

## Upcoming Events

- December  
December 20<sup>th</sup> – January 4<sup>th</sup>  
 . Winter Break (No School)
- January  
5<sup>th</sup>  
 . Students return to school  
 . K-Kids 3pm
- 8<sup>th</sup>  
 . PMAC 3pm
- 14<sup>th</sup>  
 . All Pro Dads 7:30am Centennial
- 16<sup>th</sup>  
 . Grade Level Assemblies  
 (3<sup>rd</sup> 1:30, 4<sup>th</sup> 1:45, 5<sup>th</sup> 2:15)
- 15<sup>th</sup>  
 . Report Cards Distributed
- 19<sup>th</sup>  
 . Martin L. King Day (No School)
- 21<sup>st</sup>  
 . Principial's List Breakfast 7:30am  
 Centennial  
 . Rotary Luncheon  
 . Girlfriends Club
- 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 . PMAC
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>  
 . Scholastic Book Fair Media  
 Center
- 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 . 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade FT James Museum
- 30<sup>th</sup>  
 . Hawk Huddle

### 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

### 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/>



### Message From Mr. Cerreta

Dear Seminole Elementary families,

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of the first semester and are anxiously anticipating the upcoming winter holidays. It has been a pleasure watching the students grow, learn and mature. As I review each of the students FAST results from the FAST test that was recently given to the students, I am pleased to say that our students are making great academic progress and Seminole Elementary has a large population of very smart and capable students. Your continued interest in education and encouragement is very important regarding your child's attitude towards school. The more interested and enthused you are about what they are learning in school, the more eager your child will be to study, read and do their best. While we want our students to enjoy the time with their family and friends during the winter break, we would also like for learning to continue. We strongly encourage our students to continue reading, complete their weekly Dream Box Lessons and participate in the MyOn Winter Reading Challenge & PCS Winter Challenge for their grade level. Students completing both challenges will receive a certificate of completion and a Treasure Island Fun Pass for free pizza, drink and games. Students completing the MyOn Challenge by reading a minimum of 200 minutes between December 22 and January 2 will be entered into a random drawing. Twenty-five winners will receive a tablet and reading blanket, and five winners will win a laptop! Winners will be announced the week of January 5, 2026. Peace, love and a Happy New Year to all.

#### ELP/Promise Time Tutoring & STEM

Promise Time/ELP Tutoring will resume the week of January 5th.

Our STEM program for students in grades 2/3 & 4/5 will resume Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### Congratulations to Our Outstanding Readers

One aspect of our School Wide Reading Program is for the 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 a test to earn Accelerated Reader points.

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

#### 50 Points 1st – 2nd Grade

Grant Bauer      Andre Loeffler      Cash Alex      Theia Grano      Sophia Holland      Katherine Johnson

#### 100 Points 3rd – 5th Grade

Grayson Speak      Moayad Abdul-Rahman      Bianca Blau      Salma Halaweh      Savva Lysikov      Kailani Rivera  
 Brayden Martinez      Victoria Vanguela Calzadillas

#### Bikes For Books

Gulf Beaches Masonic Lodge has partnered with Seminole Elementary by providing free bikes for the top readers in each grade level. The boy and girl in each grade level that has the highest Accelerated Reader points at the end of the year will receive the bikes.

Our current leaders for each grade level are:

**Grade 1-** Elly Yang      Mohammad Halaweh  
**Grade 2-** Nora Bramlett      Kevin Yang  
**Grade 3 –** Bianca Blau      Savva Lysikov  
**Grade 4 –** Lillian Soles      Brayden Martinez  
**Grade 5 –** Ivan Lysikov      Mia Huang



#### Like Us on Facebook

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

#### Important Dates:

- December 20-January 4 -Winter Holidays
- January 5- Students Return to School
- January 14- All Pro Dads Breakfast in Centennial Building 7:30
- January 15- Report Cards Distributed
- January 16- Grades 3-5 Awards Program in Centennial Building
- January 19 Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday-No School for Students
- January 21- Principal's List Breakfast Grades 3-5

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### Welcome Mr A. to Seminole Elementary



We would like to welcome and introduce Mr. A. our new DMT to Seminole Elementary.

## Character Kids for December

### PREK:

Scott - Juniper Aselage  
Piper - Opal Wagner  
Williams/Bolden - Leni Sherman

### KG:

Conde - Kaysen Campbell  
Schuler - Sofia Lysikova  
Schuler - Alessio Spinelli  
Horton - Estrella Quintero-Mcloughlin  
Horton - Kaia Aselage

### 1st:

Benjamin - Audrey Espailat  
Luczaj - Ronan Schement

### 2nd:

Calhoun - Katherine Johnson  
Brady - Cason Thomas  
Sadock -

### 3rd:

Rudolph - Kailani Rivera  
Morgan - Avery Wright  
Bramlett - Cannon Knapp  
Kopkau - Annalesse Crisp

### 4th:

Rongey - Cathleen Bengtson  
Croze - Myla Webber

### 5th:

Gorman - Sofia Toland  
Vidak - Vienna Labarge  
Moses - Kylyn White

### EBD:

Campbell - Charlie Osbourne  
Mucerino - Zoey Heyder

### 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 94.1% Daily Attendance. Our Classroom Winners for the November Attendance Awareness Challenge are VPK-- Ms. Pipher & Ms. Green (Winner 4 months in a row)

K-2-- Mrs. Calhoun (Winner 4 months in a row)

3-5 --Mrs. Bramlett (Winner 3 months 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!

