

Royal Palm Journal

Summer Break!!

Volume 4, Issue 11

May 21, 2015

Lee County School District

Important Dates

May 25th Memorial Day No School

June 3-4-5 Early Dismissal

June 5th Last Day of School for Students



Mr. LaMar Principal

As the 2014-2015 school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your support and welcoming me as the new principal of Royal Palm. It's amazing to me how quickly time goes by. I would like to wish each of you a safe and happy summer break, and I look forward to continuing to work with you next school year.

Royal Palm Mission

Provide an opportunity for each student to be involved in a well-planned, structured program that is best suited to meet each individual's needs. Areas of attention are behavior, communication, socialization and academics. The ultimate objective is to assist students in the successful return to their geographical school.

Mr. Moretti Assistant Principal

We are quickly approaching the end of the school year. We are all hopeful that the remainder of the school year is a productive, safe, and successful one for our students. Parents please keep encouraging them at home to stay focused and remain constant with regard to their behaviors. Making good choices is what we emphasize at Royal Palm and if we work together all of our students can be successful. Have a great summer and we will see you next school year.

Ms. Cioffi Guidance Counselor

It is with great sadness that I speak of the loss of Harlee Miller on May 17, 2015. Harlee turned seventeen years old that very day. She left school on Friday being very excited about her mother's engagement and her birthday. Royal Palm is a community of people who care for one another and we are all touched by the loss of this lovely young lady. Harlee made us smile and she will be remembered fondly.



Classroom News

Elementary

Ms. Petit-Frere and Ms. Jackson Pre-Kindergarten

Wow! Can you believe it? The school year's end is practically upon us. Our class has just grown so much since the very first day of school. We started off with just four students and we finished with seven. Talking about finishing. We finished our alphabet for our letter of the week theme a couple of months ago. The letters X, Y, and Z were a doozy. After that, we have been focusing on learning all our letters and sounds. I'm very proud of everyone's progress on this so far. Some of us know all our letters and most of the letter sounds! In math, some of us know can count to 41 and some of know our numbers from 1-20!

Behavior wise, many of have really stepped up and improved over these last couple of months! But, you'll have to wait for the Award Ceremony to find who was awarded the Most Improved student award. Some of us will be moving on to Kindergarten in a regular school setting and some of will be returning to the Palm for Kindergarten. No matter where you go, we wish a happy and safe summer vacation! Have fun!

Ms. Senat and Ms. Walker Kindergarten

For the science fair, Prince, Willie, and Jaxson enjoyed experimenting with Peeps and different liquids. The boys were intrigued by watching their Peeps dissolved day by day with their chosen liquids. Kindergarten boys (Prince, Willie, and Jaxson) enjoy exploring their pet millipede and feeding it an apple. There was never a dull moment with our Kindergarten bunch. The Kinder bunch showed Ms. Senat and Ms. Walker how to have a good time into the mind young boys. Every day there was an expedition that had to be explored. Ms. Senat and Ms. Walker hope you guys have a fantastic and safe summer!

Ms. Hocfbaum and Ms. Cruzado 1st grade

The 1st grade class has been phenomenal!!!! Not one of our students has been in time out for many weeks!!! Everyone has been on Level 7 since Spring Break!!! Two of our students have made enormous gains academically. And everyone has made great progress on their IEP goals. We have mastered basic addition with double digits and are now working on subtraction with double digits. In Language Arts we have learned about common and proper nouns and pronouns. We are all able to write sentences now and we love question marks !!! We are looking forward to 2nd grade in the fall!!!!

Ms. Tom and Mr. Perkins 2nd grade

I am so glad that I had the opportunity to be your teacher this past year and watch you grow and learn. You all have worked so hard over the last quarter learning about the following:

Math - measurements, data, and graphing
Science – weather, water cycle, and the sun's energy
Social Studies – responsible citizenship, government, and laws
Language Arts – Essential Question: Are traditions and celebrations important in our lives?

Weekly Focus:

What can we learn about cowboy traditions?
Why are family celebrations special?
What traditions and celebrations involve our country's flag?
Why are sports traditions important in our country?

