Royal Palm Journal/A Title I School

Fass Edition!!

Lee County School District

September 25, 2018

Important Dates

October 10th Picture Day

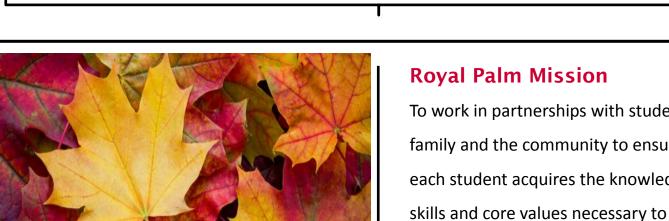
October 12th Last Day of the First Quarter

October 15th Teacher Duty Day-No School for Students

November 11th Veteran's Day

November 21st-23rd Thanksgiving Break Calculation

community.



To work in partnerships with students, family and the community to ensure that each student acquires the knowledge,

achieve personal success and enrich the

Mr. Moretti Principal

I would like to take a moment to welcome our new students and their families to our school. Additionally, I believe it is important to acknowledge our returning students and their parents. We are all looking forward to a successful year. The faculty, staff and I are excited about the upcoming school year and we have already been working to create an environment that gives every student the opportunity to be successful. A substantial amount of time will be devoted to ensuring high standards of academic learning

which is essential to the development of our students. Royal Palm is proud of the challenging curriculum and caring environment we provide in which our students can learn, and I will work with our staff to build on our past successes. This staff is dedicated to ensuring a safe environment where our students can learn and every person is respected and protected.



Mrs. Wilson **Assistant Principal**

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! I am honored to continue to serve you in the Assistant Principal role and look forward to continuing my work with Mr. Moretti, as well as the rest of our staff, in our efforts to do whatever it takes to advance the achievement of all students on our campus. Working together, I am confident that we will continue to provide our students with a truly rigorous and enriching school experience. Royal Palm is a special and unique community of which I am proud to be a part of. I am confident that our school will continue to be a place where our students can learn and grow both academically and socially. Feel free to stop in and say hello, as my door is always open. If there is anything I can assist you with, please let me know.

Classroom News

Elementary

Ms. Fisher and Ms. Jackson Kindergarten & 1st grades

Dear Royal Palm Families, we have had a great start to our school year! The students are working hard and making good progress not only on their academic skills, but on their positive behaviors and attitudes with peers too. They have been making good choices and certainly enjoy the rewards at the end of the day and the week. Please take time with your child to review his day and any practice work that is being sent home. Please read with your child daily and of course my class is open to any families that would like to visit or volunteer!! Sincerely, Ms. Fisher

Ms. Brensinger and Ms. Hawkins

1st & 2nd grades

Welcome back! Our class has been working on getting to know each other and adjusting to our classroom routine. We brought in the school year with a Pete the Cat reading and writing unit. We learned about story elements, sequenced story events, and wrote about our strengths at school while "Rockin' in our School Shoes." Remember that reading at home daily is a great way to strengthen your child's reading skills. Our social skills lessons for the month have focused on acts of kindness. We are working on being kind to ourselves and others throughout the school day. We have learned that saying "good morning" or smiling at others can brighten someone else's day and make us feel good about ourselves. I encourage you to try to perform simple acts of kindness as a family and see what a difference it makes in your lives and the lives of others. In math we are working on using the place value to model, compare, and write three digit numbers. Using flash cards to memorize math facts and/or recognize numbers is a great way to maintain and strengthen math skills at home. We are looking forward to an awesome school year!

Mrs. Winiarz and Ms. Davis

2nd & 3rd grades

Hurray for our Second and Third Graders! We have 4 Second Graders and 3 Third Graders and we stay busy, busy, busy. We will be working on comprehension, author's purpose, author's point of view, main idea, details, comparing and contrasting, vocabulary, and much more. Reading will be a very important part of our day because if you can't read you can't do anything!! In math we will explore 3-digit addition and subtraction, multiplication, fractions, time, measurement, and 2-D shapes. Science takes us through the plant parts, food chain, life cycle, stars, sun, clouds, and much more! Social Studies will bring us to economics, geography, government, and North American Cultures. We are excited for all there is to learn this year.