#### Smooth Holiday Transitions

As the holiday break approaches, many students enjoy the time off—but long breaks can also make returning to routines a little tricky. Here are a few ways you can help your child/children transition smoothly:

- *Keep a bit of routine during break.*

Late nights and busy schedules happen, but keeping a somewhat steady bedtime and wake-up time makes returning to school easier.

- *Create a "Countdown to School" tradition.*

Two or three days before returning, start a simple countdown. Talk about friends they'll see, teachers they'll reconnect with, or school activities they enjoy.

- *Practice morning routines again.*

A day or two before school starts, have a "practice morning"—wake up, get dressed, and talk through what the first day back will look like.

- *Talk about feelings.*

Excitement and nervousness can both show up after a long break. Let your child know it's okay to feel both and that the Hawk staff is ready to help them settle back in.

- *Re-establish school habits.*

Gradually bring back expectations like reading time, screen-time limits, and organizing backpacks.



## Message From Dr. McCafferty

Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

Our FAST PM2 window closed 12/19, and our students worked very hard to show all they have learned so far this school year.

### Accessing your Child's Scores

You received a letter this week sharing how to view your child's scores. Please take time to view this information, celebrate your child and his/her hard work, and make a plan for continued growth or if necessary, changes to current routines to ensure growth. Please ensure you sign and return the paper indicating you have received the letter. If you have any questions for your child's teacher or for me, please write them on that paper or reach out via email or phone.

### Understanding the Score Reports

The Department of Education has included levels for all grade levels now, so K-2 families will see a level included in the report. These levels are outlined below:

Level 1 - Substantially below proficiency

Level 2 - Below proficiency

Level 3 - Proficient

Level 4s and 5 - Above Proficiency

At Seminole Elementary, we work hard for everyone to be at or above proficiency (Level 3 or higher). If your child is a 3 or higher PM2, that's great; they can still make growth within those levels and show even more learning gains for PM3. If your child is level 1 or 2, please work with your child's teacher to see what you can do at home to support your child in achieving proficiency.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season,

Dr. McCafferty

[Mccaffertyj@pcsb.org](mailto:Mccaffertyj@pcsb.org) 727-547-7668



### 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.

## AVID NEWS

### What is RIGOR?

Families can support AVID skills at home with a few simple habits. Encourage your child to stay organized by cleaning out their binder or backpack each week, and help them set small goals they can work toward. Ask questions that spark deeper thinking, like what challenged them today, and create a consistent time and space for homework. Let your child take the lead in preparing for school to build independence, and celebrate their effort and progress along the way. Even modeling planning and organization at home helps students grow strong AVID habits.

### Guidance Corner

From Ms. Moore



Our character word for this month is Charity. The definition listed on our poster is "Displaying compassion and support by making donations or volunteering to help others in need." Yesterday, we had our (now annual) gift-wrapping event at Seminole Elementary and as I looked around at the gifts being wrapped, I couldn't help but feel like our school was being wrapped in a big hug.

I have always loved Christmas and making a list of all the holiday activities I want to do and holiday movies I want to watch at the beginning of December so that I don't miss anything: Botanical Gardens, White Christmas at the Tampa Theatre, drive through The Lights of Lake Park Estates with a peppermint shake from Chick FilA, walk around downtown St. Pete to see the lights with a hot chocolate from Kilwin's...the list is long. These activities always fill my Christmas cup to the brim, but after the charity I have witnessed at our school this month, I think those Christmas activities I love so much are just the sweet, but unnecessary, whipped cream on my already full mug of Christmas spirit cocoa.

This month I have seen charity in action over and over again. I have seen compassion rooted in an understanding that in one way or another we have all had needs this year. With gratitude, we remember how someone met that need with a smile, a word of encouragement, their time, a listening ear, their presence on a lonely day, a good laugh, duty coverage, or maybe a meal, or a gift. I have seen this compassion, gratitude, and generosity:

From the VFW, to the Seminole Fire Department

From the Rotary Club, to the Gulf Crest Community

From the GFWC Seminole Jr Woman's Club, to the CEL students and leaders at Seminole High School

From Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge, to Starbucks

From our own Seminole families to our own Seminole staff

From our Girlfriends Club to Dan Tumarkin from Dan's Family Homes

And from the car circle to the bus circle

Christmas gifts have been purchased and wrapped, meals arranged, hot chocolate and lattes served, gift cards and wrapping supplies donated, and time and resources given joyfully to ensure that our Seminole Elementary students and their families have a holiday full of peace, love, fun, and special memories.

