



POLO PARK
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Stallion Sentinel

OCTOBER 2023

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 5

Polo Park M.S.

11901 Lake Worth Rd.
Wellington, FL 33449
tel: 561-333-5500
fax: 561-333-5505

Administration

Dr. Jennifer Galindo
Principal

Mr. Andrew Kline
Assistant Principal - 6th Grade

Ms. Annjeanette Munnings
Assistant Principal - 7th Grade

Mr. Craig Corsentino
Assistant Principal - 8th Grade

School Counselors

Ms. Julie Trujillo
6th Grade

Ms. Kris Connors
7th Grade

Ms. Naomi Soto-Coleman
8th Grade

County Web Address
www.palmbeachschools.org

School Web Address
www.poloparkmiddle.org

Mission

Polo Park Middle School will empower our students to attain their maximum potential through partnering with parents and the community to foster the understanding, cooperation, and communication skills necessary for students to become literate, productive citizens.

For the Parents, Staff, Students, and Community of Polo Park Middle School

Principal's Message

This fall, Polo Park Middle School is welcoming our newest program, Dual Language. We offer 2 sections of Science, Social Studies, and Spanish Speaks for our 6th grade students. These classes are taught completely in Spanish. This program will add a new grade level each year until it is available at all grade levels. Students eligible for the dual language program must be fluent in Spanish. We are excited to offer this continuum of services in Wellington that begin at New Horizons Elementary School.

Our school is now offering Holocaust Studies for our 8th grade students. This high school level class teaches students about the history of the Holocaust as well as teaching them about the power that hate and prejudice can have. We are excited to bring a Holocaust Survivor to speak with our Holocaust students as well as the 8th grade class.

Both of these programs are exciting new ways that we are enhancing the world-class education that we offer at Polo Park Middle School.

Polo Park Pride

- Be Positive
- Be Disciplined
- Be Respectful
- Be Excellent
- Be Independent

Vision

Polo Park Middle School is committed to empowering students to become productive and responsible citizens with the skills needed to succeed in a diverse and global society. Students will become responsible, independent, and creative life-long learners.

If you need help translating this document, please contact Polo Park Middle School at 561-333-5500.

Creole Version:

Si w bezwen èd tradui dokiman sa a, tanpri kontakte Polo Park Middle School nan 561-333-5500.

Spanish Version:

Si necesitas ayuda para traducir este documento, favor de comunicarse con Polo Park Middle School al 561-333-5500.



For More Information, & To Stay In The Know. Check out our Polo Park Middle School PTSA Facebook.

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We hope everyone had a wonderful summer break and a great start to the new school year! We are happy to be back with our Stallion family! It was wonderful to see all of the new incoming 6th grade families at 6th Grade Prep. Your PTSA Board has been hard at work planning for the upcoming school year!

Welcome Back Luncheon. PTSA was in full "camp" gear welcoming back our Stallion Faculty and Staff. They are very excited to start the new school year and we love to show our appreciation for their hard work and preparation as the first day of school approached. Thank you to all the volunteers that made this happen.

We had a great turnout at our first **General PTSA Meeting** for the 2023-2024 school year. This was our first of three General meetings throughout the year; we would love to have you come and we welcome all volunteers! Our next meeting is December 14th at 5:30pm in the media center. If you are interested in volunteering please reach out to: volunteers@poloparkptsa.com.

Our first PDQ sales was a huge success, the next one will be October 12th right after school. The Glow Party will be coming up in November, more information will be coming out soon. Make sure to check your email and social media.

Our first PTSA Candy Day for student members was a huge hit, the next one will be in October. These candy days are every month!

PARENTS: PLEASE SIGN UP FOR YOUR PTSA MEMBERSHIP FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR AND SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL! The MemberHub link can be found on the school website or on any of our socials listed below.

