thank you for continuing to support your child's education by having them read every night, signing their reading logs, completing 5-10 Dream Box Lessons, and AMIRA on Clever. While we want our students to enjoy the time with their family and friends during the Thanksgiving Break, we would also like for learning to continue. The myON Fall Reading Challenge & the Holiday Challenge runs from November 22-November 30<sup>th</sup>. We encourage all of our students to take part in the challenges and "Ramp Up Their Reading". See the flyers attached.

### Seminole Elementary Celebrates Winter Fest

**December 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:00**

All of our Seminole families are invited to our Winter Fest Family Night on Thursday, December 11 for an evening of Holiday Fun. Participants will have an opportunity to make holiday ornaments, decorate cookies, have hot cocoa, pictures with Santa, ice skating, snowball fights, PMAC's Holidays Around the World, bounce houses and much more. Our evening will kick off with a PTA meeting @ 4:30pm followed by a holiday performance by our kindergarten students. See attached flyer for details and information for ordering tickets.

4:30 – PTA General Meeting

5:00-5:30- Kindergarten and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Holiday Performance

5:30-7:00- Winter Fest Fun

### Veterans Day Program

Thank you to everyone for your support of our Veterans Day program. Thank you to the VFW, the Seminole Warhawk marching band, Steve Sola and our plant operations crew, Ms. Robinson and the Seminole Chorus for being a huge part of our Veterans Day program as we honored our Veterans and active duty military. Thank you for your service.

### Congratulations To Our Outstanding Readers:

One aspect of our School Wide Reading Program is for students to read 45 minutes for Grades 3-5 and 20-30 minutes grades K-2.

After students read a book or have a book read to them, they take an Accelerated Reader test to earn AR points.

Congratulations to the following students for earning 100 points grades 3-5 and 50 points grades 1-2:

1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade 50 Points

Lennox Branton    Nora Bramlett    Dororthy Rongey    Carson Speaks

3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade 100 Points

Sophia Singkaophet    Ivan Lysikov

### Bikes For Books-

The Gulf Beaches Masonic Lodge is donating new bicycles for the top readers in each grade level. The top boy and girl reader in each grade level at the end of the year will win the bike.

See our current leader board below:

- |                       |               |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade | Elly Yang     | Mohammad Halaweh    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade | Kevin Yang    | Nora Bramlett       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade | Bianca Blau   | Moayad Abdul-Rahman |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade | Lillian Soles | Sophia Sinkhaophet  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade | Ivan Lysikov  | Mia Huang           |

### Join PTA

If you are not a current PTA, please consider joining this great organization. Simply scan the QR Code and join us at our next meeting December 11<sup>th</sup> @4:30pm



Use this QR code to join fast and easy!

### If You See Something Say Something



[www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern](http://www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern)

Look for Warning Signs. If you see something suspicious Say Something. Report by going to

[www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern](http://www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern)



<https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleElementaryHawks/>

<https://www.instagram.com/seminoleelementaryhawks/>

## Character Kids for November

### PREK:

Scott/Rivera - Clayton Mobey  
Piper/Green - Ryan Griffith  
Williams/Bolden - Caden Colon

### KG:

Conde - Kaysen Campbell  
Schuler - Kai Aldrich  
Schuler - Valentina Dallavalle-Six  
Horton - Erik Burnside  
Horton - Brody Griffith

### 1st:

Benjamin - Declan Krivich  
Luczaj - Shivay Suhagiya

### 2nd:

Calhoun - Cash Alex  
Calhoun - Alexandra Keohauong  
Sadock - Bobby Lyon  
Brady - Sebastian Herz

### 3rd:

Rudolph - Evan Castellanos  
Morgan - Nova Crowder  
Bramlett - Savva Lysikov  
Kopkau - Bella Chau

### 4th:

Rongey - Daniella Mock  
Crose -

### 5th:

Gorman - Nygel Jeffers  
Vidak - Ivan Lysikov  
Moses - Jackson Turnbull

### Multi Grade:

Mucerino - Damon Johnson  
Campbell - Jamarion Benson

### Social Work Corner

From Ms. Sullivan

#### Here Today, Ready for Tomorrow!

Success in school starts with being present daily and on time. Seminole Elementary's attendance goal is 95% Daily Attendance Rate. We are currently at 94.4% Daily Attendance.