Mrs. Eddy and Ms. Harris

3rd grade

Our students have been busy learning our daily routine and procedures. They have been working on following the classroom and school rules. Our class has been practicing different strategies to use when they become upset and angry. In Language Arts, they have been working on weekly spelling lists, reading comprehension strategies, and conventions of writing. In Science, we have discussed living things and how they are classified. In Math, we have learned about polygons and quadrilaterals, and how they are classified. Finally in Social Studies, we have reviewed social stories to guide actions and behaviors. We believe this school year will be a successful one!

Ms. Torres and Ms. Anderson

3rd grade

What a great start to a new school year! We are excited for our new projects and friends. We are ready to kick start the first quarter with new stories and new math concepts! We began learning about plants, animals, and geography. We would to wish Ms. Anderson and a special student a Happy Birthday. I would like to remind all guardians that home learning is only two pages a day and all missed work will be made up in class. Let's get this year rolling! Ms. Torres and Ms. Anderson

Ms. Lee & Ms. Hawkins

Elementary Life Skills

Hello, I hope everyone had a great summer. I am excited to have most of my same students as I did last year. This year some students have been working on typing sentences and learning to tell time. Other students have been learning to sort colors and match letters and numbers. Everyone is doing their best to learn and are progressing. We are prepared for a great year. If I can be of any assistance to you or if you have any concerns, please call me at 239-337-3511 or email me at Jenniferlle@leeschools.net.

Ms. Rios and Ms. Schley

3rd grade

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students: Welcome to Royal Palm! Learning is fun and reading is important to us! Please read to your child every day for at least 10 minutes. This will help your child to become a better reader. Students can use a computer at home or at the Public Library to get on Compass Learning and complete some lessons. During Language Arts we will be learning about: Short vowels; Syllables VC/CV. Plurals- s, es, ies, Compound Words, Subjects and Predicates. At Math time we will be working with: Frequency Table, Tally Table, Picture Graphs, and Bar Graphs, etc. This is just the beginning of this awesome and outstanding year at Royal Palm. Ms. Rios ESE Teacher

Mrs. Barnes and Ms. Tindal

3rd & 4th grades

We are off to a good start and our class is quickly filling up! Our current roster has eight students, and it's a full house! The students are seriously working on their behaviors and of course, academics. In Reading we are working on cause and effect, compound words, story elements, character traits, sequencing/timelines, and idioms/similes. Math is all about geometric shapes (different angles, lines, line segments, rays), to name a few. Our Social studies is focused on the Great State of Florida and its very rich history!! Lastly, Science consist of classification of animals, different stages in complete/incomplete metamorphosis, vertebrates and invertebrates, and Life cycles. More News!! In addition to academics and Behaviors, we are also looking forward to some extra -curricula activities: Book Fair, Canned Food Drive, Visits to the PAW Store, and our annual field trip scheduled for December. **Remember to set aside a time nightly (15 - 20 minutes) to work on reading skills with your child. Talk to your child about books you've read and books you think he or she might enjoy.

Mrs. Richardson and Ms. Walker

5th grade

Hello Royal Palm Families. In math, we have been learning place values, rounding numbers and exponents. Our story of the week is: Satchel Paige, it's about an African American baseball player in the 1940s. We are using his story to answer the essential question: How do we face personal challenges? We've learned the difference between facts and opinions, how to write compound and complex sentences. In Science we are learning how animals protect themselves. In Social Studies we are practicing how to use maps in our class and how to work hard and earn PAWs to purchase things (in class and at the school store). This is an important lesson as it teaches us the value of hard work.

Ms. Perl and Ms. Fettig

5th grade

Welcome Back Students and Staff! I am so delighted to be part of the Royal Palm Family again this year. This school year is going to be a great one, full of hands on activities. Parents, the more your child reads, the more knowledge they will obtain. Ms. Fettig and I are looking forward to having a rewarding school year. We are truly thrilled to educate your child. I am always available to talk to as parent and teacher. Together, we will make a wonderful team to bring out the best in your child. This year will be filled with developing great relationships and a love of education.