Skills:

Comprehension -Compare/contrast, author's purpose, drawing conclusions, main idea and details, and sequencing.

Grammar – prepositions and phrases, comma usage, suffixes/prefixes

Writing – writing letters, poems/songs, realistic fictions

Social Skills: Mind up curriculum has taught our students the whys and hows of being a responsible citizen in school and in our community. Your child has learned that the brain has multiple functions and is greatly affected during stressful situations which prevent the brain from reaching its full potential!

It has been great getting to know your child. Please have a safe, happy, and fun summer!

Love, Ms. Tom

Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Anderson

3rd grade

Mr. Cochran and Mr. Murph

4th grade

It's hard to believe that we've come to the end of another school year. We had some major adjusting to do after Spring Break when our high school class was transferred and we were switched to a 4th grade class. Dewayne, Frankie, Christian and Devoun have been doing well in academics and behavior. Most of them are on level 7 and Dewayne has an exit contract scheduled for the end of the month and we wish him good luck completing it and good fortune in which ever school he ends up!

So we are glad to be together and wish everybody at Royal Palm a safe, productive and happy summer vacation... We look forward to seeing most of you back here in August!

Ms. Miller and Ms. Wheeler

5th grades

Hello everyone! Mrs. Miller & Ms. Dee here! We just want to say to everyone at Royal Palm Center School....YOU ALL ROCK! Thank you for supporting our class Native American Indian Exhibit! It was a success, and all of our students did a fantastic job! Thank you, Jovani Colon, Elijah Dixon, Keion Farmer and Jontavis Scurry, you made us proud!

We also want to thank everyone for supporting our FASTBREAK grant activity! We had a blast serving you all....and until next year, keep your cup filled with love, hope and coffee!!

Now go have an awesome summer break!!

Much Love,

Mrs. Miller & Ms. Dee



Mrs. Rockwell and Ms. Devita

5th grades

It is FINALLY here! Summer Break!!!! We can all have some summer fun. After a school year packed with hard work and rigid schedules, it is the time to slow it down. Sleep in. Take your time. Two months at a more relaxed pace. But don't stop learning! Keep your academic skills sharp. Avoid "brain drain." In other words, use it or lose it!! Keep reading and writing. Visit the library. Keep a summer journal. Everyone in Room 144 – Angel, Rocco, Rolando, Riley, Rory, Kendall, and Yusef, Ms. D, and Mrs. Rockwell – wish you all a happy, safe summer.

Dr. Moore and Ms. Thornton

5th grades

It is almost time to leave school for summer vacation. We hope that you plan to continue your learning during this time. There are many summer camps, recreation programs, and learning classes at our local libraries. Children should also be encouraged to read signs, maps, newspapers, and product labels. Summer is a great time to try a new recipe, become involved in a sport, or travel to a new and exciting location. There are also nature trails nearby- including my favorite boardwalk over at a park called Six Mile Cypress. You might even be lucky enough to see an alligator. Enjoy your summer and be safe!

Classroom News

Secondary

Mr. Shell and Ms. Sneed

6th Grade

The 6th grade students of Room 118 have made behavioral and academic progress this school year. Ms. Sneed and Mr. Shell are proud of our students. Jaquasia, Austin, Cody, Jacob and Robbie will be promoted to the 7th grade for this upcoming new school year. Our class will venture to the Golden Corral restaurant on May 22. We are looking forward to the lunch buffet. The class will be transported to the restaurant by the Lee Tran public bus. Riding the public bus is a new experience for a few of our students. Everyone have a fun and relaxing summer.

Ms. Fisher and Ms. Milne

6th Grade

Dear Royal Palm Families,

It's that time of year! School is out for summer! I have enjoyed working with each and every one of my 6th graders, your 6th grader! They have worked hard and accomplished great feats in the process. I hope all families have a great summer and spend quality time with each other. That is what makes memories that last a lifetime! I will miss all of you and look forward to seeing you in August. What I have told my 2 son's while they were growing up is to be safe and have fun!!