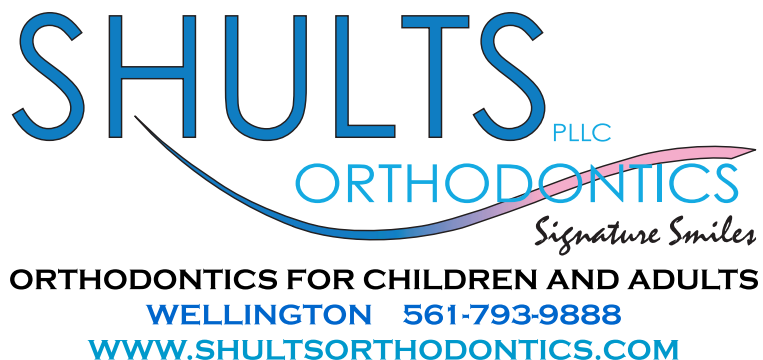
Please check your emails and social media for our latest happenings and links to important sites!

- Facebook– Polo Park Middle School PTSA
- Instagram – Poloparkptsa
- PTSA Website - poloparkptsa.com

continued

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Last, a big thank you to all our Business Partners who renewed and are new for this school year! If you are interested in being one of our Business Partners, please email businesspartners@poloparkpts.com, or for any questions on any topic send emails to president@poloparkpts.com!

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Issue #5

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From the Library Media Center

There's a lot going on in the media center; classes have been coming down for orientation and book check out. We held Harry Potter Bingo, a First Chapter Friday, Birthday Bingo and an author visit so far this year. Students who completed my optional summer reading challenge will soon enjoy their phenomenal pancake party. On Friday September 22nd author Taryn Souders visited Polo Park and talked about her newest book, *The Mystery of Radcliffe Riddle*. A big thank you to PTSA and SAC as they purchased books for our students attending Ms. Souders' visit. We have lots of activities planned for this year.

We are continuing our Half-Way There and Million Word clubs which are based on student word counts in Reading Counts. Students have been reading the SSYRA (Sunshine State Young Readers Award) in order to earn brag tags and qualify for the SSYRA Ice Cream Extravaganza.

Happy reading,
Mrs. Bernstein

News from the Cafeteria

Parents, as you know Breakfast and Lunch are free again this year. We will not be selling Ala Carte snacks, please do not add money to your child's lunch account. If you wish for a refund, please email me at beth.riibner@palmbeachschools.org, with the following information. Your students full name as it is in the computer, student ID number and birthday. We also need a mailing address for the check to be sent to and the parent name on file. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Thank you in advance for understanding.



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Family and Consumer Science

See What's Happening in Family and Consumer Science Classes!

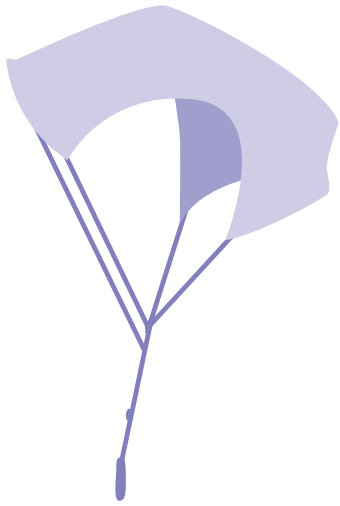
The Hospitality and Tourism class is learning about the world of hospitality, food and beverages, lodging, travel, tourism, and recreation. Second semester we'll be "traveling" around the USA, Canada and many other countries, studying their amazing sites, history, holidays, and unique cuisines.



The Fundamentals of Culinary Career (Culinary 1) class is learning about safety and sanitation in the kitchen and how to read a recipe. They are learning how to measure ingredients and which tools are needed to prepare a recipe. So far, we have made brownies, spaghetti with meat sauce, snickerdoodles, and macaroni and cheese. Our annual Halloween Challenge will showcase the most creative decorated cupcakes.

