

MARCH 2024

Panther Tales

Here's what's happening!

- March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 PTA School Spirit Store
- March 4 Deadline to order Autism Awareness Shirts
- March 4-5 Elementary Swim/Dive Program Registration
- March 4-8 Literati Book Fair
- March 4-8 Read Across America/ Dr. Seuss Week
- March 5 Family Night at Literati Book Fair 2:30-6pm
- March 6- May 17 Swim and Dive Program
- March 7 Shining Star Awards
- March 7 Spring Pictures
- March 8 End of 3rd Nine Weeks
- March 10 Daylight Savings Time - Spring Forward
- March 12 PTA Coupon Book Sales Party
- March 15 Kona Ice
- March 18 Report Cards in Focus
- March 20 Field Day
- March 20 PTA Board Meeting 9:45 am
- March 21 Journey into Outer Space Music Program
- March 25-29 Spring Break
- March 31 Emerald Coast Youth Writing/Art Contest

SAVE THE DATE

- April 1-5 Autism Awareness Week
- April 4 FSA Testing Begins
- April 5 Wear "We Are Panthers United" Autism Shirt
- April 6 Navy Federal Annual 5K Run
- April 8 PTA Vallarta Spirit Night
- April 9 Bright Images Art Exhibition
- April 13 PTA School Carnival
- April 18 1st Grade BUGZ Music Program
- April 26 PTA Mother's Day Cakes

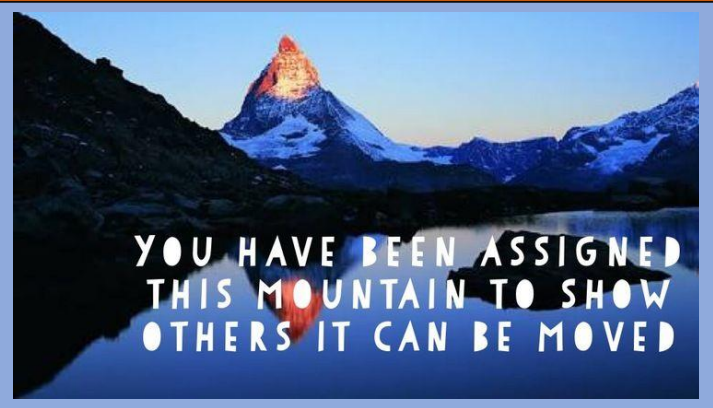
From the Principal's Office



Mrs. Dawn Morris

Pine Meadow Elementary is an amazing educational institution filled with educators who are passionate about teaching and have a love for children that goes beyond the classroom. Due to the growing population, the need to balance class size, and to best meet every child's academic needs we will no longer be able to honor teacher requests. Rest assured that every Panther teacher is exceptional and would be a great fit for your child.

If you have specific concerns for your child, a Parent Input Form has been created and is located in the front office. If you choose to fill out the Parent Input Form, for the 2024-2025 school year, please do so before May 10, 2024.



Media Center News

Mrs. Edmunds

Mrs. Stepherson



March 4th – 8th

March 5th Family Night
2:30-6:00 pm

Cash and Credit Cards Accepted/No Checks
Online Sales Started February 5th

<https://efairs.literati.com/?school=pine=meadow-elementary-school-pensacola-fl>

We are using a different company this spring for the book fair! Literati uses gift cards as their cashless payment for students and others. Here is what you need to know!

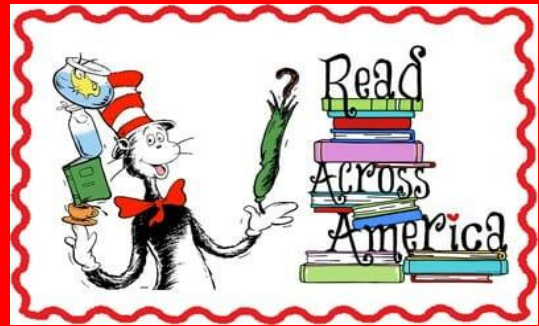
Gift cards are an easy student payment method that won't get lost in a backpack. They also make great gifts for teachers and librarians! You can buy bookfair gift cards from our online fair, and they can be used for both online orders and in-person purchases. If you're sending a gift card to another recipient, they'll know who it came from. Gift card codes are delivered via email. To redeem gift card, simply present or enter your code at checkout.