Sincerely, Ms. Fisher

Ms. Morales and Ms. Medina

7-8th Math

Dear Students, Parents, and Families,

Wow, what a year! To better state that- what a GREAT year! We have covered a lot of material and participated in many fun and exciting projects. We started to develop skills needed for the next grade level in the area of math. We have made many new friends along the way too.

As your child moves to their next grade level, there are some very important things you can do to help them succeed. Engage in meaningful conversations with your child everyday. Take time (if only a few minutes a day) to really listen to what they have to say. Ask questions, make predictions, make life to text connections as you read. Practice those math facts as a way to really be ready for the next grade level math. Help your child develop a sense of working and solving problems independently. Talk about ways and start practicing getting and staying organized. Encourage your child to write often! Writing stories, letters, journal entries, etc are great ways to get thoughts organized and put onto paper. These little things will lead to big successes next year.

Again, thank you for a wonderful year. Have a fantastic summer and see you in the fall!

Sincerely, Mrs. Morales

Mrs. Perry and Mr. McMillian

6-7-8th Science

We would like to wish all of our students and parents a wonderful summer!!! This year in science was full of many discoveries. I challenge my students to keep discovering the world this summer! The library is a great place to start!

Ms. Pence and Ms. Farmer

7-8th Reading

Hope you all have a happy and most of all, a safe summer. We have been working on becoming more aware of our decisions, about what we say and do, and how it affects us and those around us. Please remember to stop and think about the outcome before you make a choice. We have been studying "Freedom" in the 7th grade reading unit; one of the most important things about exercising your freedom is the huge responsibility to make good choices that reflect honesty and consideration for others.....Sincerely, Mrs. Pence

Ms. Allbritten and Ms. Henderson

7-8th Social Studies

As we come to the close of another great school year, Ms. Henderson and Ms. Allbritten would like to say thank you to all the staff, students, and administration for their efforts in making this one of the best years ever. There have been so many changes at Royal Palm this year. We would like to say "Congratulations" to all the teachers and staff that are retiring this year. You will all be missed. We look forward to seeing those of you who are returning in August. Have a safe and relaxing summer break.

Ms. Hirst and Ms. Candelaro

7-8th Language Arts

Mrs. Hirst/ Ms. Candelaro: 6th/ 7th/ 8th grade Language Arts- Some of the classes have been working on argumentative writing. Others have been working on stories. While other classes continue working on a variety of Language Arts skills. Currently all the classes have been involved in researching different areas of the country Nepal and putting this information into a Classifying (Tree) Map, along with an art project. Students will continue to work on writing skills until the end of this school year. Please encourage your child to write, read and write, and write some more over the summer!

Ms. Walker and Mr. Clements

7th-8th Reading

Have a wonderful summer! Keep reading! The library is a great resource. Use it!!! :)

Mrs. Robinson and Mr. Casseus

Life Skills

To my Royal Palm family, This has been a very interesting year for the staff and students. There have been so many changes in room 316 as well as within the school, but we all have survived. Together we have all shared the good times, funny times, and even the bad times. I would like to say I'm going to miss you all dearly and it has been a wonderful journey. I give a special thanks to those who have helped me along my journey as an educator. These last nine weeks of school have been filled with excitement and bliss. Our class presented an exciting Science project, informing others about "Volcanoes" which was an enjoyable experience for everyone. Additionally, for our "Trip around the World" project, our class has chosen the country Jamaica to research and share a poster for display. For summer break, some students will attend summer school while others have shared that their summer may consist of an out of town vacation. Whatever their parents decide, we have instructed them to read a lot, stay out of trouble, have a safe summer, and enjoy the time they have off. Room #316 would like to thank administration and staff for another chance to service such a wonderful school. We wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer.

