

## Upcoming Events

### February

- 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - . K-Kids 3pm
- 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - . Ready Set Kindergarten 5:30 & 6:30pm
- 4<sup>th</sup>
  - . Girlfriends (during lunch)
- 6<sup>th</sup>
  - . Mid-Period Reports go Home
- 11<sup>th</sup>
  - . Day of Awesomeness Fundraiser Kick-off
- 12<sup>th</sup>
  - . Daddy Daughter Dance 5:30pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> AND 16<sup>th</sup>
  - . DWT Day – No School for Students
- 18<sup>th</sup>
  - . Rotary Lunch
- 19<sup>th</sup>
  - . Class and Group Pictures
- 20<sup>th</sup>
  - . FT – Crose AM Boyd Hill
- 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - . FT – Crose PM Boyd Hill
- 25<sup>th</sup>
  - . Last Day of Fundraiser

### 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,

February may be a shorter month, but it is filled with meaningful moments at our school. As winter continues, our students are staying focused, curious, and eager to learn. It has been wonderful to see their perseverance and positive attitudes shine, even on the cold days!

February is also a time when learning really takes off. Students are applying new skills, setting goals, and gaining confidence in the classroom. Thank you for your continued support at home—your partnership makes a tremendous difference in your child's success.

As always, please stay connected with us through school events, newsletters, and communication from your child's teacher. Together, we can make this a productive and joyful month for our students.

#### Daddy Daughter Dance

Our Annual Daddy Daughter Dance is scheduled for Feb. 12 5:30-7:00 in the Seminole Elementary Cafeteria. Our theme for the night is "Golden". Join us for a fun night with your daddy, grandad or the special person in your life.

#### Ready Set Kindergarten & Registration

Our Ready Set Kindergarten Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is being held in the Seminole Elementary Media Center on Tuesday, February 3. We are offering 2 sessions for families to choose.

Session #1- 5:30 & Session #2 -6:30 Children are invited to this informative family event.

#### Conference Night

Seminole Elementary will be hosting a parent/teacher conference night from 4:30-7:30 on February 26th. Within the next few weeks, teachers will be sending out invitations for conference night. Our staff will meet with as many families as possible, but won't be able to meet with every family during the time allotted. Please contact your child's teacher if you are requesting a conference. .

#### iMom Breakfast

Please join us for our iMom breakfast on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the Centennial Building. Please RSVP at [Anona.com/apd-imom](http://Anona.com/apd-imom).

#### Stay Informed

Please take note of what is on our school marquee, our weekly newsletter, weekend updates, as well as the teacher notes in the student agendas. You may also like and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleElementaryHawks> for school updates. If your phone number changed, please be sure to update it in FOCUS. I regularly send out important updates via the School Messenger phone system. You can also reach me directly on my cell phone 727-798-8814.

#### Reading

Having all of our students reading at or above grade level is a huge priority at Seminole Elementary. All the research supports the fact that students that are proficient readers are more successful in school. One of the best ways to improve reading skills is by reading daily. The expectation is for all students to read every night and complete their reading logs. After students read a book, they log into Accelerated Reader and take a computer-based quiz. Students earn points for scoring 80% or higher on the quizzes. Every student in grades 1-5 have an individual quarterly reading goal. Please ask your child to share their reading goal with you and their progress towards achieving their goal.

#### 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:

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

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## Character Kids for January

### **PREK:**

Scott - Sunny Gutillo  
Piper - Ben May  
Williams/Bolden - Alicia Andrews & Kai O'Connell

### **KG:**

Conde - Braelynn Busch & Aubre Redding  
Schuler - Cleo Agbanlog & Nor Atherton-Shillair  
Horton - Samira Sanchez-Castellanos & Zadok Rivera

### **1st:**

Benjamin - Ellie Donat  
Luczaj - Gavin Rosamilia & Vanessa Lemus-Martinez

### **2nd:**

Calhoun - Nora Bramlett  
Sadock - Theia Grano  
Brady - Madison Underhill

### **3rd:**

Rudolph - Jacinta Alincy  
Morgan - Colton Turner  
Bramlett - Olivia Diaz  
Kopkau - Ben Daniels & Zach Daniels

### **4th:**

Rongey - Dylan Pelkey  
Crose - Victoria Vanguela

### **5th:**

Gorman - Bobby Bozhilov  
Vidak - Nicholas Yaslik  
Moses - Felicity Horne

### **Multi-Grade:**

Mucerino - AJ Morris  
Campbell - Charlie Osbourne

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 93.9% Daily Attendance.

Our Classroom Winners for the December Attendance Awareness Challenge are VPK-- Ms. Pipper & Ms. Green (Winner 5 months in a row)  
K-2-- Mrs. Calhoun (Winner 5 months in a row)

3-5 --Mrs. Morgan's homeroom  
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!