Mr. Eady and Ms. Farmer

5th & 6th grades

On behalf of the staff at Royal Palm School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2018-19 school year! This year 5th and 6th grade students will continue to be using the program called Language Live. This program blends personalized, online learning with teacher directed instruction to empower struggling learners to close the learning gap between themselves and their peers. My class is responsible for providing the school news. Every Friday my students go live in the student news room where they give the school body important announcements, weather, sports, and the lunch menu. The students also announce student, staff, and teacher of the week. I ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she: 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teacher 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life. If you have any ques-

tions please feel free to contact me at: Email: roderickge@leeschools.net Phone: 239-337-3511

Thanks, Mr. Eady.



Classroom News

Secondary

Mrs. Gilmore and Ms. Sneed

6th grade

Dear Parents/Guardians, my name is Ms. Gilmore and your son/daughter is enrolled in my class for the 2018-19 school year. I hope you had a fun, exciting and enjoyable summer! It is my goal to provide all students with an educationally challenging, yet fun, experience in my classroom. Please be sure to check for daily student point sheets, which are sent home by Ms. Sneed, our Teacher Assistant. We want you to know that one of our most important goals this year is to keep the lines of communication open with you. Please don't hesitate to contact Ms. Sneed or myself at (239) 337-3511. We look forward to working with you this year!

Mrs. Kiesinger-Morales and Ms. Candelaro 7th-8th Mat

Dear Students, Parents, and Families, Wow, what a great start to this new school year! I have really enjoyed working with my math students and getting to know them! My teacher assistant Mrs. Candelaro (Mrs. C.), is absolutely amazing, and works so well with our students! Mrs. C., is without a doubt, my "backbone" in this classroom. In 7th grade we are learning how to interpret and answer statistical questions and in 8th grade we are learning how to solve multistep ratio and percent problems. All homework can be found on our Google Classroom. Students are responsible for

frequently checking our Google Classroom to see what homework and classwork assignments have been posted. The students all know how to access their Google Classroom. If you do not have online access, students are able to complete these assignments, at designated times, during the school day. If your child does not



complete their homework and/or classwork assignments, their grades will significantly drop. Please encourage and remind your child of this process. I am thankful to have the privilege of working with and getting to know your child. If you have any question or concerns, the best way to reach me is by email, suzannemm@leeschools.net . Sincerely , Mrs. Kiesinger-Morales & Ms. C.

Ms. Kunze and Mr. Buckley 7th-8th Social Studies

Welcome back to a new school year. Middle school Social Studies has had a good start to the new school year. This is an important year for the seventh graders. In May they will take the 7th grade End of year exam which is all about American History and government. We will work all year learning about the origins & purposes of government, law, and the American political system. The 8th graders will be studying American History from the beginning to the Civil War. We have begun with learning the relationships between the British, French, Spanish, and Dutch in their struggle for colonization of North America. Students will study the ways that economic, political, cultural, and religious competition between the Atlantic powers shaped early colonial America. All grades will have homework at least 3 nights a week. Tests are given at the end of each chapter. After the tests are graded they are returned to the student so he/she can make corrections and improve the grade. The final grade is recorded after they make the corrections so they have the opportunity to get a good grade on the report card. Your child's success is my goal as I know this is your goal too. If we work together it will be a great year! I am always available by phone or email and expect you to contact me with any concerns and I will do the same. Here's to a great year!!!!!!



Mr. Weigand and Ms. Robinson

7th-8th Language Arts

7th and 8th grade Language Arts has gotten off to a great start. Miss Robinson has joined the class and has made a tremendous impact working with students and helping them to stay engaged and focused. Writing will be an important part of our lesson plans again this year. We will work on mechanics as they apply to both sentences and paragraphs. Students will initially have assignments in which they copy pieces of writing to reinforce proper conventions. However, as we get further into the quarter, they will begin to write on their own with prompts provided by the teacher. We will also work on synonyms and antonyms, as well as prefixes.