Gift Card Guide for Parents

- ❖ Go to efairs.literati.com.
- ❖ Select the "GIFT CARDS" tab at the top of the page.
- ❖ Choose a gift card amount. (For a custom amount, select "Choose Your Own Gift Card.")
- ❖ If it's a gift to a teacher or another student, check "Send as Gift?" and enter your recipient's email, your name, and an optional message.
- ❖ Click Add to Cart, then continue to checkout.

Dr. Seuss/ Celebrate Reading Week

March 4- 8



Monday, March 4 "Fox in Socks"

Wear crazy socks while reading books from the genres: Action, Adventure, Fantasy, Science Fiction, and Mysteries



Tuesday, March 5 "Cat in the Hat"

Wear a red shirt to dress up as a "Thing" and read books from the genres: Bibliographies and Autobiographies



Wednesday, March 6 "Wacky Wednesday"

Wear wacky, tacky, clothes, shoes, and hair while reading books from the genre: Rhyme and Word Play



Thursday, March 7 "Cat in the Hat Comes Back"

Dress up as Cat in the Hat and read from the genre: Humor and Comedy



Friday, March 8 "Green Eggs and Ham"

Wear green or dress as your favorite Dr. Seuss Character and read your favorite book.

Pine Meadow's Shining Star



Patrick Givens

Escambia County Principals Association in partnership with WSRE & PBS for the Gulf Coast honor students in the 27th Shining Star Award Ceremony March 7, 2024.

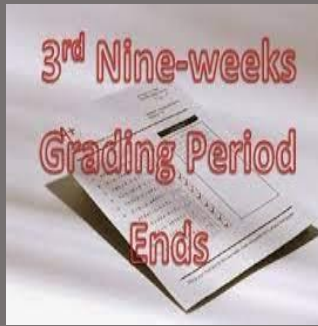
Shining Star students are honored for their good citizenship, leadership, and adherence to the core values of the Escambia County School District:

- ✓ Equality
- ✓ Responsibility
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Respect
- ✓ Honor
- ✓ Patriotism



Spring Pictures will be taken:

March 7th



March 8th



March 18th



When: March 15th

What: Kona Ice

Cost: \$4.00

All students will be able to purchase this cool treat after lunch at the gates behind the gym. Information coming home soon!

YEARBOOK

To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook
(Must be a parent or student 13 years or older)

1. Go to www.treering.com/validate

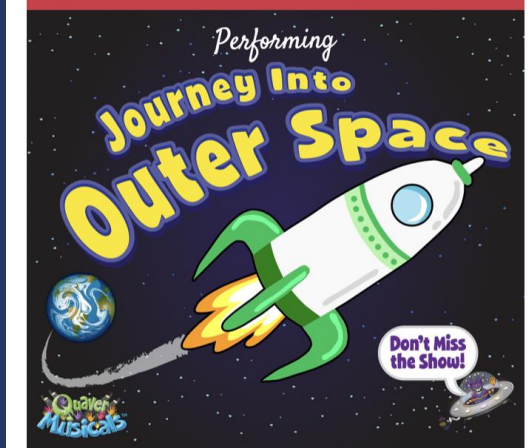
2. Enter your school's passcode:

1012923600032466

Price: \$20.22

Create Custom pages by: March 25

SCHOOL MUSICAL!



WHO? PME 2nd Grade

WHEN? March 21 @ 5:30 pm

WHERE? PME Cafeteria Stage



March 25-29

Kazoo's Reading Program



Pine Meadow is participating in Kazoo's reading program!

Here's how to get your free ticket:

- ~ Read 4 Books and track the name of them for a teacher.
- ~ Show a teacher your completed reading log and have them sign your bookmark.
- ~ Have a parent fill out the remainder of your bookmark.
- ~ Bring your bookmark to the box office and redeem it for a ticket to your celebration game!
- ~ Enjoy the game with your family, classmates, and friends.

