



# Panther Tales



- May 1** ELA TESTING Grades 3-5
- May 1, 9, 15** Dupree, Godwin, Wallace 5<sup>th</sup> Field Trip
- May 2** **LAST DAY FOR LIBRARY CHECKOUTS**
- May 2, 9, 16** PTA School Spirit Store
- May 5** Library Closed
- May 5-9** Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7** Cox Hero Award
- May 7, 14** Benoit, Brown, Potter 5<sup>th</sup> Field Trip
- May 8** MATH TESTING Grades 3-5
- May 9** **ALL LIBRARY BOOKS DUE**
- May 9** AR Due Date
- May 13** 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Test
- May 15-16, 19-21** Chrome Book Collection
- May 16** AR Party
- May 16** Kindergarten Luau
- May 19** Kindergarten Ceremony 9:00 am
- May 21** 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Ceremony 9:00 am
- May 23** Last Day of School / Early Release 12:20 / Report Cards
- May 26** Memorial Day
- May 27-28** Teacher Planning Days
- August 11** First Day of School



**FORTIFYFL**



Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.) assessments coordinate screening and progress monitoring that are aligned to the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) standards and are administered three times per year.

**TESTING SCHEDULE:**

**Thursday, May 1**

Grades 3-5 ELA TEST

**Thursday, May 8**

Grades 3-5 MATH TEST

**Tuesday, May 13**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade SCIENCE TEST

Small Group Testing Dates:

**May 5-6, 12-15**

Make-up Testing for students who are absent:

**May 2-23**

We encourage all students to get a good night's sleep, be on time for school, and have a good breakfast on testing days.



## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip



May 1, 9, 15

Dupree, Godwin, Wallace

May 7, 14

Benoit, Brown, Potter



May 2, 9, 16



Teacher Appreciation Week

May 5-9

Show Your Teachers Some Love!

## Register for Kindergarten



Registration begins March 31, 2025

Monday - Friday 9:00 - 1:00

Children who are 5 years old on or before  
September 1<sup>st</sup> are eligible to start  
Kindergarten in AUGUST.

Complete Focus Registration application,  
located on the Escambia County Public  
Schools website:

[Escambiapublicschools.org](http://Escambiapublicschools.org)

Click on Families, go to registration for  
students.

**Bring the following mandatory documents  
to the school.**

- Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residence (Utility bill or lease only)
- Immunization Record
- School health exam (Physical)
- Student's Social Security card or SS#

**Registration is not complete until all  
documents have been approved and forms  
have been signed.**

For more information, please contact our  
residential school or the Office of Enrollment  
Services. 850-469-5580

## Innovation Center News

**MAY 2- LAST DAY FOR CHECK-OUTS**



Library Books are  
Due  
**MAY 9th**



**Please check for lost or misplaced books at home, school, daycare, in backpacks, desks, cars, and even grandma's house!**



### AR PARTY

**Friday, May 16**

K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade 8:30-9:15

2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> Grade 9:20-10:05

4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grade 10:10-10:55

To attend party, students need to meet AR goals 3 out of 4 nine weeks. Teachers will receive a list of students who will be attending.

*The cut-off date for AR points is May 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Thank You PTA for Sponsoring this Party!*

## 2025 Cox Inspirational Student Heroes & Escambia County Council of PTA's Student of the Year

This award recognizes students who have shown great fortitude by successfully adapting to and/or conquering personal problems, challenges, or situations. The student may be successfully overcoming one or more of the following:

Academic Difficulties

Language Barrier

Mental/Physical Disabilities

Family Adversity

Serious Illness

Substance Abuse

### Congratulations to Our Hero!



### Zoey Shoemaker

A Hero is defined as a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities. Zoey is the precise example of this definition.

While she has only been at Pine Meadow for her fifth-grade year, Zoey walked in and quickly made her presence known. Zoey is a standout in class and is eager to answer questions and help her classmates. Zoey was recognized as our class Student of the Month after just one month. Zoey is an extremely talented artist who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place for our school's yearbook cover. Zoey dreams of being an artist who sells her artwork someday. Zoey is a valued member of Safety Patrol who arrives early to school each day. She takes this job seriously and guides many students through their arrival at school, making sure they safely abide by the rules.

