

KNIGHTLY NEWS

Palmetto Elementary Newsletter

February 2020

We are **DETERMINED** and **CAPABLE** to **BE** an **A SCHOOL!**

During the 2019-2020 school year, there are a few things to remember.

- Always have your ID when you come to the office.
- Instruction starts at 8:00 AM daily.
- Gate times: Coyote Gate open for staff only until 7:30 AM / open to everyone at 8:00 AM. Palmetto Gate open to everyone at 7:30 AM and closes at 8:00 AM. Coyote Gate closes at 2:40 PM and reopens at 3:05 PM. Palmetto Gate opens at 2:40 PM. PLEASE use the proper gate at the proper time to avoid traffic back up and delays. The gate for car rider parents closes at 8:00 AM. After this time students must be checked in through the office. The gate will close at 3:05 PM, after this time the parent must come with a car rider tag or ID to pick up the student.
- Transportation changes must be completed in writing, no changes for dismissal will be accepted over the phone.
- No student check outs after 2:15 PM.
- For the safety of our students - Walkers will only be dismissed by Palmetto St. and Bike riders will only be dismissed by the Coyote St. exit.
- If a walker/biker rider student does not have a parent/guardian waiting for them at dismissal, they will be allowed to leave campus unattended. This is applicable for ALL STUDENTS.
- If you have a bike in the bike corral, we recommend you have a lock on it for extra security.

~Clinic Corner ~

February is heart health month. Here are some tips to keep the heart healthy:

- Eat a balanced diet and try to eat a fruit or vegetable with each meal.
- Instead of sugary drinks, drink more water.
- Try to exercise for at least 60 minutes per day. Run with friends or ride bikes.
- Instead of staying up late playing video games or playing on your phones, go to bed early. Sleep is very beneficial.
- If you get upset or mad, take a break. Get away from the situation.

A message from Administration:

Please know that all of our parents and students are important to us and while concerns may arise from time to time, please be aware that we spend the majority of our day in the classroom focusing on academics. All parent concerns will be addressed in a timely manner and phone calls will be returned after 3:00 PM.

Counselor Connection:
Discuss your child's challenges and concerns. As a parent, you know your child best. However, a school counselor can help you better understand your child as a student. It's important to encourage your child's expression of needs, hopes and frustrations. School counselors are trained to help children navigate some of these issues.

DID YOU KNOW?

February 29 is a date that usually occurs every four years, and is called leap day. This day is added to the calendar in leap years as a corrective measure, because the Earth does not orbit the sun in precisely 365 days.



We are always looking for Business Partners and Approved Volunteers!

If you are interested let us know and we can assist you with that.

This month's Business Partners:
Guardian Riders Association
Caring & Empowering:
G.R.A.C.E



Remember that the PCSO will be patrolling during arrival and dismissal, so plan to come closer to 7:30 am and 2:30 pm every day.

EARLY DISMISSAL
FEBRUARY 5, 2020
DISMISSAL WILL BEGIN
AT 12:25 PM
NO CHECK OUTS AFTER
11:45 AM ON
EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS.

February 7th:
National School Crossing
Guard Day. Make sure to tell our
crossing guards that we appreciate
them and all that they do.



Happy Valentine's Day

Like us on Facebook:
[facebook.com/PalmettoElem](https://www.facebook.com/PalmettoElem)
Follow us on Instagram:
<https://www.instagram.com/palmettoelem/>

If you have questions regarding your child's academic progress please follow these steps:
Step 1: Conference with the teacher
Step 2: Conference with Mrs. Shifley
Step 3: Conference with the Academic Leadership Member

Upcoming Events at Palmetto Elementary:

February 5th: Early Dismissal @ 12:25 PM

February 6th: FSA Parent Night for 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade parents @ 6:00 PM

February 7th: National School Crossing Guard Day

February 11th: CAT Meeting @ 6:00 PM in Media Center

February 12th: Interims go home with students

February 14th: NO SCHOOL — Staff Development Day

February 17th: NO SCHOOL — Presidents' Day

February 18th & 19th: Mock FSA ELA Test 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders

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ACADEMIC AWARENESS

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Each month we will be highlighting academic awareness tips from each grade level, these tips are grade specific and can be used as a tool so that you can work with your child at home to increase academic awareness and promote a love for learning.