Our Classroom Winners for the October Attendance Awareness Challenge are

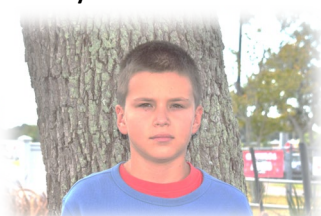
VPK-- Ms. Pipper & Ms. Green (Winner 3 months in a row)

K-2-- Mrs. Calhoun (Winner 3 months in a row)

3-5 --Mrs. Bramlett (Winner second month in a row)

These classes will have a special attendance banner on their classroom door and will receive additional time at recess on the last school day of the month. GREAT JOB!

#### Rotary Student of the Month



Congratulations to Ivan L. our November's Rotary Student of the Month.



## Message From Dr. McCafferty

Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is a progress monitoring system that is administered three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the Benchmarks of Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take PM2 of the FAST tests during the windows listed below. Specific grade level letters were sent home at the beginning of the week, and teachers will communicate the exact dates your child will test. Testing begins at 9:00 each day so please ensure your child arrives on time or they will not be permitted into the testing room. The testing windows for grade levels are below:

Grade	Test Name	Testing Window
VPK	STAR Early Literacy	December 2 – 12
K	STAR Early Literacy & Math	December 2 – 12
1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup>	STAR Reading & Math	December 2 – 12
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>	Cambium Reading & Math	December 8 - 18

FAST assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get easier or more difficult depending on how the student responds, and each student will see different questions. Students are encouraged to answer each question the best they can before moving on as the next question is determined based on how the student answered the previous question. If you or your student would like to review sample items at home, visit <https://ffast.org/families.html>.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Dr. McCafferty at 727-547-7668 or [mccaffertyj@pcbs.org](mailto:mccaffertyj@pcbs.org)

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration!



### LOST AND DAMAGED INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES Cost List

#### Normal Wear and Tear

**Examples** – Faded Keyboards, Battery Degradation, Minor Scuffs

**Criteria** - Age of Device, Usage History, Manufacturer Guideline

**COST** – No Obligation

#### Accidental Damage

**Examples** – Fall Damage, Drop Damage

**Criteria** – Physical Inspection, Student Explanation

**Cost** - \$50 Service fee (per repair)

#### Intentional Damage

**Examples** – Vandalism, Missing Parts

**Criteria** – Signs of Tampering, Deliberate Misuse, Repeated Incidents

**Cost** – Depreciated Value

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Student obligations associated with PCS Connects can be viewed in [FOCUS](#) under Fees & Fines.

If you have any questions about student obligations, please contact your student's school for assistance.

### AVID NEWS

#### What is RIGOR?

At our school, rigor means helping students think deeply and do their best work. It's not about more homework or harder lessons—it's about challenging students to think, question, and solve problems in creative ways. When learning is rigorous, students build confidence, take pride in their work, and grow as thinkers. Rigor helps them learn how to think—not just what to think!

### Guidance Corner

From Ms. Moore



For our second-grade guidance lesson this month, we talked about our character trait of the month, patriotism. After discussing all that patriotism means, we reviewed practical ways to demonstrate patriotism including: respecting fellow citizens, taking good care of our country, honoring or thanking our veterans, learning the history of our country, staying up to date with the current events of our country, showing love for your country, and voting (when you're old enough).

