

Palmetto has "A" drive to strive for success - we're fast and furious!

# PALMETTO MIDDLE SCHOOL



## Link #6

Palmetto Middle PTSA

## Palmetto Middle PTSA Newsletter

Nov. 2017

### Important Announcements & Dates

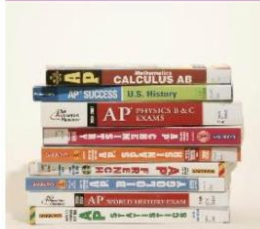
Hi Palmetto Middle Community-

There is a lot going on in the next few weeks. Please be sure you have the following on your calendars.

#### **Wed., Nov. 8th - AP Night**

6:30 PM in the Media Center at Palmetto Middle

+  
Advanced  
Placement: What  
every 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
parent needs to  
know



If you are the parent of a high-achieving 8<sup>th</sup> grader, do not miss this session by Miami Palmetto Senior High School's Julianne Farkas about Advanced Placement. No matter where your child goes to high school, it's what every 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent needs to know BEFORE you choose!

- What is AP?
- Should my child take an AP as a freshman?
- What are the hallmarks of a good AP program?
- What are the keys to success?
- What are the benefits of AP classes?
- What is the difference between AP and IB?

+  
Wednesday, November 8, 2017  
Palmetto Middle School  
6:30 PM

Sponsored by :



Palmetto Middle  
School PTSA



### Upcoming Events



**Thursday, Nov. 9th-**  
PTSA General Meeting,  
9 AM

**Wednesday, Nov.  
15th-**  
Picture Make-Up Day

To see a complete calendar of upcoming events please [click here](#):

[PTSA Calendar](#)

and

[PMS Calendar](#)

### Quick Links

[Palmetto Middle Website](#)

[PMSPTSA Website](#)

[New Parents Guide](#)

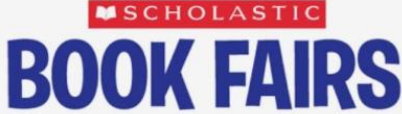
[Clubs and Activities  
Calendar](#)



**Thurs., Nov. 9th - PTSA General Meeting**  
9:00 AM in the Auditorium

**Fri., Nov. 10th - Veteran's Day**  
NO SCHOOL

**Nov. 13th - 17th - BookFair**



**SCHOLASTIC**  
**BOOK FAIRS**


**Palmetto Middle School Book Fair**

**At School:** Monday, Nov. 13th- Friday, Nov. 17th  
**Online:** Monday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>- Monday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>:  
<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/palmettomiddleschool>

The Book Fair will be open in our Media Center 11/13-11/17 from 8:30AM to 4:30PM and will feature a wide range of books for young teens and adults, including mystery and adventure novels, fantasy series, sports guides, graphic novels, and the latest bestsellers from more than 100 publishers. Parents, children, teachers, and the community are invited to attend. Students will be visiting the Media Center with their Language Arts teacher. Books can also be bought online. Our GOAL is to raise **\$4,500**.

**Volunteers Needed!**  
Please help us make this year's Book Fair a huge success:  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d45acaa2da46-book>

Questions? Contact Indira Niño at [thegarciaininos@gmail.com](mailto:thegarciaininos@gmail.com)



**Thurs., Nov. 16th - Give Miami Day**



The Miami Foundation  
**GiveMiami** 2017  
day

Join the movement  
#GiveMiamiDay



**Support  
Palmetto  
Middle!!**

**11.16.17**  
givemiamiday.org

Palmetto Middle School is once again participating in Give Miami Day. We are looking to raise some funds to improve our Fine Arts Department, specifically, upgrades to technology in the auditorium including the computer, lights, etc. We are also raising money for our general PTSA fund. Please share with friends and alumni. Also, if you work for a large corporation and are interested in donating, check to see if your company will match gifts. For more information about the event go here:

<https://www.amazon.com/?tag=palmettomiddleptsa-20>



<https://givemiamiday.org/npo/palmetto-middle-school-ptsa>

## **EESAC Meeting Update**

Please note there is no EESAC meeting in November nor December. What's EESAC you say? Anyone is invited to an EESAC meeting and board members get voting privileges. Miami-Dade Public School defines EESAC as: The Educational Excellence School Advisory Council (EESAC) is the sole body responsible for final decision making at the school relating to the implementation of the components of the School Performance Excellence Plan. The EESAC's function is to bring together all stakeholders and involve them in an authentic role in decisions which affect instruction and the delivery of programs.

We now have an EESAC/PTSA liaison, Ainsley Dixon, who will give an update at our PTSA meeting next Thursday, Nov. 9th. Welcome Ainsley and thank you for keeping us in the loop !