Not only is Zoey helpful towards others, but she is an extremely hard worker, which shows in her grades each day. Zoey is proficient in ELA and Math and maintains 100% in Citizenship for the whole year.

While Zoey's life experience has not been typical, she is positive, bold, brave, smart, caring, and forgiving.

**You are our HERO!**



## Kindergarten Luau May 16<sup>th</sup>

Kindergarten is having an end of the year Luau! Students will be participating in several Luau activities and games throughout the day. Students are encouraged to dress up in their best Luau attire.

*This is a student only event!*

## Chrome Book Collection Dates



**May 15-16, 19-21**

Please make sure chrome books and chargers have been returned to school.

## End of Year Ceremonies

# Kindergarten

**Monday, May 19 @ 9:00**

# 5th Grade

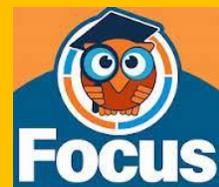
**Wednesday, May 21 @ 9:00**

# MAY 23<sup>rd</sup>

# HAPPY Last Day OF SCHOOL



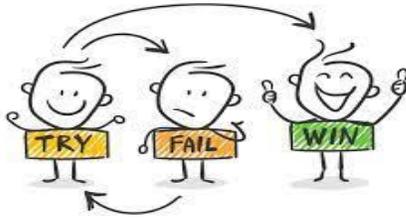
**11:30 Don't Be Late!**



**REPORT CARDS in FOCUS**



# August 11, 2025



Teach perseverance at home by applying some of the following strategies:

**Resist Rescuing Immediately.** Give children the chance to struggle, sometimes an extra moment or two is all they need to be successful in a situation. If needed, adjust the level of difficulty of a task without taking away the challenge completely.

**Regularly Encourage your Child to Try New Things.** Most activities are not easy to do initially which is a valuable lesson for a child to learn. To encourage taking on a challenge, try new activities with your child or as a family. Studies show that infants as young as one year old were more likely to persist if they saw an adult persisting through a challenge.

**Teach Practical Problem-solving.** Before a child becomes frustrated, help him think about another way to solve the problem. Helping him to learn to stop and think can often reveal a new or different way to reach the same goal.

**Practice Positive Sayings.** Sometimes, when encountering a new situation, children are quick to give up, stating, "I can't!" Help your child change his thinking by practicing statements like, "I can't, YET!" If he is becoming frustrated, remind him of past successes and how he overcame challenges before, so he can do it again. Often helping him change his negative statements into positive statements will help him to persevere a little longer.

**Remind them of their Successes.** When children are reminded of past successes when they struggled, but persevered, they are often willing to keep with it a little longer. When they finally succeed in their current venture, you can praise their efforts and recognize their perseverance amid a challenge.

The ability to persevere is necessary for overcoming obstacles, navigating challenges, and meeting success each new day. By practicing these skills with your child, you are teaching him or her the key to perseverance and success later in life.

*Published by Susan Brunk, M. Ed.*

## ECPS Sunshine Math Competition



Nearly 500 bright minds in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade from 23 elementary schools had a day of spirited individual and team competitions showcasing their problem-solving skills, teamwork, and love for mathematics.

Our students are a shining example of how our schools foster academic excellence and love for mathematics at an early age. Congratulations to all participants and coaches for a successful year!

### Third Grade Individual Winners:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Draper Dupree

**7<sup>th</sup> Place:** David Menard

**8<sup>th</sup> Place:** Abigail Kusy

### Third Grade Top Teams:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Pine Meadow Team B: Lucas Albano, John Butler, Draper Dupree, Natalie Smith

### Fourth Grade Individual Winners:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Dowling Butler

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Beatriz Diniz

**6<sup>th</sup> Place:** Keayon Fields

**10<sup>th</sup> Place:** Daniel Ryan

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Top Teams:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Pine Meadow Team A: Dowling Butler, Daniel Galvez, Beatriz Diniz, Evelyn Rowley

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Pine Meadow Team B: Keayon Fields, Craig Macks, Allegra McCaw, Daniel Ryan