January is a great time to reset routines at home after winter break. Families can support their child's social-emotional growth by:

- Talking about feelings daily (e.g., "I felt happy when...", "I felt frustrated when...")
- Keeping routines consistent (morning, homework, bedtime)
- Practicing calm-down strategies together (deep breathing, counting to 10, taking a short break)
- Encouraging children to use words instead of behaviors (e.g., "I need help," "I need a break")
- Praising effort and positive choices (e.g., "I noticed you tried your best")

These simple strategies help children feel calm, confident, and ready to learn at school.

## **Congratulations To Our Outstanding Readers:**

### **1st – 2nd Grade 50 Points**

Carlos Matheus Garcia, Arianna Clark, Owen Frankiewicz, Brady Slaughter, Blake Vieno, Aiden Zubersky Flack

### **3rd – 5th 100 Points**

Benjamin Daniels, Luna Miranda-Diaz, Colton Voisin  
Mia Huang, Ze Lin, Rowan Plomatos, Lucas Scholz, Nicholas Yaslik



## **Message From Dr. McCafferty** Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

Did you know Seminole Elementary is a Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) School? We strive to implement PBIS practices to promote positive behavior, student success, and safe environments, and we are proud to work toward this goal everyday!

You have probably heard about our monthly PBIS incentives that students can earn each month based on their positive behavior. Last month there was a picnic, movie, coloring, and candy canes in Centennial. This month's celebration will be held on Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup> and is a picnic outside making snowflakes! Students can earn this reward by earning zero referrals and having 3 or less classroom think sheets. It's our goal to have 100% of our students earn this extra reward during lunch every month. Please talk with your child to see if he/she will be attending these fun incentives.

Like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram! @SeminoleElementaryHawks to stay up to date on all things Seminole Elementary and to see the wonderful achievements our students are earning.

Thank you for your continued support!  
Dr. McCafferty



## **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**

Helping Your Child Stay Organized: Simple Tips for Success: Staying organized is an important skill that helps children feel confident, prepared, and ready to learn each day. With a few simple routines at home, families can help students build habits that support success at school.

Here are a few easy ways to help your child stay organized:

- Create a homework station: Choose a quiet, well-lit space where your child can keep their school supplies and complete assignments each day.
  - Use a daily routine: Set consistent times for homework, reading, packing backpacks, and getting ready for bed.
  - Pack backpacks the night before: Check folders, return papers, and make sure everything needed for the next day is ready to go.
  - Use checklists: A simple morning and evening checklist can help children remember important tasks on their own.
  - Clean out folders weekly: Take a few minutes each week to remove old papers and keep important ones in a safe place.
  - Model organization: When children see adults planning ahead and staying organized, they are more likely to do the same.
- By practicing these small habits every day, children learn responsibility and independence that will benefit them throughout their school years.

## **Guidance Corner From Ms. Moore**



This month, grades K-5 learned about coping skills during their classroom guidance lesson. We talked about the fact that we all feel big feelings, and that we don't need to be afraid to experience big feelings because we can have a plan of how to deal with them when they start to bubble up.

For the upper grades, I used the example of a soda can that has been shaken up. We don't open it right away, we tap on the top, put it back in the refrigerator or freezer for a while, or maybe try another trick someone has taught us along the way to make sure that when we do open it, it doesn't explode. When we feel like that soda can, there are "tricks" or coping skills, we can use to stop ourselves from exploding.

The first one that all grade levels practiced was taking deep breaths. We made breathing cards that said, "Smell the pizza" on one side, and "Blow out the candles" on the other side. All grades also took a minute to think about something that made them feel happy. One of my favorite answers was "playing catch with my dad in the yard."

Other examples of coping skills we talked about were: spending time with a pet, reading, spending time in nature, finding something beautiful, exercising, building something, drawing, and listening to music.

I encourage you to talk to your child about which coping skills work for you and then ask them to share which ones were their favorites from our lesson. It would be great to post a menu of coping skills on your refrigerator or somewhere else in the home that is easy for your child to access. When a big feeling starts to bubble up, have them practice naming it and then choosing a coping skill to work through it. This is an important life skill for all of us!

## **Congratulations 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Principal's List Recipients**



Article from: <https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/tools-tips/raising-readers-what-parents-can-do>

**Raising Readers: What Parents Can Do**

Learning to read takes practice. Loving to read takes enthusiasm. Read with your child often and create a sense of enjoyment, wonder, and a passion for reading.