The January date will be announced once it is determined. Thank you!

To find out more: <http://opi.dadeschools.net/EESAC/>

## **Communications**

A lot of parents seem to NOT be getting information that we are sending out (whaaa???)

As a reminder- and PLEASE help us by telling your friends- we do not send paper flyers home. This LINK e-newsletter is the BEST way to get school information, along with attending PTSA meetings. Yes this newsletter is long but shouldn't take you more than 2 minutes to read. Last-minute announcements can also be found on the app, our Facebook page, and Instagram. Useful communication links:

PTSA Web Site/LINK e-newsletter sign-up:

<http://www.pmsptsa.org>

School Web Site: <http://palmettomiddle.com>

PTSA on Facebook: <fb.me/palmettomiddleptsa>

PTSA on Instagram:

[@palmettomiddle\\_ptsa](https://www.instagram.com/palmettomiddle_ptsa)

PTSA has an app- download and allow pushes

Palmetto Middle on Twitter: [@PMLancers](https://twitter.com/PMLancers)

I hope you enjoy the new section of our e-newsletter called "**Get to Know...**" This month it is Mr. Martin, our awesome 8th grade US History teacher at our school. The point of this section is to get to know the various members of our Palmetto Middle School community in a fun way. If you have any recommendations for questions, or certain people you'd like to see interviewed, email your ideas to [KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

### **Important Dates:**

Thursday, Nov. 9th- PTSA General Meeting, 9 AM

The agenda and meeting notes will be available on our web site: <http://www.pmsptsa.org/events.html>  
If you have any requests for the meeting, please contact Katie Abbott at [KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

### **Palmetto Senior High School Tour Dates:**

**SCHOOL TOURS**  
NOVEMBER 14  
NOVEMBER 28  
DECEMBER 12  
8:00 AM  
IN THE  
AUDITORIUM  
NO RSVP NEEDED

**MIAMI PALMETTO SENIOR HIGH**

**MAGNET TOURS**  
NOVEMBER 14  
NOVEMBER 28  
8:00 AM  
IN THE  
AUDITORIUM  
NO RSVP NEEDED

\*\*\* Panther For A Day: November 29

## Sports Announcements

Girls Volleyball Schedule:

Monday, 11/06 : Home vs. Southwood

Wednesday 11/08 : Away @ Richmond Heights

\*\* All games should begin at 4:30 pm  
and end at 6:00 pm

## Volunteers and Members needed

### **Book Fair Volunteers Needed**

Palmetto Middle's Scholastic Book Fair is just a few weeks' away. We need your help in order to make it a success. Please consider volunteering. Thanks!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d45acaa2da46-book>

### **Race Volunteers Needed**

Want to do some good and give back to the community?

Does your child need some community service hours?

One of our Cocktail Party sponsors, Life Time, needs volunteers to help at various events they have, such as the Miami Marathon. Opportunities include handing out water to athletes, etc. It would be great to get a group of our school community members together for an upcoming event. Interested in joining and getting more details? Contact Jill Nateman at [jnateman@bellsouth.net](mailto:jnateman@bellsouth.net) and/or our Life Time volunteer coordinator Jessica Mejia, at [JMejia@lt.life](mailto:JMejia@lt.life)

THANKS!

### **Become a Special Volunteer for The Listeners/Oyentes Program**

We would like to inform you about a wonderful school volunteer program that will provide great benefits to all students of M-DCPS. This program has successfully been a part of M-DCPS for over 40 years. The

Listeners/Oyentes Program is here to support the teachers and counselors by helping to defuse the emotions of the children that our volunteers listen to, so that these students can better absorb the lessons being

taught. To learn more and to see our training schedule, please visit [www.listenersprogram.org](http://www.listenersprogram.org)

### **Registration for Volunteers**

Don't forget to register as a volunteer for Miami-Dade Public Schools. You MUST register as a volunteer in order to participate or volunteer at any events at the school.

You need to do this every school year. For more information go here:

<https://www.engagemiamidade.net/community-school-volunteers>

### **Media Center Volunteers Needed**

The Media Center (AKA Library, but it's so much MORE than that) needs you! The Media Center at Palmetto Middle School is run by parent volunteers. In the mornings, students like to come to the Media Center to work on school work, use the computers, and check out books. This is one of the most needed and rewarding volunteer positions at Palmetto Middle.

The Media Center will be open each morning from 8:30am to 10am. If we have enough volunteers we can insert another shift, and go until 11am. We need at least two volunteers per shift in case of sickness or emergency.

We need volunteers...Perhaps someone you would like to share a shift with? It's an excellent way to get to know the teachers and the school.

