

# Pelican Post



PORT MALABAR ELEMENTARY

301 Pioneer Ave  
Palm Bay, FL 32907

Phone: 321-725-0070 Fax: 952-5949

[http://www.edline.net/pages/port\\_malabar\\_elementary\\_school](http://www.edline.net/pages/port_malabar_elementary_school)



*Cindy Whalin*  
Principal

*Michael Fredenburg*  
Assistant Principal



March/April 2018

## Message From the Principal

Dear Parents,

School security and safety is on everyone's mind in view of the tragic event that occurred recently in south Florida. As you have noticed, our school security has been upgraded with exterior fencing, additional security cameras and a TV monitor installed in the Front Office, as well as a single point of entry to our campus. In addition, students will be taught safety measures to prepare in the event of an emergency. In the coming days, your child may share what they are learning with you and will need reassurance that these measures are necessary to keep them safe. You can depend on teachers and staff to put the safety of your child first as we continue to implement district recommendations. Always remember to bring your identification with you and make sure you are on the student's pick-up list. Front Office personnel is instructed to ALWAYS check ID before releasing students and this procedure cannot and will not be violated. Thank you for your cooperation as we assure the safety of our students.

Spring Break is right around the corner. After enjoying a break from school, students will be preparing for the Florida Standards Assessment. Parents will receive additional information regarding the dates and times that tests will be administered. Check for testing tips from our guidance counselor, Heather Haman in her column in this issue of the Pelican Post.

Kudos to our Future Problem Solving and Odyssey of the Mind teams! FPS students earned their way to participation in the upcoming state competition. Odyssey of the Mind students made a terrific showing especially since they were competing against 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders! Go Pelicans!!

*Cindy D. Whalin, Principal*

## What's Cookin' in the Pelican Café?

It has been said that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Students at Port Malabar enjoy a healthy breakfast every morning in the Pelican Café. This year's School Breakfast Week was a success with many students participating. Encourage your child never to skip breakfast!

Do you have a birthday coming up and want something different to serve? Homemade cookie cakes are available from our cafeteria for only \$10 for a small or \$18 for a large. Cookie cakes will be decorated and delivered to your child's classroom upon request. Call Jim Burke, our café manager to place your order today. The number is 952-5952. As always, thanks for your support!

## Dates to Remember

### Teacher Work Day-No school for students

Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>

### Report Cards Go Home

Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

### SAC Meeting

Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm in the Media Center

### PTO Meeting

Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm in the Media Center

### Spring Break-School Closed

Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> through Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

### Kindergarten Round Up

Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am in the Cafeteria

### FSA Testing Window

April 10-May 18<sup>th</sup>

### Spring Pictures by Dean Stewart Photography

Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>

### SAC Meeting

Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm in the Media Center

### Interim Reports Go Home

Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

### PTO Meeting

Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm in the Media Center

# Pelican Post

## PRE-REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS AFTER SPRING BREAK

Port Malabar Elementary will begin pre-registration for the upcoming school year shortly after Spring Break. Packets containing forms will be sent home with students for parents to fill out, sign, and return to their child's teacher. Data collected will be used to arrange classes for 2018-2019 so it is important that parents to submit the forms and information by the deadline. As always, thank you for your help and cooperation as we complete this very important task.

Please note that Kindergarten Round-Up will be held April 13, 2018 at 8:30 am in the cafeteria. Parents of children who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2018 are invited to attend this very informative meeting. Bring your child with you and receive a packet containing all the information needed to ensure a smooth start to their school years. We look forward to seeing you!

### *Tidbits from Title I*

Thank you to all who attended our Title 1 Family Literacy Night. We had a tremendous turn out and received some great feedback. Our families enjoyed some awesome reading activities, ice cream, and some amazing bonding time. We love our family involvement opportunities and it is so encouraging to see our community support!



### Media Message

To all the families who visited our Spring Book Fair, who joined us for Family Literacy Night and who donated pet food for our Canine Commandos food drive – THANK YOU! We are so grateful for our wonderful Port Malabar families.

Our intermediate Sunshine State Book Bash teams are busy prepping for their field trips at the end of March and the primary grades are enjoying our new subscription to BookFLIX from Scholastic. If you need more info on this great resource please let us know.

### Counselor's Corner with Heather Haman, Certified School Counselor

As the school year slips away, we come to testing season. Your child may soon be faced with taking district or state standardized tests. Need some good testing tips? You've come to the right place. Here is one helpful strategy to teach your students and yourself.

Tip: What to Eat and What Not to Eat

As you may have guessed, sugar is not a good thing to eat before a test. Sugar substitutes, such as found in diet soda, are even worse. Both decrease a child's productivity and make memory recall more difficult. Also, avoid having your child eat a turkey sandwich before testing. Remember how tired and sleepy you get after your big Thanksgiving meal? You don't want your child to be sleepy while taking a very important test! So what can your child eat before testing? A balanced breakfast consisting of healthy carbohydrates and a piece of fruit is best. Studies have shown that lemon, peppermint and cinnamon are great memory boosters so include those flavors if possible. We are confident our students will do well on these tests and remember that testing is simply a time to "Show what you know!"

The character trait of the month is Hope. As this month progresses, why not talk to your child about hope. All children as well as adults need hope. Hope is believing your dreams will come true and knowing you'll be successful in what you are determined to do. Hard work and patience is essential but when you have hope, each day is brand new. You can help your child by asking simple questions to check for understanding such as what does it mean to have hope and how can we demonstrate hope in our lives? Hope means being optimistic and positive about your future. Demonstrate hope in your life by having a positive attitude, even when facing difficult situations. Help others by encouraging them when they are down. Yes, have hope for your tomorrow!



### Message from PTO

Port Malabar PTO would like to thank our families for participating in fundraisers this year. Funds are necessary to help provide additional support for school projects. This year we are focused on replacing our marquee, which has been repaired as much as it can be. Your efforts will be of great assistance in getting our new sign and marquee ready for use.

Be on the lookout for a flyer for PTO board positions for the next school year. Your help is needed in all areas to continue our work on behalf of our school. PTO meetings are held the last Monday in each month and are open to everyone. We want and need parents input and participation so come join us!