Character education will be a primary focus in the curriculum. We will be using The WOW book by Todd Durkin which provides short lessons on things such as "Building Momentum" and "Doing 1% Better" each day. The Learning For Life Curriculum will be used too. We will also read from various informative and persuasive texts to prepare students for the FSA with an emphasis on citing textual evidence. We look forward to a great year in which we help our students to grow socially and academically



Ms. Brown and Ms. McMillian

7th-8th Science

Dear Students, Parents, and Families, Welcome Back! It has been a very exciting beginning of the school year! I have really enjoyed working with my students and getting to know them this year! I also have my helping teacher, Ms. McMillain who is absolutely amazing helping students with social skills. In all the grades, the students are learning about the scientific method. Later in the quarter, each grade is moving on to new and exciting units about science. In 7th grade the students will be learning about how all types of waves and energy work. In 8th grade, the students will be learning about matter. Students are responsible for completing their own interactive science notebook with labs, vocabulary and worksheet homework, and their Science Fusion workbook lessons. There are also some very important things you can do to help your child succeed in science. These things include: recognizing scientific vocabulary in everyday events, form a close relationship with your child's teacher(s), see what's in your local stores for extra practice books, cooking, always have a positive science attitude, science vocabulary and fact flashcards/exposure and educational web sites. I am thankful to have the privilege of working with and getting to know your child.

States of Matter









Ms. Baez and Ms. Briscoe

7th-8th Reading

My name is Ms. Baez and I am the new Middle School Reading teacher. I am so excited to be on the middle school team this school year and look forward to helping our students learn to read better. We will be using the Language Live! curriculum this year and part of it will be on-line using Chromebooks and the other part will be completed in students individual books. The students will be reading about a variety of topics and it is my plan to expand these topics to hands on activities when that is possible. I want to make reading a fun class. I will also be doing my best to collaborate with other teachers so that cross curriculum learning can also take place. I welcome any ideas you may have. Please feel free to contact me at the school and I will return your call. This is going to be an awesome year!

Classroom News High School

Dr. Moore & Ms. Thorton

9th-12th Life Skills

Welcome to fall semester from the Life Skills classes. It is important that we use our time together to build upon our existing skills. We have learned about measurement of squares and rectangles. We have written a friendly letter and improved our communication skills. We are always learning about our 50 states and have learned a fun song to help us remember.

Mr. Krachenfels 8th-12th Science

Welcome back everyone! This year our science students will be studying Environmental, Physical, and Earth & Space science. Additionally this year we have a new, totally online Earth & Space science course using the schools Chromebook instead of text-books. Currently our students have been studying the Planets, distances in terms of light years, Florida Oceans and how they relate to the weather, as well as the environment and our impact on it. Each of our students has been doing really well on these subjects and we look forward to their continued success. Also, I plan to schedule a couple of field trips this school year. At the present time, we are planning on going to the Naples Zoo. We also would appreciate hearing from any parents, and/or students as to where they think we should go on our other class field trip!



Mr. Ramos and Ms. Tivis Financial Literacy

8th-12th Critical Thinking &

Greeting Royal Palm families. Part of our critical thinking class will be focused on understanding the logical structures of the different types of arguments—for instance, arguments that involve statistical generalizations or ones where we reason to the best explanation—that we frequently employ in the course of everyday life. We will cover common missteps that people often make in everyday reasoning, including missteps that people make in making judgments based on probability, so that you will be able to better recognize these when you see them and to avoid making them yourselves. We will look at some principles of probability and how these might be used in making good judgments in situations of uncertainty where risks need to be calculated as best as possible. Like I said, this is just part of what we will be learning. I will keep you updated throughout this school year as we move into new critical thinking aspects.

Ms. Florit and Ms. Williams

8th-12th Reading

Hi to Parents, we were enjoying a wonderful start to the school year in Reading class. In Reading, we are working in our Close Reader workbooks at each academic level. This Close Reader approach requires that we read and re-read each story to better understand the intent of the author. This has required most students to adjust their expectations for quickly completing their classwork. Please let me know if your student needs any additional help as we start academics again.

Ms. Strykiewicz & Ms. Blue

8-12 English

I am excited to be a new member of the Royal Palm staff! We are off to a strong start in Language Arts, and have already completed a unit on writing argumentative essays. For this essay, students were able to pick a topic they feel passionate about and defend their position. Each quarter, students will study and write a different type of essay. We will spend much of our class time this year on writing assignments, with a focus on grammar and punctuation. In addition, students will read, discuss, and write about a variety of short stories and informational texts.