As I walked around during our gift-wrapping event, and witnessed the joy of giving in action from children to adults, I couldn't help but think, wow, this is the greatest gift I will get this year. What a privilege to serve alongside such a special group of people. Thank you for your charity, Seminole. You have given gifts that will keep on giving for years to come.



**2025-2026 Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan  
Part 3 Communication**

- Title I Annual Meeting where information on is shared on assessments, the Parent Advisory Council, Title I budget etc.
- Family letters sent home before each progress monitoring assessment window to each VPK-5 students' family.
- Score reports sent home after each progress monitoring assessment window to each VPK-5 students' family.
- Mid-Term progress reports sent home to all students no matter their grades.
- Parent conferences are held throughout the year.
- School Advisory Committee meetings (SAC)
- Parent Teacher Association meetings (PTA)

**Flexible Parent Meeting**

- We vary the availability of programs.
- 7:30 a.m. programs (All Pro Dads, iMoms, Principal's list breakfast)
  - During the day, programs like the awards ceremony for grades 3-5.
  - Night events such as PTA, SAC, and various programs including Literacy Night, Multicultural night, Fall Festival, etc.

**Accessibility**

- Bilingual support will be provided if requested.
- Family who needs a sign language interpreter will be requested for each event.
  - We will utilize a variety of modalities to share information including:

- Mid-Term progress reports sent home to all students no matter their grades.
- Parent conferences are held throughout the year.
- School Advisory Committee meetings (SAC)
- Parent Teacher Association meetings (PTA)
- School website with resources
- PCS website with resources
- Title I section in the monthly school newsletter
- Flyers sent home
- Weekly messages from Principal via email.
- School messenger messages from Principal as appropriate
- Facebook / Instagram postings

**Art News**



Students become eco-innovators and creative engineers in this year "Zero Waste Innovation: From Trash to Treasure" Trashion Show! Four 5th graders plus one 5th grade model are currently working on their outfit for the show. Their design transforms materials that were on their way to the landfill into wearable art that inspires sustainability, imagination, and creativity—Turning Waste into Wearable Wonder! We are looking for donations of plastic net produce bags like you would find avocados and oranges in.



Kamryn, Maya, Diana, KC and Olivia are representing our school at the Trashion Fashion on January 17th @ Largo Central Park at 11 am

**PE News**

Happy Holidays! Thank you for your support this school year with getting your child ready for PE and keeping them focused on learning. We hope you have a wonderful winter break and hope you keep up with the exercise and watch the extra sugar calories. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Start thinking about those New Year's resolutions now to get a better head start on those goals.

**OT News - Mrs. Myers**

The holiday season is a perfect time to build fine motor skills through play and festive activities! Fine motor skills help children strengthen the small muscles in their hands and fingers, which are essential for writing, buttoning, cutting, and everyday school tasks. Simple seasonal activities like stringing popcorn or beads, cutting out paper snowflakes, and decorating cookies all support hand-eye coordination and finger dexterity while keeping the fun alive.

Encourage your child to help wrap presents, peel stickers, or create handmade cards—these tasks build control, strength, and precision in little hands. By turning everyday holiday traditions into opportunities for movement and creativity, you can help your child develop the coordination and confidence needed for success in the classroom and beyond.

**Rotary Student of the Month**



Congratulations to Mia H. our December's Rotary Student of the

**Office News**

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.

We would like to thank our wonderful volunteers for helping with the Holiday Shop. They helped make this year's Holiday Shop a success.

We are proud that one of our very own Seminole Elementary volunteers was chosen as the Area 3 Volunteer of the Year for the Senior category. Congratulations to Charlene Leigh. She is now in the running to be considered as Volunteer of the Year for the district.



Thank you everyone who participated either by shopping and/or volunteering in our Christmas Shoppe and making such a huge success! We are excited for the new year ahead of 2026 and the upcoming events. We are anticipating our Daddy Daughter Dance "Golden" on Thursday February 12th from 5:30-7:00pm. Our next PTA Meeting will be Thursday February 26, 2026, at 4:30pm in the Media Center. We hope everyone has an amazing holiday break.

**Join PTA**

If you are not a current PTA member, please consider joining this great organization. Simply scan the QR Code.



**Scholastic Book Fair**



January 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>



## 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

### December Do Re Mi-mutes

Please congratulate our chorus students on an amazing winter performance. We are grateful for the opportunity to have combined with the Osceola Middle School choir, and we are looking forward to future collaborations with our feeder programs.

We are also proud of our second graders for performing at Winterfest. It was a privilege being able to share their musical skills with the audience.

### Music Calendar

Every Thursday and Friday 8:10-8:40 AM - chorus rehearsal in the music room  
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

### Unified Champions

December: Leadership

Being a leader doesn't mean your child has 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 thought 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 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 05 Dec 2025 / Jan 2026



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 |                           |                               |                       |

### Seminole Elementary

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<https://seminole-es.pcsb.org/>

Mr. Louis Cerreta  
Principal

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty  
Assistant Principal

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



### WinterFest



### All Pro Dads