Mr. Daly and Ms. Tivis

High School Reading

Greetings from Mr. Daly and Ms. Tivis. As we approach the end of the school year it is very important to take stock in all we have accomplished. I would like to wish good luck to all the students who are exiting from Royal Palm and encourage them to continue their appropriate behavior (the journey starts now). The fourth quarter has been a very exciting. We did some scientific research into how popcorn is made, which popcorn is the best value for the money, and most importantly which popcorn tastes best. We also went "Around the World." Our classroom researched Haiti and put on a display for other students to learn about Haiti. We are proud of all our students and the growth they have made this year and wish them a happy and exciting summer. Keep reading to maintain the gains from the school year. It doesn't matter what you read (books, magazines, newspapers, or websites) just keep reading. If you have any questions for Ms. Tivis or me please do not hesitate to call (239-337-3511). The best time to reach us in from 7:00am-7:30am.

Ms. Santini and Ms. Harris

High School Social Studies

It has been a long time since I started teaching at Royal Palm in 1998 and yet the years seem to have flown by. So many faces and personalities have a special place in my heart. I especially appreciate all the hard work of the students and staff in the ExTRa Program. All of the projects, the special events, the laughter, the tears and even the disruptions will be remembered with a smile.

The recent passing of our student Harlee on her 17th birthday is so sad. She was a truly unique young lady with a lively imagination and a heart of gold. In her short time on this earth, she impacted the lives of so many. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends, she will be missed.

Mr. Krachenfels and Ms. Blue High School Science

Congratulations to the students of Royal Palm for successfully completing another year, especially to those students who are graduating this year! High school science would like to let the parents of Royal Palm students know that this past year students' have consistently achieved higher academic scores and shown excellent attitudes towards school. Additionally, students have shown an increased potential to succeed in as well as out of school and are steadily improving! It has been a very good year for all and we are sure this trend will continue into the next school year. We also hope that you all will have a safe and enjoyable summer vacation.

Mr. Weigand and Mr. Nicholas Physical Education

Wow! It is hardtop believe that another school year has ended. Where did the time go? As this school year draws to a close Coach Nick and Coach Weigand would like to thank the students, staff, and parents for a great year. We had a lot of fun this year and feel as though we saw great progress in sport skill development, fitness, and sportsmanship. In the 4th quarter, we implemented a few new activities such as outdoor soccer and circuit training. Many students earned ice pops for the various contests that were conducted. As we head into the summer months, we will be looking for ways to make the physical education program at Royal Palm even better. An area of continued emphasis is fitness. We encourage students to be active during the summer months. According to The American Heart Association sixty minutes of moderate to vigorous aerobic activity is encouraged daily for children and adolescents. . This physical activity will help them to control weight, reduce blood pressure, and gain greater self - esteem and confidence. Physical activity can be increased by reducing sedentary time which occurs by watching television, playing video games, and talking on the telephone. Activities such as walking, bike riding, basketball, jogging, and swimming can help students to stay active and fit.

We wish everybody a safe and happy summer. We look forward to continued progress in the 2015/2016 School Year.

School District of Lee County Summer Feeding Program 2015

English:

School's out. Free meals are in

The School District of Lee County will be participating in the USDA Summer Food Service Program from June 15th of this year through Aug 7th. Participating sites will provide nutritious meals to kids and teens 18 and under. Meals are free. There are no income or registration requirements.

To find a location near you visit the school district website at www.leeschools.net, www.summerfoodflorida.org, Dial: 2-1-1 or Text: "FoodFL" to 877-877.

Spanish:

El Distrito Escolar del Condado de Lee va a participar en el Programa de Servicio de Alimentos de Verano del USDA a partir del 15 de junio de este año hasta el 07 de agosto. Los sitios participantes proporcionarán comidas nutritivas a los niños y adolescentes de 18 años y menores. Las comidas son gratis. No hay requisitos de ingresos o de registro.

Para encontrar un lugar cerca de usted, visite el sitio web del distrito escolar en www.leeschools.net, www.summerfoodflorida.org, Esfera: 2-1-1 o texto: "FoodFL" a 877-877.



