



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

December 17 Teacher and Staff Holiday Luncheon
December 17 NJHS Meeting 3:45pm to 4:30pm
December 21 to January 1 No School - Winter Recess

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.

Town Hall and Awards Ceremony

District Nine School Board Member, **Dr. Lawrence Feldman** held a Town Hall and Awards Ceremony on Monday, November 23 at Palmetto Senior High School. During the ceremony, Dr. Feldman presented Palmetto Middle School eighth grader, **Leia Schwartz**, with an award for academic excellence. Eighth grader **Reginald Herring** received an award for outstanding citizenship and effort. Congratulations Leia and Reginald!

Win a Pizza Party

FEEL THE POWER OF JOY. PLEASE DONATE A TOY! It's easy and you'll bring a smile to a very needy child this holiday season. Just bring a toy (new, unwrapped) to your **social studies class**. The toys will be distributed to the children (babies thru teens) of migrant workers who attend the Homestead Soup Kitchen. The social studies class period that collects the most toys (at least 10) will celebrate with pizza and drinks! **It's cool to be kind.**

Volunteers Needed

Please join us in **Room 108 on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8th, at 9:00AM** to help fold, stuff and mail the PMS PTSA Lancer Letter. Please contact Cristina Bissi at c_bissi@hotmail.com.

Reflections Winners and Honorable Mentions 2009-2010:

The PTA/PTSA Reflections Program is a national arts recognition program honoring participating students in areas from literature to visual arts. This year's theme is "Beauty Is..." The following Palmetto Middle School students are program winners for their categories and will be competing at the regional level in January 2010:

Literature:

Sherry Zhang
Jared Cohen
Sharon Peng
Miriam Singer
Sammi Breiter

Visual Arts:

Shae Demandt
Tristan Elliott
Chloe Simons
Nathalie Calderon
Savannah Pocquette

Photography:

Max Lucas
Jennifer Fusfield
Lee Pivnik

The following students received Honorable Mention for their participation:

Literature:

Tommy Robertson
Erica Riera
Joshua Cohen
Sydni Huguet
Victoria Martinez

Visual Arts:

Darnesha Davis
Kyle Toister
Giancarlo Cubillos
Aaron Varkonyi
Zisho Wu

Photography:

Rebecca Lester
Conor Whalen
Leia Schwartz

Faculty and Staff Holiday Luncheon

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. **WE ALSO NEED HELP** the day of the event to set up, serve and clean up. For food donations or volunteering please contact Mary Warrell at carmicmom@comcast.net and Maria Castiello at escotocastiello@bellsouth.net. Thank you very much in advance for your help.

After School Tutoring

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

In addition to the Monday and Wednesday after school tutoring, our **tutoring services** will expand to include **Saturday** mornings. Beginning **January 16** and running through **March 6** tutoring in reading, writing and math will be available from **9:00 am to 12:00 pm**. This is a great opportunity for your child to receive that extra assistance as the FCAT approaches.

Midterm Exam Schedule

After winter break the midterm exam schedule is as follows:

Essay Exams – Jan. 11, 12, and 13

Objective Exams – Jan.14, 15 and 19

Volunteer Badges Available

If you had a Volunteer ID Badge made during Picture Day, they're now available for pick-up. Photo packets are available in the copy room in the PTSA black box. For security and so you're easily identifiable, volunteers are asked to wear their badges while on campus. If your pictures or cards are missing, please make a note on the list and send an email to Melissa Montovino at melissamontovino@yahoo.com.

Parent Resource Guide 2009-2010

The 2009-2010 Parent Resource Guide is now available online at <http://www.dadeschools.net/> under Resources. It is also linked from the Parent Portal and from the Office of Parental Involvement website, <http://parents.dadeschools.net/>. or [click here](#) for quick access.

Congratulations to our Wanted Volunteers of the Month: Colleen Beauregard, Kim Martin and Emy Upshaw.

Please [click here](#) to read all about who we've rounded up this month.

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.

Box Tops for Education

I would like to congratulate the winners of the 1st 9 weeks Box Tops contest:

1st place: **Ms. O'Hara**

2nd place: **Ms. Figueiras**

3rd place: **Ms. Albert**

Honorable mention to all of the teachers who participated:

Angilillo, Charles, Gordon, Laughlin, Hopta, Schaefer, Iturmendi, and Medina.

Parents and students, please continue to collect and cut your BoxTops and send them in to your teachers. Thanks to all of you, the PMS PTSA should receive a check for over \$1500.00 in December. The next contest will run until January 20, 2010.

Cori Strosnider, PMS PTSA Box Tops Coordinator

Links to Monthly Mailing & Other Important PMS Information

To view or print the December 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 ptسالink@pmsptsا.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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