Mr. Padilla, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Hawkins 9th-12th Life Skills

Our Life Skills Class is delighted to announce we are working, teaching and learning about daily needs in life for each individual. We are involved in our morning daily reading providing each student the opportunity to increase their verbal fluency and vocabulary enrichment. We are having weekly spelling test from 10 sight words practiced during the entire week. Students are learning about telling time, using analog clocks using handouts provided and practice on the smartboard. We are implementing lessons from our Unique Learning System to increase our student's daily living skills and getting a better idea about employment and future independent living. We are proud of our students' progress!!!

Ms. Senat, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Hernandez, and Mrs. Jerger 9th-12th Life Skills

School is back in Session! In Life Skills we have learned how to ask appropriately, explore the rainbow and the electromagnetic waves, WHO & WHAT in a story, and adding with pictures within 5. Studies show when parents spend time with their students on academics, students perform better in class. To our parents, you can make a simple rainbow by using a hose, point the hose into the air where the sun shines. When the water comes out, you will see a rainbow. Parents can ask what colors their students see. Life skills is excited for the new school year!

Mr. Kovacs and Mr. Green

8th-12th Math

This year is really moving along. We have already reached the first interim. My helping teacher, Mr. Green, and I will be helping students with the various math classes. Critically important are the algebra classes. Algebra is the backbone of math, the language of math. If you learn algebra during your freshman year, it will make the rest of your math classes that much easier. You will not have to learn algebra and geometry at the same time.

Ms. Alexandre and Ms. Lader

8th-12th Social Studies

Hooray, Fall is here! Hello parents, it's really a pleasure to write this note to remind you how happy I am to be your children teacher and also a part of this learning community. Our students will be learning a lot during this school year about social studies and social issues regarding our community and our country as a whole. In the social studies class, our students are learning a great deal about world history, and what made the world the way it is today, and how cultures evolve over the life span. They are learning about our own culture, and what makes it diversifies over the years. They are also learning about how to appreciate our diversify and learn to treasure our country and our democracy. I can go on and on, but my aim is to remind you as parents the importance of keeping your student proactive in learning during this school. You can select some books that the district recom-

mends for children to read or you can try to reach our public library, which offers excellent programs for the children. It has been a pleasure to have you trusting me with your child's education and I hope to do this again, for the next coming years. Yours in education, Ms. Saint-Cyr Alexandre



Mrs. Cioffi

We have been having great times in Physical Education for the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. Our students have been actively participating in football, dodgeball, soccer, the playground, bikes, obstacle courses, volleyball, tetherball and a few surprises which are coming thanks to Mr. Moretti, Ms. Cioffi and Ms. Felton. So get ready to be active and improve fitness as we finish out our first avertage of the last.

first quarter in October!



Mr. Mike Bursztyn Title 1 Parent Involvement and Family Engagement

Royal Palm Exceptional Center School is one of 44 Title 1 Schools in our district. As a result, it receives additional funds for the purpose of improving student academic and behavioral achievement via teacher training, hiring additional staff, purchasing instructional materials and supplies, offering parent workshops and parenting materials/ resources, and supporting and increasing parent and family involvement. Like all Title 1 schools, Royal Palm has a Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP). Our Royal Palm plan was discussed and reviewed at our previous two SAC Meetings on May 24th and August 16th, 2018. SAC members provided input in the areas of defining activities that build capacity for strong parental involvement, staff training, and discretionary activities that relate to student achievement. The 2018-19 PFEP was on the agenda one more time at the SAC meeting held on September 20th at 3:00 pm.

Throughout the 2018-2019 school year we will have numerous school activities and workshops that we will want you to attend. The more you are involved, the more your child will succeed, so let's work together to achieve positive academic, social and behavioral outcomes for all students at Royal Palm School. About 12 parents attended and enjoyed a workshop presented by District ESE Department Parent Liaison Donna DJerf on September 12th Donna returned on September 20th to give other parents a chance to participate. Throughout the year we will bring speakers to the school to assist parents in how understanding the IEP, behavior management, homeschool collaboration, social skills, and online safety can improve their child's academic progress and success. If you have any questions, need assistance, or would like to volunteer at the school please do not hesitate to contact me or Ms. Liz Cioffi (school volunteer coordinator). Thanks

Thanksgiving Luncheon for Parents – On Thursday November 15th all parents/guardians are invited to enjoy a holiday meal with their child. The Thanksgiving meal will be served at your child's regularly scheduled lunch time. This will include turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, dinner roll, drink, and dessert. The cost of the parent lunch is \$3.75 and may be paid via cash or a check payable to *Royal Palm Exceptional School*. Please be on the lookout for a flyer that will be sent home with your child. The form and payment should be returned to the school by November 1st. Thank you.