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Individual Winners:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Pax Fisher

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Skylar Gibbons

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Liam Olson

**4<sup>th</sup> Place:** Deleia Marshall

**5<sup>th</sup> Place:** Jaxson Albano

**9<sup>th</sup> Place:** Harper Peeterse

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Top Teams

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Pine Meadow Team A: Skylar Gibbons, Deleia Marshall, Liam Olson, Harper Peeterse



**Escambia County Public Schools' Office of Community Involvement is proud to recognize Ms. Denise Simmons as the Stellar Employee for the month of April 2025.**

Denise Simmons serves as the administrative clerk at Pine Meadow Elementary. Denise has been with the district for 26 years and Pine Meadow ten years. Ms. Simmons embodies the essential qualities that an administrative clerk should demonstrate consistently. As the first point of contact for parents and students at Pine Meadow Elementary, she greets everyone with a warm smile and addresses them by name, creating an inviting and comfortable atmosphere. Her friendly demeanor, which welcomes all who enter the school, ensures that stakeholders feel at ease when discussing any questions or concerns they may have.

Ms. Simmons demonstrates exceptional efficiency in maintaining records and communicating with other schools. She promptly completes records requests, including the documentation of receipt times and dates, ensuring that all communications are diligently managed. Under her leadership, the office operates seamlessly, and both administrators and staff appreciate her meticulous attention to detail. Ms. Simmons consistently strives for excellence in her work.

She creates posters for the hallways that align with the school's theme, enhancing the atmosphere of the school environment. Additionally, she ensures that parent communications are distributed promptly and that questions and concerns from parents are addressed swiftly, fostering a strong connection between the school and home. Pine Meadow Elementary School is fortunate to have Ms. Simmons as part of the team; her positive demeanor, infectious smile, and strong work ethic contribute significantly to creating a welcoming and uplifting atmosphere.

She will receive a plaque, pin, and a check for \$100 from Members First Credit Union.

## SAFETY PATROL



Thank you to Mrs. Potter and her crew for all of their hard work and dedication during this school year! We appreciate safety patrol's dependability, and efforts to help students and staff start their day in a most delightful way!

*Front row:* Manuela Zapata, Brooklyn Stratton, Skylar Dupree

*Back row:* Carter Endress, Brady Land, Zoey Shoemaker, Julianna Harrell, Montrel Collins, and Mrs. Karen Potter

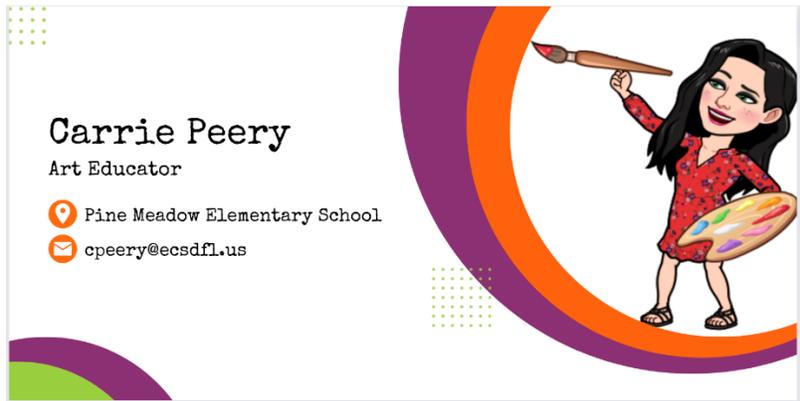
## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



Congratulations to the Battle of the Books Teams for their hard work at this year's competition.



*Newsletter Created by Angie Stepherson*



Pine Meadow Students are participating in The Great Gulf Coast Art Contest for Posters!  
Winners will be selected in October.  
Wish our Students Luck!

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Iris Brown      | Harper Peeterse |
| Grace Casey     | Mina Rezaie     |
| Harley Clanton  | Evelyn Rowley   |
| Brooklyn Gorday | Aundrea Seaman  |
| Simon Kamyshin  | Grace Wallace   |

Pine Meadow 10 Carrie Peery