Tora Bueno is putting together the volunteer sign-up. If interested, please let her know which day of the week you would like to volunteer. She can be reached at [torabonnier@me.com](mailto:torabonnier@me.com)

Thank you !

### **Green Help**

Ms. Ortiz needs a few helpers with her green initiatives for the year. One is to help before school when the Green Team (students) meet. Their job is to take care of our school's various gorgeous gardens. Her other big need is

to help her prepare the school so that we can receive a Green School designation. Interested?

Contact Ms. Ortiz at  
[tortiz1@dadeschools.net](mailto:tortiz1@dadeschools.net)

### **Copy Room Helpers**

PTSA has historically helped teachers with their copy needs on a daily basis. This year we have a few remaining days available for copy help. It involves coming to school once a week on your assigned day, and spending about an hour copying for teachers. If interested, please email [KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

Teachers are VERY appreciative of this service.  
Thank you for your consideration!

### **Wanted! AV/TV Installer!**

Is there a parent or community member out there who would be willing to offer their skills to help the school install some TVs that were donated? They're large, interactive smart TVs. If you can, please contact

[KatieLAbbott@comcast.net](mailto:KatieLAbbott@comcast.net)

Thanks!

## **Get to know....**

### **Get to Know... Mr. Martin!**



#### **1. What do you teach at Palmetto Middle?**

U.S. History-8th grade

## **2. How long have you been at Palmetto?**

This is my 12th year at Palmetto Middle School

## **3. What is your favorite Memory from last school year?**

The snowball fight on the Boston field trip was fantastic [NJHS field trip]. Watching Miami kids who had never seen snow before brought me back to when I arrived in Canada as a kid.

## **4. Read any good books lately?**

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah, The Wedding Gift by Marlen Suyapa Bodden. Both are historical fiction and excellent and for something light but really funny The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion.

## **5. What did you do before you taught?**

This is my third career. Started off in the management trainee program at Sandals Ocho Rios after university. Was the Assistant Manager when I left and moved to Miami where I was a corporate recruiter for Robert Half International. Absolutely hated the job and decided that I should go into teaching as that is what I was thinking of doing when I went to university originally.

## **6. Where did you grow up?**

Was born in Jamaica..not telling the year..smile. Moved to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil when I was 5. Spent almost 3 1/2 years there then moved to Calgary, Alberta in Canada. After finishing university moved back to Jamaica before moving to Miami in 2001.

## **7. What are your hobbies?**

Tennis, reading, movies and family time.

## **8. What would you do on a free day?**

Spend the day at the beach reading and paddle boarding.

## **9. You won a free round trip ticket! Where are you going to go?**

I would love to go to New Zealand as my mother's side of the family is originally from there or South Africa.



## 10. Favorite movies?

I love movies but as a parent of young kids I end up watching all their movies....Zootopia was great! Love Star Wars (the originals) so did enjoy Rogue 1. The movie Lion was well done, binge watched the first season of Narcos and got hooked on Game of Thrones. Looking forward to the next James Bond movie as Casino Royale is one of my favorite Bond movies and Daniel Craig brings an edge to the series

## Interested in Palmetto Middle School ?

There are more middle school options than ever.

Come find out why Palmetto Middle School is a great choice for your child.

School Tours 2017-2018:

All School Tours take place at Palmetto Middle School

(7351 SW 128th Street, Pinecrest)

at 9:15 AM in the Media Center.

**2017:** November 20th

**2018:** January 22nd, February 20th, March 19th, April 16th, May 21st

### "Lancer Experience"

On Tuesday, December 5th, 5th Grade students from Howard Drive Elementary, Palmetto Elementary, and Pinecrest Elementary Schools will take a field trip to Palmetto Middle School to see what it's all about.

## Announcements

### Pizza Thursdays!

Pizza days have returned. This year, on THURSDAYS in the breezeway, pizza will be sold after school for \$1 a slice. There are also beverages for sale.

THANKS PTSA pizza sales team!

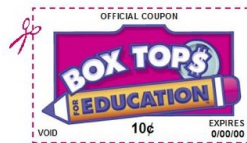


## Box Tops Due !

Our first due date for Box Tops is November 1st. If you have been collecting them, please bring them to the Box Tops collection box located in the Main Office near Mr. Gonzalez's office.

Bonus points for cutting on the lines!

Thanks to our Box Top volunteers,  
Jill Marvel and Jill Olster.



## Business Sponsorship Opportunities

Do you own a business, or know of one which may be interested? Help Palmetto Middle be the best its can be by becoming a (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE) business sponsor. Great advertising as well- reach families of over 1,000 students, faculty, and community members. See the attached for more information.