Welcome back from your school counselor. I look forward to working with all of our students this new school year. Each student in our secondary department will be called into Ms. Cioffi's office to review credits, GPA and goals during first quarter. Parents are welcome to schedule a conference to review their child's academic history. During every quarter, students will review how grades average together and can impact credits earned. Both middle and high school students need credits to move on. Our elementary students just finished STAR reading and math testing. This is the perfect time of year to obtain baseline data. It is really neat to see how the students grow in reading and math throughout the school year.

Mrs. Stephens

7-8 Art

Student artists who attend Studio115 are focused and determined and share what they want to learn about. Lessons are connected to other curriculum areas such as Science, Math, History and Character Education/Social Skills. Appropriate behaviors are an encouraged choice. Stop by and see some of the amazing sculptures, drawings and paintings! These projects are sent home quarterly.

Mrs. Meltzer & Ms. Cruzado

Reading Coach/Media Specialist

Welcome back! This is going to be a great year with a lot of fun things planned! Stay tuned for notices coming home and follow us on Twitter at @RoyalPalmES. To help your child become a better reader, read with them every day for at least 10 minutes. This could be you reading to them, or listening to them read to you (even when you're in the car). There are a lot of fun learning games available to all students online. They can access these at home at Launchpad.leeschools.net. S.A.D.D. STUDENTS AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS Red Ribbon Week—

This year's Red Ribbon Week theme is: Life is Your Journey, Travel Drug Free. Red Ribbon Week takes place October 23-31, 2018. We are happy to share that The Coalition for a Drug Free SWFL will be visiting Royal Palm on October 30, 2018. Parents and guardians of Elementary students are encouraged to attend. Local agencies will discuss the value of making good choices relating to health and wellness, while providing promotional items/prizes. Hope to see you October 30th, 9-10:30 a.m. Reminders will be sent home.

Scholastic Book Fair, Tricks and Treats—Royal Palm's first Scholastic Book Fair will be held from Monday October 29th through Friday November 2nd. Students and parents may purchase books in the Media Center during this time. During the same week, on Wednesday, October 31st, the Royal Palm students in grades K-3 will go Trick or Treating on our campus from 11:00-11:30. More information about these events will be forthcoming..

BOOK FAIR

WALL AND A STICE

According to Florida Statute 1012.42, we must notify parents of students who are being taught by out-of-field teachers. A teacher is out-of-field until the coverage/endorsement for a class that he or she is teaching is issued by the state of Florida. In addition, the certification and/or endorsement must appear on his or her teacher certificate. Individuals who are teaching out-of-field are certified in a least one area and are qualified to teach, but are required to take additional course work or testing to add a coverage/endorsement to their certificate. Please contact the school, 239.337.3511, if you need further clarification. The following teachers have agreed to teach out-of-field while completing course work and/or testing.

Out of Field

Out of Field and Not Highly Qualified (NHQ) Essie Barns—ESOL (Endorsement), Lorna Baez Hernandez—ESOL (Endorsement), Roderick Eady—ESOL (Endorsement), Gloria Fisher—ESOL (Endorsement), Susan Galatz—ESOL (Endorsement), LaToya Gilmore—Elementary Education k-6 and ESOL (Endorsement), Jennifer Lee—ESOL (Endorsement), Elyse Perl—ESOL (Endorsement), Suze Saint-Cry Alexandre—ESOL (Endorsement), Bethy Senat—ESOL (Endorsement), Alfreda Richardson—ESOL (Endorsement) Candida Rios—ESOL (Endorsement), Karen Strykiewicz—ESOL (Endorsement) and English 6-12, and Kevin Weigand—ESOL (Endorsement), Ashley Brown—Science 5-9