**Pine Meadow's Celebration Game Date
SUNDAY, APRIL 28 AT 4:05 PM**

PME OLYMPICS



March 20th

Students will travel from one country to the next, participating in an Olympic relay, learn about Olympic History, and re-enact the lighting of the Olympic Torch.

- Student Only Event
- Students will be outside for 1 hour and 20 minutes
- Please Wear Tennis Shoes
- Don't Forget Sunscreen
- Pack an extra change of clothing in case you get wet!



Congratulations Pine Meadow for your contribution to the American Heart Association!

Give it your all
Redo if necessary
Ignore giving up
Take time to do it right

Got GRIT??

What it is, why it's important, and how to help your child get it. Grit is defined as having perseverance and passion for long-term goals and working hard toward challenges, even when failure and adversity presents itself.

Grit is a "non-cognitive" skill, similar to self-control, resiliency, and curiosity.

Researchers now realize that grit is as important, if not more, than academic skills! We know that teaching literacy and math skills are important for a student's long-term success. But what happens when the math gets a little tricky? Or when the reading is "boring"? What keeps a student from giving up?

G R I T! That's what! And grit can be taught.

Here's how to help your child develop grit:

- 1. Praise the effort, not the grade.** When you praise the "stick-to-it-ness" of your child's efforts, they will be more determined to continue working hard. Praising your child's hard work will encourage them not to give up.
- 2. Let them struggle.** As hard as it is to see your child struggle, they need to learn how to work through frustration and failure. If you swoop in and save them before they fail, they will never learn how to deal with failure, which is a part of life. While they're struggling, praise their effort!
- 3. Create and talk about your own goals.** If your goal is to clean the basement, repaint the bedroom, or run that half-marathon, talk about it as a family. Share what small steps you are taking along the way to meet your goal and talk about your own struggles and how you plan to get past them.
- 4. Keep and model an open mindset.** An open mindset is believing that things can change, that we can improve our skills and knowledge, and that we can get past challenges. Instead of saying, "I can't do this!" you can say, "I can't do this...yet."
- 5. Find ways to challenge your child.** Encourage your child to try new things, even if they aren't sure they're any good at it. Trying new things is how we learn from our mistakes. Give them age-appropriate chores at home. Find new hobbies and involve your child. Praise their effort along the way!

For more information about grit, check out the UPenn website, with work by Psychologist Angela Duckworth:
<https://sites.sas.upenn.edu/duckworth>



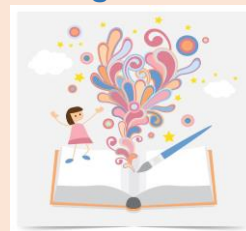
Autism Awareness Day is April 1st.
The week of April 1st -5th will be a week of school wide events to bring awareness and acceptance for those with Autism and other disabilities.
Please join us Friday, April 5th by wearing your new blue "WE ARE PANTHERS UNITED" t-shirt to support our Pine Meadow Panthers.

T-Shirts - \$15 Deadline to Order March 4th

Flyers went home February 26th

***Flyer also attached at the end of this month's newsletter.**

Emerald Coast Writers Youth Writing and Art Contest



This Year's Theme: "An Open Book"

Seeking original student poetry, fiction, nonfiction (essay, memoir, etc.) drawing, painting, or photograph involving books.

Prizes Awarded Anthology Published

See www.emeraldcoastwritersinc.org "News" for entry rules.

Entries due by March 31st, 2024

Submissions must be made by families* through the link on the website (*student data privacy)



School Spirit Store Dates:

March 1, 8, 15, 22



Coupon Book Top Sales
Snow Cone Party
March 12



March 20 @ 9:45

**Come join us for our Carnival
planning meeting!**

**Volunteer and Vendors needed for
Carnival.**



Vallarta Spirit Night April 8

Carnival April 13

Mother's Day Cakes April 26

MARCH IS MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH!



Mrs. Guarino

Ms. Meyers

You've no doubt thought about what it takes to get students to perform at their absolute best—asking yourself, what teaching strategies might be employed to help them succeed? Well, here's a thought: What about music?