ESE:

Keeping a journal and recording incidents can help you to look back and see if there are any patterns or contributing factors. It can also be a good thing to look through with the person you are caring for, talking about both the positives and negatives.

Kindergarten:

This year is flying by! All students should know all the uppercase and lowercase letters and the sound they make. We are now working on the long vowel sounds in words, for example: cake, bike, here, role, mule. We continue to work on rhyming words and writing three or more sentences on topic. Please continue to work on memorizing the High Frequency Words. In math, students should be able to name all numbers to ten and make sets to ten. They should also be able to add and subtract with-in ten. We are currently working on solving word problems with-in ten. Please remember to keep extra clothes in your child's backpack in case your child has any accidents at school.

First Grade:

Language Arts: We are working on comparing and contrasting characters and events in two or more stories. Some questions to ask are "how are the characters alike", "how are they different", "how did what happen in this story differ from what happened in the other story", "how were they similar". Continue to practice the first grade high frequency words, your child should know all the first grade high frequency words by second grade. If you need a list, please ask your teacher. Please continue to read daily with your child, either by reading to him/her or listening while s/he reads to you. Have your child try to write a summary of what happened. Gently remind your child to start each sentence with a capital and end with punctuation. Math: We are working on adding and subtracting two-digit numbers. Help your child add/subtract the ones first and then the tens. In first grade, they are not expected to regroup ("carry the one" in addition or "borrowing" in subtraction). Helping them add and subtract the ones first and then the tens will get them prepared for when they do have to regroup in the second grade. Please continue to build fluency in their math facts, work on addition and subtraction problems within 10. We want them to master these facts so they do not have to use their fingers!

Second Grade:

This month we will be covering measurement. Students will be measuring real life objects in the classroom as well as making estimations as to how tall or wide different objects are. Some things you could be working on:

- measuring things with rulers to the nearest 1/2 inch
- figuring out what tools you should use to measure (i.e. a measuring tape, a ruler, a yard stick) and why they would use that tool
- working on estimating how long or wide something is using different units of measure

Don't forget to keep doing that homework and read 30 minutes every night!!

Third Grade:

3rd grade students are working on equivalent fractions and ordering fractions from least to greatest. In ELA, we will be working on characters in a story, their traits and feelings. Students will determine the character's point of view, as well as their own point of view. Again, the best way to help your student is to have them read 20 to 30 minutes every night.

Fourth Grade:

Writing: students are busy shaping up their writing skills after having just completed their second practice writing test in preparation for the FSA Writing exam coming up in early April.

ELA: Students are also working to be able to identify the author's point of view from a text and to identify the type of narration included in the text-first person or third person. Students been reading biographies, informational and persuasive text to learn about the different types of genres.

Math: Students just finished up their first chapter on Fractions and will continue learning about fractions with a denominator of 10 and 100. We also will be learning how to locate decimals on number line and how to compare two decimals by reasoning about their size and using models.

Science: Students will be learning about the moon and its different phases. A good activity to do with your kids is to go outside at night and observe the moon at different times of the month. We also will be learning about properties of minerals and classifying rocks throughout the month.

Fifth Grade:

In math, fifth grade will be continuing their work with decimals, including division and multiplication. Parents should be giving their students plenty of practice with multiplication and division facts, as well as time to login and work on Freckle.

In science, interested students should be working on and finishing up entrees into the science fair. In class, we're finishing our unit on force and motion and moving into weather and other earth systems. Students are able to practice science content via Legends of Learning and StemScopes, both accessible on ClassLink.

DON'T FORGET TO READ TO YOUR CHILD OR
HAVE YOUR CHEILD READ TO YOU
FOR THIRTY MINUTES EVERY DAY!