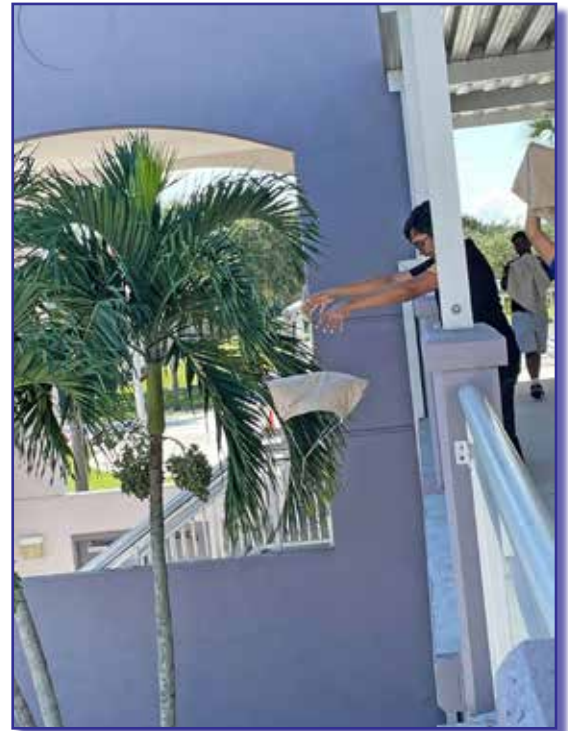
The Nutrition and Wellness/Principles of Food (Culinary 2) class is learning about energy nutrients and vitamins, minerals and water while increasing their knowledge of cooking and preparing intermediate level recipes. So far, we have made beignets, ricotta gnocchi with marinara sauce, apple turnovers, and chicken taquitos with salsa. Our annual Halloween Cupcake Wars will determine the most creative decorations and the most unique tasting cupcakes, with more competitive events to follow.





Parachute Experiment

This week Mr. Craig's Physical Science classes worked in teams conducting an experiment to determine the relationship between the area of a parachute and its rate of descent. Students used a standard drop of 5.18 meters dropping parachutes of various sizes. Each drop was timed and parachute velocity was calculated in meters per second. Once all the calculations were made, students created tables and graphs and used those to draw conclusions.



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THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2023-2024

