



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!

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### **Important Dates at Palmetto Middle School**

September 17	Open House
September 18	PTSA Meeting
September 18	Early Release Day – 1:30 pm dismissal
September 23 – 26	Required Reading Book Sale
September 30	No School – Teacher Planning Day
October 1	Picture Day

### **Don't Miss Open House – Wednesday, September 17**

Please join us Wednesday, September 17 for our annual Open House. Classroom Visits begin at 7:00 pm and our Parent Resource Fair at 6:00 p.m. Resource Fair topics include: Office of Parental Involvement, Parent Academy, PTSA, Volunteering, Free and Reduced Lunch, Fit Kids, Healthy Eating, School Clubs and Tutorial Assistance.

### **PTSA Meeting – Thursday, September 18**

Don't miss our next meeting – Thursday at 9:15 am in the Media Center. Come early and enjoy coffee and chat beginning at 9:00 am. This month's guest speaker is Susana Cetta, a licensed mental health counselor with 17 years experience working with children in need and currently Director at Palmer Trinity School, who'll provide insight into "How to Talk to Your Teenager."

### **Last Chance to Pre-order Required Reading Books Online**

Order forms are going home this week to purchase books during the PTSA Required Reading Book Sale, September 23 – 26. You can also order books online quickly and conveniently. The deadline to order online is September 21. Save time and gas while supporting the PTSA – prices are the same as in stores! To download an order form, [click here](#). To order online using PayPal, [click here](#). We still need a few more volunteers to help during sale days; please contact Lisa Whalen ([Llwhalen@aol.com](mailto:Llwhalen@aol.com) or 786/972-9802) or Colleen Beauregard ([gatorgrad@bellsouth.net](mailto:gatorgrad@bellsouth.net) or 305/254-3496) to sign up.

### **Let Your Talent Shine – Participate in PTSA's Reflections Program**

The theme for the 2008-2009 PTSA Reflections Program is "Wow!" Students may submit works in any of the six arts areas: Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, Visual Arts, Dance Choreography, and Film Production; only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme are acceptable. Entry information is being distributed by teachers and can be downloaded by [clicking here](#). Deadline for all entries is September 26, 2008. To join our planning committee or for further information, contact Mindi Notrika at [mindinotrika@bellsouth.net](mailto:mindinotrika@bellsouth.net) or (305) 251-7517.

### **Haiti Hurricane Relief**

The PMS PTSA and Food for the Poor are holding a Hurricane Relief Food Drive to benefit Haiti. We are asking everyone to donate pop-open and ready-to-eat canned or boxed food items (non-perishable), as well as water, milk and juice boxes, baby foods and formula. Items should be dropped off this week (September 15 – 19); collection boxes will be in the Breezeway. Together we can make a difference – let's change the world!

### **Friday is Deadline for Student Directory Art Contest**

Submit your best artwork representing this year's theme, "Palmetto Middle School is 'A'bout to Rock Out! Jammin' to New Heights of Success." Artwork must be submitted to your 1st period teacher by Friday, September 19. Artwork will be judged and prizes awarded – the winning entry will be used for the cover of the Student Directory. Entries must be on white, non-lined paper, and artwork must fit 5" x 8" area and done in black ink only. Questions? E-mail Dina Lara at [dina\\_rob@bellsouth.net](mailto:dina_rob@bellsouth.net) or call Maricel Lam at (305) 613-0843.

### **Annual Cheesecake Sale Begins This Week**

Beginning Wednesday, Orchestra and Chorus classes will have their Annual Cheesecake Sale. Order now and your delicious treats will be delivered in time for the holidays! To place your order, make sure to stop by Portable 8. For additional details, contact Mrs. Losada at [alosada@dadeschools.net](mailto:alosada@dadeschools.net).

### **Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed to help with Picture Day Pre-Sale, Wednesday, September 24 – Friday, September 26. Shifts are from 8:30 - 11:30. Six volunteers are needed for each day. Volunteers should contact Mary Warrell at [carmicmom@comcast.net](mailto:carmicmom@comcast.net) or (305) 256-0505. Ideally, volunteers will be available to work all three days, but if you can only work one or two days, please let Mary know which days are best.

### **Parent Donation Program**

We have already made half our budgeted goal for this school year thanks to the first 150 families that have sent in checks! Those families will be recognized in the next Lancer mailing. We now need to make sure that we can still fulfill all the spending goals for this year. Remember that as a PTSA, we do no fundraising, so every donation counts – to meet our budget all we need is \$30 for every child at the school. If you haven't sent in your tax deductible check, please do so now. To download a Parent Donation form, [click here](#).

### **Are You a PTSA Member?**

Our PTSA membership drive is in full swing. For a nominal fee, you make a great investment in our children's future. Last year, thanks to your support, we were the largest PTSA in South Florida. Because of our numbers, we have a powerful voice and a strong presence as child advocates both locally and in the Florida legislature. To join, please [click here](#). Parent members are \$10.00, teachers are \$7.00, and students \$5.00.

### **Go Green and Help Us Save \$800 Monthly**

Thanks to the more than 175 PMS families who this month helped us save \$125 by opting out of the monthly mailing – they get their news via PTSA Link and our web site at <http://www.pmsptsa.org/>. Please join us in these efforts – and help us save as much as \$800 each month that can directly support academics and activities for our children – [click here](#) to opt-out!

### **Links to September Monthly Mailing & Other Important PMS Information**

Stay informed! Following are links to our monthly Lancer Letter and other important PMS information.

To view or print the September Lancer Letter, [click here](#).

To view the September Activities Calendar, [click here](#).

To join your PTSA and/or volunteer, [click here](#).

To visit the PMS web site, [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 send a note to [ptsalink@bellsouth.net](mailto:ptsalink@bellsouth.net) or 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.

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