I asked the students to create a storyboard titled, "Why I Love America," and then fill in the remaining rectangles with things they love about where they live. It was fun to see what they came up with, so I thought I would share some of them with you:

Biking in my neighborhood	The army that protects us
The Masters Golf Tournament	My cat
Gymnastics	My Teacher
McDonalds	Playing soccer
Playing basketball	My house
Cheeseburgers	The Beach
Pets	My family
Going to the park	Culver's milkshakes
Culver's cheese curds	Cheerleading
My friends	Our School
Ice Cream	Feeling safe

After watching a video with different famous places around America, I asked students if there was a place they saw that they'd like to visit. Some of their answers were:

The Statue of Liberty	Mount Rushmore
The White House	Snowy Mountains
North Carolina	Waterfalls
The Lincoln Memorial	

I hope we all have a chance over the next few weeks to look around and really see the wonderful people, and fun, beautiful places in our little slice of America here in Seminole. There really is so much to be grateful for, and I'm thankful our students remind me of that every day. Their daily excitement for lizards, loose teeth, butterflies, mints, treats in their lunchbox, games of Candy Land, upcoming holidays, getting to be the line leader, or just getting to be with their friends keeps me looking for simple joys in my life.



## Art News



### 2025-2026 Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan Part 2

#### Title I Annual Parent Meeting Experience

How will you get recorded feedback from parents about the meeting? How will the recorded feedback be used to inform future events?

#### Survey

Based on responses, our processes and procedures may be modified to accommodate the feedback.

How will you address barriers to increase attendance and academic support at home?

- Parent conferences
- Materials such as Math at Home and Reading at Home Plans
- School website with resources
- PCS website with resources
- Title I section in the monthly school newsletter
- Attendance section in the monthly school newsletter
- CST meetings every two weeks with Social Worker, School Counselor, Data Management Technician, and Assistant Principal to

pool resources and knowledge of students to improve student attendance and support.

- Family engagement nights centered around academics and supporting students social-emotional and academic needs.

How will you get the information home to parents using various modalities who do not attend?

- Flyers sent home
- Weekly messages from Principal via email.
- School messenger messages from Principal as appropriate
- Facebook postings
- School website

This fall, artists have been busy working on learning and implementing the art elements and principles in their artwork! The 5th graders will be receiving their kids tag art designs back this week with a stapled information sheet on how to find and order their artwork online which makes a great holiday gift and proceeds support the Art budget here at school! In 4th grade students are studying the use of line pattern and unity in artwork with the creation of our autumn leaves. We will also be looking at the dot painting from aboriginal Australians to complete this artwork. In 3rd grade, classes are either studying how to mix tints and shades or creating their own still life artwork after Vincent van Gogh. In second grade, little artists are starting to look at the art element of texture with the creation of a critter in a hollow of a tree. First graders are drawing step by step along with Miss Art and creating a pattern feathered turkey which they will watercolor and take home in time for Thanksgiving! In kindergarten, students have used alternative methods of applying paint with a sponge and are in the middle of creating a leaf collage. In pre-K students just finished creating a starry night sunflower painting!

#### PE News

Thank for signing the Tampa Bay Bucs waivers for your child; we had an amazing time doing football drills. The class who won the Golden Shoe was Ms. Moses' 5th grade class. Keep up the great job with your good sportsmanship. We will find out shortly who will win the Golden Shoe next. We are working hard on our core strength so we can show improvement on our fitness testing in the fall. Everyone is doing a great job giving their best effort. Please always remember your shoes and water bottles.

#### OT News - Mrs. Myers

### Help For The Picky Eater During the Holiday Season

It's frustrating to spend hours cooking a holiday feast only for your child to ask for chicken nuggets or mac and cheese. Here are a few tips to make mealtime smoother.