[2017-2018 Business Sponsorship Packet](#)

## Sponsors



Thank you Rothenberg & Ross for being a SILVER LEVEL business sponsor! Orthodontics of South Miami has built a reputation over the past 40 years for creating outstanding smiles that are truly work of art.

Dr. Len Rothenberg and Dr. Greg Ross specialize in orthodontic care for children and adults of all ages. We pride ourselves on the personal relationships made with our patients and their families, and the individual attention given by Dr. Rothenberg, Dr. Ross and our team at every visit. Located in South

Miami and serving patients from Pinecrest, Miami, Kendall and all of South Florida, our goal is to provide our patients with a smile that can give them the confidence and self-esteem to Live Life

Smiling! We offer several treatment options, all customized to each patient's specific needs and goals. We are a Preferred provider of Invisalign treatment and provide many esthetic options to traditional braces. Our practice offers the latest in Orthodontic technology and appliances to give our patients the best treatment and outcome. Our mission is to make beautiful, healthy smiles while enhancing the self-esteem of our patients. We have learned to give the same personalized, loving care to all of our patients, especially those with special needs.



pinecrest orthodontics

Thank you Pinecrest Orthodontics for being a Patron

Sponsor! Dr. Victoria Rothman just opened a brand new orthodontic practice right down the street from school. She offers various orthodontic treatment options including braces and Invisalign. She treats both children and adults in a warm and friendly family environment. For more information about her and the practice, check out her web site: <http://www.pinecrestortho.com>

## JORDAN M. KEUSCH, P.A.

CIVIL APPEALS AND LITIGATION SUPPORT  
WWW.JMKPA.COM

Jordan M. Keusch, P.A. ("JMKPA") is a local law firm founded by Pinecrest native and proud Palmetto Middle alum (1984) Jordan M. Keusch. JMKPA limits its practice to civil appeals and litigation support in Florida state and federal courts. Mr. Keusch is a veteran civil trial and appellate litigator who opened JMKPA in October 2011 after practicing at prominent local boutique firms and the Miami office of a major international law firm. JMKPA assists its clients with legal issues throughout the litigation process from drafting the complaint through post-appellate opinion motion practice. Mr. Keusch also has appeared in Florida state courts as an expert witness regarding the reasonableness of appellate fee requests. If you or your client need appellate or litigation support counsel, JMKPA would welcome the opportunity to work with you and assist in moving your case forward towards a favorable resolution. For more information, please visit the firm's website, [www.jmkpa.com](http://www.jmkpa.com).

### Sponsors News

**Life Time** has offered these special discount codes for their upcoming races. Note that these are for the longer races 5k and above, not the Kids' runs.

- 1) Baptist Health Turkey Trot 5K/10K - November 23rd  
Turkeytrotmiami.com  
**Code: GRPTSATT17 - \$5 Off 5K or 10K**
- 2) Miami Marathon & Half Marathon - January 28th 2018  
+ Tropical 5k on January 27th  
Themiamimarathon.com

Code: GRPTSAMM18 - \$10.00 Off the Marathon and Half,  
\$5.00 Off the Tropical 5k

## Revised School Calendar Due to Hurricane Irma



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

### Revised due to hurricane Irma

July 2017					August 2017					September 2017				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	<del>4</del>	5	6	7		1	2	3	4					1
10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	<del>10</del>	<del>11</del>	<del>11</del>	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	<del>14</del>	<del>15</del>	<del>16</del>	17	18	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	25	26	27	28	29
31					28	29	30	31						

October 2017					November 2017					December 2017				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
<del>2</del>	3	4	5	6			1	2	3					1
9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8
16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15
23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22
30	31				27	28	29	30		<del>25</del>	<del>26</del>	<del>27</del>	<del>28</del>	<del>29</del>

January 2018					February 2018					March 2018				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
<del>1</del>	<del>2</del>	<del>3</del>	<del>4</del>	<del>5</del>				1	2				1	2
8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9
<del>15</del>	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	<del>19</del>	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31			26	27	28			<del>26</del>	<del>27</del>	<del>28</del>	<del>29</del>	<del>30</del>

April 2018					May 2018					June 2018				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4					1
9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8
16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15
23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22
30					<del>28</del>	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29

	New Teachers Report		Recess Day
	Teacher Planning Day		Begin/End of Grading Period
	Teacher Planning Day - (No - Opt)		Legal Holiday
	District-wide Professional Development Day		
	Secondary Early Release		
	Hurricane Days - No School in session		

Days in Grading Period	
1-39	
2-45	
3-43	
4-48	

Join our Mailing List