American Red Cross and
Lee County Parks & Recreation
are partnering to offer

FREE SWIM LESSONS

Tice Community Pool
4515 Glenwood Ave
Tice, FL 33905

June 15 through August 14

Children ages 4-12

Must Pre Register

239-533-7476



Physical Education

We have had a great second quarter in PE class. Students have continued to progress with respect to their fitness levels and skill development in various sports. We have held class outside more frequently due to the cooler weather. A highlight of this second quarter was our annual United Way fundraiser called Going the Distance. This was a voluntary activity, but participants were informed that they would receive rewards for participating and finding a staff sponsor. The event required students to complete a 12 minute course around a set of cones either, by jogging, running, walking or a combination of the three. I would like to recognize the following students who participated in this event. Jayden Jean-Baptiste, Frankie Alexander, Markerlly Marc, Carl Merrickes, Keon Stokes, Jah'Von Baskin, Darnell Hayden, Justin Edwards, Jon'Tavis Scurry, Frankie Celestin, Angel Hernandez, Kervin Staco, Jordan Anderson, William Bradford, Max Gwinn, Edgar Lopez, Chase Thayer, Sheldon Biddle, James Buchanon, Eladio Colon, Giovanni Gonzalez, Anber Harris, Darnaesha Snell, Fernando Unda, and Arnie Solheim.

Mr. Weigand

Literacy News & Media

The media center is happy to announce that most of the new books for this school year have arrived! Thank you to the students who took part in selecting the books this year. Reading is so important in our culture today...we all need to read, read, read on a daily basis. Hopefully, one of your holiday wishes will be for a shiny, new book to devour! Imagine opening those pages and finding a whole new world to escape into for a fresh, new outlook on life – or imagine reading about that animal that found its way home after so many struggles and strife – or – how about discovering something different and thrilling that you never knew before or wanted to learn more about!

This world is filled with so many wonderful things to learn and appreciate....books teach us if we allow them....books take us on journeys....books can leave us speechless...they can bring comfort when we need it...understanding, compassion, empathy, and joy.... books help us see new worlds....and books just plain make us happy!

Wishing you and yours a very safe, happy, and healthy holiday season with oodles of opportunities to practice your reading.

Ms. Hickey

Guidance Department

Of all the things we help our children learn and do, helping them to develop a healthy self-esteem is probably most important. This is because self-esteem affects all aspects of their lives – how they learn, how they interact with friends, how they treat others, how they problem solve, how they handle adversity, and how much they are willing to try new things. Here are some tips to help your child develop healthy self-esteem:

Praise your child. Notice when your child has done something well and tell them! Easy on the criticism. They should hear 5 positives for every 1 negative thing you say.

Criticize the behavior. When your child misbehaves, talk about the behavior, such as, “What you did was hurtful and I know you are a nice kid. How can you make this better?” Do not label your child “bad”.

Validate feelings. If your child gets a blow to their self-esteem, they need you to allow them to feel sad, hurt or mad. After, you can boost them up with positives.

Give your child chores. Children learn how to function in groups by learning how their own family cooperates. Set your child up to be a team player by giving age-appropriate chores at home. Offer praise for their work!

Give the gift of time. Your children know how busy you are, so when you find 10 minutes to listen about their day or play a game, they will feel worthy and loved. The gift of time spent is worth much more than the gift of money spent.

Avoid harmful comparisons. Do not compare your child to others, especially siblings. Instead of saying “Why can't you be more like so-and-so?” try “Do you notice that so-and-so does this?” Let your child know that it's okay to be different and that you don't expect perfection.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday!



ExTRA Program News

The ExTRA Program is currently sending students to 3 Lee County locations. The students work at Juniper Village, Harry Chapin Food Bank, and Publix. The students are learning important job skills that they can carry over to their adult life. We also have a car wash each week (weather permitting) to assist in fund raising for the program. The students are going to earn their way to see a show at Broadway Palm and an awards luncheon at Colonial Country Club. The program is having a garage sale on December 13th and again in March to help raise funds to offset the cost of the program. Students are having a great time learning on the job

Out of Field

The following faculty members are engaged in training to add the endorsement of English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to their current teaching certificates; Delorice Robinson, Michele Perry, Patricia Hocfbaum, and Beverly Hirst.