- 1. Test foods early.** Let kids sample some dishes before the big day. Seeing and tasting foods a few times makes them more likely to try them later. You can even grab a small Thanksgiving plate from a grocery store or restaurant to test ahead of time.
- 2. Add dips or toppings.** If veggies are a battle, try cheese, ranch, or another favorite topping. It's okay if it's not the healthiest. Kids may eventually eat them plain.
- 3. Involve them in cooking.** Kids are more interested in foods they helped make. Let them pour, stir, measure, or set the table.
- 4. Let them sit with other kids.** A "kids' table" can make the meal more social and fun. Even if they mainly eat rolls and pie, it's just one day!
- 5. Be prepared with a favorite.** If your child refuses everything, bring or serve one food they'll eat, like nuggets or mac and cheese. Keep portions small and foods separate so the plate isn't overwhelming.
- 6. Focus on togetherness.** The holiday isn't just about the food—it's about gratitude and time with loved ones. Celebrate the day, not just the meal.

#### PTA News

We are excited to announce our new PTA officers for 2025-2026 are:  
 President: Irmayri Rivera (Mrs. Rivera)  
 Treasurer: Farrah Torakis (Coach Torakis)  
 Secretary: Colleen Wilder

Together we look forward along with all our PTA community members to make an impact on our school and students by creating positive and exciting memories for everyone to share.

**The holidays are near, and as a special treat, our school is hosting a holiday shop! This fun, in-school holiday store lets children shop for inexpensive, high-quality gifts for family and friends — all on their own. It's a safe, familiar setting where they can practice budgeting, planning, and the joy of giving. The shop will be set up and run by volunteers. There are gifts for everyone: moms, dads, siblings, grandparents, teachers, friends — even pets! Prices range from \$0.25 to \$15.00, with most items between \$3.00 and \$8.00.**

Our Winter Fundraising consists of our Christmas Shoppe that will take place on December 8-12<sup>th</sup>. As a parent, you have the opportunity to allow your child the experience of purchasing sweet holiday gifts on their own for their family and friends. <https://myschool.holidayshop.org/seminole>

Our next PTA General Meeting will be December 11<sup>th</sup> @4:30pm (before WinterFest). Please come and join us as we partner to make Seminole ES the best school through partnership.

## Office News

If you need to come into the front office, please make sure you are parking in a visitor space or pull forward to the end of the car circle so you are not blocking people from pulling forward.

If you are planning on picking your student up early please notify the office in advance so we can have your student ready for you. Early pick up of students should occur before 2:15 p.m.

#### Volunteering:

Please reach out to Heather Plankey in the front office to inquire about how to become a volunteer and any volunteer opportunities.

New information on becoming a Level 2 volunteer will be coming after Winter Break. We are asking that anyone interested in becoming a Level 2 volunteer wait to do the fingerprinting until the new information is sent out. This does NOT affect regular Level 1 volunteer registration.

#### Great American Teach In:

Thank you to the following businesses, organizations, and parents for speaking with our students for the Great American Teach In

The Beauty Social	Donna Perry (Author)	Tucker Tree Service
Guardian Restoration	Boy Scouts of America	Tonal Range Ink Screen Printing
City of Seminole Stormwater Compliance	Mahaffey Theater	Tiffany Conway Bearded Dragons
AFC Urgent Care of Seminole	Sweatify Fitness	Emergency Medicine (Chelsea Crose)
Seminole Fire Department	Nursing (Kristin Finical)	Crunch Fitness
Starbucks of Seminole	Pinellas County Sheriff's Office	

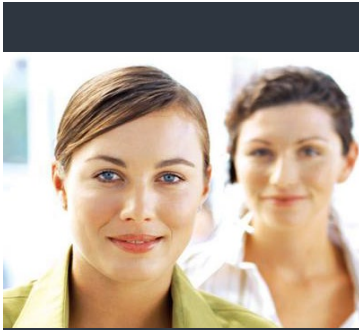
Seminole Elementary has many opportunities to partner with the businesses and organizations in our community. To find out how your organization can partner with our school please contact Heather Plankey in the school office at (727)547-7668 or [plankeyh@pcsb.org](mailto:plankeyh@pcsb.org)

#### PTA Membership

If you are not a current PTA member, please consider joining PTA by clicking on this QR Code



Use this QR code to join fast and easy!