There's new research to suggest that the impacts of music on learning are worth considering. The research shows that playing an instrument engages the right and left sides of the brain simultaneously. As the chair of Neuroscience at the University of Pennsylvania put it: "Recent studies suggest that music may be a uniquely good form of exercising your brain." Other research efforts have led to similar conclusions. Scientists monitored subjects in real time using positron emission tomography, or PET, scanners, and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) machines. They noticed increased brain activity when the subjects read or did math but saw "fireworks" when the subjects listened to music. But the activity increased still more when the subjects played an instrument, giving the brain "the equivalent of a full-body workout" as nearly every area became engaged. After observing this activity, scientists now think that playing an instrument can help improve memory function and enhance our ability to perform executive functions, such as planning and strategizing. Further, there is evidence to suggest that by practicing on the instrument, these effects are amplified.

At PME, students are taught about instruments and HOW to play instruments from kindergarten through 5th Grade! They learn non-pitched percussion such as hand drums, rhythm sticks and egg shakers, pitched instruments like the triangle, xylophone, metallophone, recorder, and ukulele. In 5th grade, students even have the opportunity to join violin class. Every year, every student can participate in a Musical on Stage. Each school year, we are working to expand the musical opportunities available to your child! Thank you for supporting your Pine Meadow Music Program!

Booker T. Washington High School to Host Elementary Swim and Dive Program



Pensacola, FL - The Aquatic Center at Booker T. Washington High School will host a free Elementary Swim and Dive Program this spring.

Included will be a free orientation to basic water safety, an introduction to competitive swimming, with focus on improvement on freestyle and backstroke techniques, an introduction to freestyle and backstroke starts and flip turns, and an introduction to 1-meter springboard safety skills.

Interested students must have all paperwork (registration and consent/authorization form) completed prior to the pre-class swim test at registration. All applicants must be able to jump in deep water and swim 40 feet unassisted on the surface of the water, without stopping, prior to acceptance in the program.

Additionally, all participants must be registered students in Escambia County, (public, private or homeschool) and must be in grades K-5. Transportation must be provided by a parent/legal guardian. The parent/legal guardian should also remain on campus during the child's session.

Registration will be open on March 4th and 5th from 3:30-7:00 pm at the Washington High School Aquatic Center. The program runs from March 6 - May 17.

Please contact Megan Oberholtzer, M.Ed., Aquatics Director, Washington High School, at [850-494-5681](tel:850-494-5681) for more information.

Booker T. Washington High School is located at [6000 College Parkway](https://www.btwashington.edu/) in Pensacola.

Autism Awareness Fundraiser

February 26th - March 4th

Pine Meadow Panthers,

Autism Awareness Day is Monday, April 1st. Our school is so excited to be hosting our annual Autism Awareness Fundraiser this year!

The week of April 1st – April 5th will be a full week of school wide events to bring awareness and acceptance for those with autism and other disabilities. Please join us on Friday, April 5th by wearing your new blue

“We Are Panthers United” shirt to support our Pine Meadow Panthers!

DEADLINE: Monday, March 4th \$15

Donations accepted are Cash and Check only.

Please make checks to PME Autism Awareness Fundraiser

Student Name _____

Teacher _____

Grade _____

Please provide number of shirts being ordered.

Youth Sizes

YXS _____ YS _____ YM _____ YL _____ YXL _____

Adult Sizes

S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2XL





STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a "Term of Art" and is then followed by a "Directive." Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

HOLD

"In Your Classroom or Area"

Students are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the "All Clear" is announced
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"

Students are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"

Students are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE

"To a Location"

Students are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



SHELTER

"State Hazard and Safety Strategy"

Hazards might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

Safety Strategies might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

Students are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

Adults and staff are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.





STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

PARENT GUIDANCE

In the event of a live incident, parents may have questions about their role.

SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"



Secure is called when there is something dangerous outside of the building. Students and staff are brought into the building and the outside doors will be locked. The school might display the Building is Secured poster on entry doors or nearby windows. Inside, it will be business as usual.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A SECURE EVENT?

Probably not. Every effort is made to conduct classes as normal during a secure event. Additionally, parents may be asked to stay outside during a Secure event.

WHAT IF PARENTS NEED TO PICK UP THEIR STUDENT?

