



Welcome to the Palmetto Middle School PTSA Link. You are one of nearly 800 members of the PMS family that has elected to receive school news via e-mail. Thank you for staying connected and for your continued support of our PTSA!

Important Dates at Palmetto Middle School

November 13-20	Book Fair
November 18	NJHS – Meeting
November 19	Early Release Day - 1:30 dismissal
November 19	PTSA Meeting – 9:15 am
November 19	EESAC Meeting – 8:00 am
November 26-27	No School- Thanksgiving Recess

Time for the PTSA Meeting on November 19th is 9:15 am and not 9:30 am as was noted in last week's PTSA Link.

Links to Monthly Mailings

Stay informed. Scroll down to the bottom of this e-mail for links to our monthly Lancer Letter, activities calendar and other important Palmetto Middle School information.

Close Up Trip to Washington, D.C.

Open for 7th and 8th grade students only. Any student interested in attending our yearly trip to Washington, D.C., Jamestown, and Williamsburg please pick up an application with Ms. Iturmendi in room 714. The trip will take place during the week of April 11, 2010 - April 15, 2010. Students will participate in a week long curriculum based program approved by Miami Dade County Public Schools. Students will have the opportunity to participate along with other students from across the country and attend workshops while exploring DC's famous monuments & memorials. The Close-Up Foundation provides a rigorous curriculum allowing students to see their history books come alive.

The deadline to submit the application is on November 30, 2009. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Iturmendi via email citurmendi@dadeschools.net or visit <http://www.closeup.org/>.

The Close Up Foundation is a nonprofit organization; therefore any donations made towards a student's program is tax-deductible. If you are willing to make a donation on behalf of an underprivileged child please contact Ms. Iturmendi.

Show your appreciation for our faculty and staff at our Holiday Luncheon

It's that time, and once again, the PTSA is hosting our annual faculty and staff Holiday Luncheon on December 17th to show our thanks for all that they do for our children.

We need volunteers to donate food, homemade or store bought will be gladly accepted. We will also accept monetary donations for purchasing food items. This would be such a great help with our limited budget. From what I hear, last year's luncheon was almost 100% donated food by PMS families. Hopefully we can have the same support this year. If you donate a food item, it will be labeled at the luncheon with your family's name and /or the student name (however you would prefer).

WE ALSO NEED HELP the day of the event to set up, serve and clean up. Here is your chance to get to know a little better all the wonderful people who make PMS such a spectacular school. For food donations or volunteering please contact Mary Warrell at carmicmom@comcast.net and Maria Castiello at escotocastiello@bellsouth.net. We will also have a sign up sheet at the PTSA meeting this coming week. Thank you very much in advance for your help.

The Book Fair is Still Here

Don't forget our Scholastic Book Fair continues through the 20th in the Media Center. The Book Fair is open from 8:30 - 4:00 each day, and students will also be visiting during Language Arts classes. Remember to send your children with money so they can purchase their favorite books. Not only does the Book Fair help us raise funds for classroom and library resources, it also encourages reading among students.

An Evening of Information and Ways to Take Action for our Schools.

Coral Reef Elementary has put together a great group of speakers for their Wednesday, November 18th PTA meeting from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm and would like to extend an invitation to all their neighbors. Parents need to get informed and take action with regard to funding of our schools! Please [click here](#) for more information.

Holiday Blues

If your child has experienced any of the following events such as a death in the family, divorce, loss of income or parents in the military they may be at risk for something called the Holiday Blues. Sadness is the most obvious sign of the holiday blues. But children also show the blues by withdrawing from their family, being irritable, uncooperative, aggressive and also verbally nasty. Helpful suggestions to assist your child with these difficult events are provided. Your school Guidance Counselor, TRUST Specialist, School Social Worker and School Psychologist are also

available to assist upon your request. Please [click here](#) for helpful suggestions.

Every Child, One Voice – Nov 19 at 6pm

We need your attendance at the upcoming Forum with Elected Representatives on November 19th at 6pm. Many of you feel strongly about the importance of high quality public schools for our children, our businesses and our community; this is your chance to ensure that your voice is heard if you were not able to attend a RALLY TO TALLY. Let your voice be heard and show our legislators that it is vital to invest in Florida's future. Please [click here](#) for more information. Call or email Darla March for more info, 305.498.3327.

After School Tutoring

Do you need a little extra assistance with school work? Tutoring is now available every Monday and Wednesday after school for one hour in rooms 101, 102 and 103. Activity buses are scheduled for Monday and Wednesday.

Pinecrest's Youth Advisory Council has been established

At the October 13th Village Council meeting, my resolution to establish the Pinecrest Youth Advisory Council was unanimously adopted. We have now joined many other municipalities who recognize the importance of educating our youth about local government, and getting them involved even before they are old enough to register to vote. We will assure a more engaged community and be more responsive to the needs of our youth; providing them leadership skills and opportunities for community service at the same time. The Youth Advisory Council will be made up of 20 appointed members, who will serve a one year term. We will be offering community service opportunities for our community's youth, whether they are a member of the advisory council or not, so please have them subscribe to stay informed of upcoming events.

Our kick-off event, "Media Matters" announcing the establishment of the Youth Advisory Council was held at the Pinecrest Community Center and included a panel discussion by top local media professionals including Sandra Peebles from Univision, Ileana Varela, news anchor, Luis Goicouria, VP for MTV Latin America, and Elaine De Valle, Herald reporter. The panelists engaged in a terrific discussion with our teens. We look forward to regular enriching events to be arranged for and by the advisory council.

Applications for the advisory council are now available on the Village's website at <http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/>. The deadline for applying will be December 1st. Applicants must either be Village of Pinecrest residents or attend a Pinecrest school and be in grades 6-12.

Parent Portal Gradebook Help

If you are having difficulty with the Parent Portal Gradebook (additionally those who have requested grade /attendance notification and are not receiving it), please send an email to Melissa Montovino at melissamontovino@yahoo.com.

Links to Monthly Mailing & Other Important PMS Information

- To view or print the October Lancer Letter, [click here](#).
- To view or print the PTSA Directory, [click here](#).
- To view or print the November Activities Calendar, [click here](#).
- To visit the PMS web site, [click here](#).
- To join your PTSA, volunteer or make a donation, [click here](#).
- To learn more about The Listener's Program, [click here](#).

Subscribe or Unsubscribe to PTSA Link

If your child is no longer a student at PMS and you'd like to stop receiving PTSA Link, please use the links below to automatically unsubscribe from our mailing list. We also encourage you to 'Forward to a Friend' who may be interested in receiving PTSA Link.

You're receiving this e-mail because your address is included in the Palmetto Middle School/PTSA E-Mail Directory. To make sure you're receiving PTSA Link regularly, please be sure to add ptsalink@pmsptsa.org to your Address Book or Safe Sender. This ensures your e-mail is delivered to your In Box (and not sent to your Bulk or Junk Mail folders).



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