### November/December Do Re Mi-mutes

We are so proud of Giovanni S. and Kylyn W. who were selected to sing in the Florida Southern Regional Honor Choir. This takes a lot of courage and bravery from our singers. They performed in Lakeland last month, and it was an amazing opportunity for learning and meeting singers from across the state. We are proud of our chorus students for singing at our annual Veterans Day performance. We are grateful for the opportunity to thank our veterans in such a meaningful way. We are especially thankful for our partnership with the Seminole High School Marching Warhawks during this performance and throughout the year. Thank you to the VFW, Seminole Elementary staff, our amazing plant operations team, volunteers, and home adults for supporting our singers and helping to make this event a success. Our chorus students are participating in an expressive turkey contest. The expressive turkey is located on the back of the winter performance acknowledgement form. This was sent home on November 14th. Singers should turn in the signed form to Ms. Robinson or have it placed in Ms. Robinson's mailbox by Thursday, November 20. Be on the look out for a social media post to vote on your favorite expressive turkey.

### Music Calendar

Every Thursday and Friday 8:10-8:40 AM - chorus rehearsal in the music room  
Tuesday, December 2nd 5:15 PM call time for singers - winter performance at Osceola Middle School (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 6:00 PM)  
Thursday, December 11th 3:00-4:00 PM - Winter Party (4th and 5th grade chorus)  
Friday, December 12th - 5:15 PM call time for singers Winter Fest (2nd grade)  
Thursday, February 19th 5:15 PM call time for singers - Valentines Day (K/1: 6:00 PM performance)  
Thursday, March 12th 5:15 PM call time for singers - Multicultural Night (3rd grade: 6:00 PM performance)  
Tuesday, April 21st 5:15 PM call time for singers - Spring performance at Seminole High School (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 6:00 PM)  
Reach out to robinsonrea@pcsb.org with any additional questions.  
Sincerely,  
Ms. Robinson and Realm

## Business Partnerships

Seminole Elementary has many opportunities to partner with the businesses and organizations in our community. To find out how your organization can partner with our school please contact Heather Plankey in the school office at (727)547-7668 or plankeyh@pcsb.org



### Unified Champions

#### December: Leadership

Being a leader doesn't mean your child had to go on to be class president or valedictorian (though he or she might!) As we work to build a socially inclusive school climate, we want students to realize that being a leader means setting a good example, helping others, and doing the right thing. That's what being a Special Olympics Unified Champion School is all about.

Try these starters to talk about leadership with your child:

- Sometimes leaders help people by doing small things that make a big difference. Watch for examples of this and point it out to your child what you noticed.
- Who is someone you admire? Tell your child about him or her.
- Talk with your child about this quote: "Be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody."

## Seminole Times Issue 04 Nov./Dec 2025

### Seminole Elementary

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Seminole FL 33772  
(727)547-7668

[www.pcsb.org/seminole-es](http://www.pcsb.org/seminole-es)

Mr. Louis Cerreta  
Principal

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty  
Assistant Principal

Dr. Dywayne Hinds  
Area III Superintendent  
(727)588-5020



Please consider doing business with the business and community organizations that partner with our school. We would like to thank the following organizations for their support of our school:

Astro Skate	Seminole Lake Rotary	Seminole First Baptist Church	Beach Pizza
VFW Post 9272	Seminole Women's Club	Seminole Elementary PTA	Calvary Chapel Church
El Jalisco	The Backpack Lady Project	Oakhurst United Methodist	Plumbing by Paul
Apple Butter Café	Frios Gourmet Ice Pops	Smuggler's Cove Mini Golf	Oh's Taekwondo

Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast

### Thank you Great American Teach-In Presenters



### Veterans Day Ceremony