Depending on the situation, it may not be safe to release the student. As the situation evolves, Secure might change to a Monitored Entry and/or Controlled Release.

WILL PARENTS BE NOTIFIED WHEN A SCHOOL GOES INTO SECURE?

When a secure event is brief or the hazard is non-violent, like a wild animal on the playground, there may not be a need to notify parents while the Secure is in place.

With longer or more dangerous events, the school should notify parents that the school has increased their security.

LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"



A Lockdown is called when there is something dangerous inside of the building. Students and staff are trained to enter or remain in a room that can be locked, and maintain silence.

A Lockdown is only initiated when there is an active threat inside or very close to the building.

SHOULD PARENTS COME TO THE SCHOOL DURING A LOCKDOWN?

The natural inclination for parents is to go to the school during a Lockdown. Understandable, but perhaps problematic. If there is a threat inside the building, law enforcement will be responding. It is unlikely that parents will be granted access to the building or even the campus. If parents are already in the school, they will be instructed to Lockdown as well.

SHOULD PARENTS TEXT THEIR STUDENTS?

The school recognizes the importance of communication between parents and students during a Lockdown event. Parents should be aware though, during the initial period of a Lockdown, it may not be safe for students to text their parents. As the situation resolves, students may be asked to update their parents on a regular basis.

In some cases, students may be evacuated and transported off-site for a student-parent reunification.

WHAT ABOUT UNANNOUNCED DRILLS?

The school may conduct unscheduled drills, however it is highly discouraged to conduct one without announcing that it as a drill. That's called an unannounced drill and can cause undue concern and stress.

Parents should recognize that the school will always inform students that it is a drill during the initial announcement.

It's important to differentiate between a **drill** and an exercise. A drill is used to create the "Muscle Memory" associated with a practiced action. There is no simulation of an event; this is simply performing the action. An exercise simulates an actual event to test the capacity of personnel and equipment.





Media Contact: Amber Southard
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Early Registration Now Open for the 14th Annual Navy Federal 5K in Pensacola

Pensacola, Fla.— Whether you run or walk, the Gulf Coast is invited to participate in the 2023 Navy Federal 5k. Join us on Saturday, April 6, as we celebrate the 14th annual [Navy Federal Credit Union](#) 5K Run/Walk/Roll in downtown Pensacola. Early registration is now open at a discounted rate of \$18 for adults and \$15 for youth, ages 5-13. Children 6 and under can also participate in the Sammie Sprint, a free quarter-mile race around Plaza Ferdinand.

Participation in this event benefits the [Escambia County Public Schools Foundation](#), which funds projects and programs, including Grants for Excellence and employee appreciation programs. This event will also benefit the [Santa Rosa Education Foundation](#). Their mission is to enhance and raise awareness of public education.

The early registration discount is available through March 18; however, registration will remain open until the start of the race. Registration is required for all participants and includes a race shirt.

WHAT: 14th Annual Navy Federal 5K

WHEN: Saturday, April 6 @ 8 am CST

WHERE: Start & finish line will be at **Seville Quarter, 130 East Government Street**, Pensacola, FL

REGISTER: Learn more and register by visiting navyfederal.org.

This race is designed to be fun for runners and walkers of all ages and abilities. Awards are given for top male/female/hand cyclist or wheelchair user overall finishers and top 3 male/female users in each age group. After the race, there will be refreshments and entertainment. Navy Federal would like to recognize [Cat Country 98.7](#) and [News Radio 92.3 FM and 1620 AM](#) for their continued support of this race.

About Navy Federal Credit Union: Established in 1933 with only 7 members, Navy Federal now has the distinct honor of serving over 12.4 million members globally and is the world's largest credit union. As a member-owned and not-for-profit organization, Navy Federal always puts the financial needs of its members first. Membership is open to all Department of Defense and Coast Guard Active Duty, veterans, civilian and contractor personnel, and their families. Dedicated to its mission of service, Navy Federal employs a workforce of over 23,000 and has a global network of 355 branches. For more information about Navy Federal Credit Union, visit navyfederal.org. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Opportunity Employer.



Newsletter created by Angie Stepherson