- 1. Read together every day.** You can read the morning news at breakfast, share a story after supper, or cuddle up for a book at bedtime.
- 2. Talk and build vocabulary.** Interesting conversations build vocabulary, language skills, and knowledge about the world. Talk is a child's best source of exposure to new words and ideas.
- 3. Model reading.** Kids want to do what the grownups do. Make sure your kids get to see you reading and hear you talk about it.
- 4. Point out print.** Read and talk about the words you see in the world around you. There's lots to read—signs, recipes, cereal boxes, instruction manuals, bus schedules, news, maps, and menus.
- 5. Visit the library.** Take advantage of all the books, materials, story times, programs, and resources your local library has to offer.
- 6. Encourage your child's reading.** Praise the efforts of a soon-to-be or beginning reader.
- 7. Keep books handy.** Stash books in your bag to read aloud when you travel or have to wait at restaurants or for appointments.
- 8. Start reading traditions.** Beyond bedtime stories, consider a special birthday book, holiday favorites, or a regular family read aloud night.

**Congratulations Boys Read Finalist**



Congratulations to our Boys Read Finalists Xion, Salvador, Rafael, and Ivnx. Our boys won the semi-

**Art News**



Whats Happening in the Art Room: Artists have been studying different types of printmaking! In pre K and kindergarten, students have been using cookie cutters to stamp on paper to get an introduction of printmaking. In 1st grade, students are studying the work of Jim Dine and creating their own painted, stamped, and folded painted paper hearts. In 2nd grade, students will be using Gelli plates to create monoprinted papers which will be used in a collage. 3rd grade students learned how to cut out their own paper masks and have been printing monoprints on Gelli plates. In the 4th grade classes, students have been sculpting either a natural or unnatural object using found objects for an upcoming exhibit at the James museum in downtown Saint Petersburg (details to follow on if any are selected to show!) In fifth grade, artists are learning how to stitch felt and they are incorporating a lot of new hand stitching skills which will be useful in the future.

**PE News**



Physical Education

January has been very interesting in PE since we have been having cold weather. We have had the chance to use the cup stacks and learn some other games and exercises in the Centennial, Portable 3 and in the classroom. Please make sure you are providing a water bottle for your child, and they are in the proper clothing, especially throughout the rest of the wintertime. Please remember to use the good sports code in all of the PE activities as it is a part of your special grade.

**OT News - Mrs. Myers**

Building Independence at Home: OT Tips for Elementary Families

Independence is an important skill for elementary-aged children and supports confidence, responsibility, and school success. Simple daily routines—such as getting dressed, brushing teeth, packing backpacks, and organizing materials—help children develop planning skills, follow multi-step directions, and manage their day with less adult help. Tools like visual checklists, step-by-step routines, and consistent expectations make morning, homework, and bedtime smoother while building essential life skills. Occupational therapists emphasize that independence grows through practice and positive support. Giving children manageable chores, offering choices, and breaking tasks into small steps encourages them to try things on their own. Instead of doing tasks for them, parents can coach by offering guidance and letting children attempt first. These daily routines strengthen self-care skills, organization, and emotional regulation all which help children feel capable at home and more successful at school.

**Rotary Student of the Month**



Congratulations to Diana our December's Rotary Student of the Month.

**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:**

There have been many recent changes for volunteering. All volunteers will be required to be a Level 2 Volunteer beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. If you are a current active Level 1 volunteer, you will have until July 1<sup>st</sup> to update to the Level 2. Starting now all new volunteer registrations will be forced to go through the Level 2 fingerprinting process. Information will be going home soon with instructions for the process. Please reach out to Heather Plankey in the school office with any questions.

We would like to thank our wonderful volunteers for helping with the Winter Book Fair.



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.

Mark your calendars, March 12<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Multicultural Festival. PTA will represent America. April 16<sup>th</sup> we will have a Mom and Son art night. We are selling Seminole Elementary shirts Adults \$10 and Kids \$8.

**Join PTA**

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





## 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

### January Do Re Mi-mutes

Music Calendar

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

**Tuesday, February 10th 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

January: Individuality

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools celebrate each child's individuality and strive for a socially inclusive school climate. We want all children to know they are valued.

To support this goal at home, here are some conversation starters you can use to talk about individuality:

\*What makes you unique? What makes me unique? What about other members of our family? Is being unique a good thing? What would our family be like if we were all the same?

\*Share these wise words: "The things that make me different are the things that make me ME." That's a quote from Piglet in Winne the Pooh by A.A. Milne. What does that mean?

\*What activities do you enjoy? In what are you interested? That's part of what makes you who you are.

\*Demonstrate for your child how to say something positive to someone about a trait that makes them unique. For example, what might your child say to someone who is full of smiles? Good at making foul shots in basketball? Good at playing the piano?

## Seminole Times Issue 06 Jan / Feb 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        |
| Grade Power Learning |                           | Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast |                       |

### 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Achievers

#### Seminole Elementary

10950 74<sup>th</sup> Ave N  
Seminole FL 33772  
(727)547-7668

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

Mr. Louis Cerreta  
Principal

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty  
Assistant Principal

Ms. Paula Texel  
Area III Superintendent  
(727)588-5022



Thank you Starbucks, Ms. Jody Stanley, and staff for sponsoring our Girlfriends Starbucks Field Trip and lunch.