School Board Approved 06/01/2022

STUDENTS AND ALL EMPLOYEES EXCEPT 12-MONTH EMPLOYEES
12-MONTH EMPLOYEES (SEE EMPLOYEE CALENDAR NOTES)
12-HOUR DAYS FOR 12-MONTH EMPLOYEES
DUTY/PDD: TEACHER WORK DAY/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
NO SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2023					NOVEMBER 2023					DECEMBER 2023									
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY					
2	3	4	5	6			1 DUTY/PDD NO SCHOOL	2 Begin 2nd Elementary Trimester	3										
9	10	11	12 End 1st Nine Weeks	13 DUTY/PDD NO SCHOOL	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8					
16 Begin 2nd Nine Weeks	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15					
23	24	25	26	27	20 HOLIDAY	21 HOLIDAY	22 HOLIDAY	23 HOLIDAY	24 HOLIDAY	18	19	20	21	22 End 2nd Nine Weeks					
30 End 1st Elementary Trimester	31				27	28	29	30		25 HOLIDAY	26 HOLIDAY	27 HOLIDAY	28 HOLIDAY	29 HOLIDAY					
JANUARY 2024					FEBRUARY 2024					MARCH 2024									
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY					
1 HOLIDAY	2 HOLIDAY	3 HOLIDAY	4 HOLIDAY	5 HOLIDAY				1	2										
8 DUTY/PDD NO SCHOOL	9 Begin 3rd Nine Weeks	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	7	8					
15 HOLIDAY	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16 End 2nd Elementary Trimester	11	12	13	14	15 End 3rd Nine Weeks					
22	23	24	25	26	19 DUTY/PDD NO SCHOOL	20 Begin 3rd Elementary Trimester	21	22	23	18 HOLIDAY	19 HOLIDAY	20 HOLIDAY	21 HOLIDAY	22 District Closed					
29	30	31			26	27	28	29		25 DUTY/PDD NO SCHOOL	26 Begin 4th Nine Weeks	27	28	29 HOLIDAY					
APRIL 2024					MAY 2024					JUNE 2024									
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY					
1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
8	9	10 HOLIDAY	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14 District Closed					
15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21 District Closed					
22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28 District Closed					
29	30				27 HOLIDAY	28	29	30 Last Day of School for Students	31 DUTY/PDD NO SCHOOL										
HOLIDAYS					EMERGENCY MAKE-UP DAYS (EMD)					EMPLOYEE CONTRACT PERIODS									
DATE	HOLIDAY				Emergency Make-up days (EMD) will be at the discretion of the Superintendent in accordance with the state statute for student instructional time.					Selected Teachers (T)									
Jul 4, 2023	Independence Day	X	X																
Sept 4, 2023	Labor Day	X	X																
Sept 25, 2023	Fall Holiday	X	X																
Nov 20 - 24, 2023	Thanksgiving Break	X	X		TEACHER WORK DAYS/ALL-DAY IN-SERVICE NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS										Teachers & Assistant Principals (T & I)				
Dec 25, 2023 - Jan 3, 2024	Winter Break	X	X																
Jan 4-5, 2024	Winter Break	X	X																
Jan 15, 2024	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	X	X																
Mar 18-22, 2024	Spring Break	X	X		SECONDARY DUTY	Oct 13, 2023	ELEMENTARY PDD	Nov 1, 2023	DUTY										
Mar 29, 2024	Spring Holiday	X	X		PDD	Jan 8, 2024	PDD	Oct 16, 2023	PDD										
Apr 10, 2024	Spring Holiday	X	X		PDD	Feb 19, 2024	PDD	Feb 19, 2024	DUTY										
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day	X	X		DUTY	Mar 25, 2024	PDD	Mar 25, 2024	PDD										
						May 31, 2024	DUTY	May 31, 2024	DUTY										
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS STUDENTS' ATTENDANCE DATES					SECONDARY SCHOOLS STUDENTS' ATTENDANCE DATES					Please see Employee Calendar Notes on the District's Hub. (http://hub.palmbeachschools.org/all_employees/school_district_calendar)									
PERIOD	BEGIN	END	# DAYS		PERIOD	BEGIN	END	# DAYS											
1st Trimester	Aug 10, 2023	Oct 31, 2023	56		1st Quarter	Aug 10, 2023	Oct 12, 2023	44											
2nd Trimester	Nov 2, 2023	Feb 16, 2024	59		2nd Quarter	Oct 16, 2023	Dec 22, 2023	44											
3rd Trimester	Feb 26, 2024	May 30, 2024	65		3rd Quarter	Jan 9, 2024	Mar 15, 2024	47											
					4th Quarter	Mar 26, 2024	May 30, 2024	45											
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION DATES					SECONDARY SCHOOLS REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION DATES					All Other Employees (NT)									
PERIOD	ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS				PERIOD	SECONDARY SCHOOLS													
1st Trimester	TBD				1st Quarter	TBD													
2nd Trimester					2nd Quarter														
3rd Trimester					3rd Quarter														
TEACHERS' & ASST. PRINCIPALS' PAID HOLIDAYS					SECONDARY SEMESTERS														
PERIOD	BEGIN	END	# DAYS		PERIOD	BEGIN	END	# DAYS											
Sept 4, 2023	Jan 1, 2024				1st Semester	Aug 13, 2023	Dec 22, 2023	88											
Nov 23, 2023	Jan 15, 2024				2nd Semester	Jan 9, 2024	May 30, 2024	92											
Dec 25, 2023	May 27, 2024																		

Pursuant to S. 1011 (6)(3)(b) FS, the following are legal holidays for all regular full-time 12-month employees not represented by CTA: Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, New Year's Day, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Memorial Day. In addition, some employees may have other paid holidays that are considered not to be legal holidays, as provided in their Labor Agreements and this School Calendar.



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Stallion Sentinel

*For the Parents, Staff, Students,
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8



We are celebrating our 15th year at Polo Park and membership is growing! We are always looking for more members to join this amazing national student-run organization. Our meetings are every Wednesday from 4:15 – 5:15 PM in Room 2-104. You'll need to bring the Permission Slip to attend. They can be found outside room 2-104 or in the Main Office. We participate in community service projects, fundraisers, and compete at state and national leadership conferences. Check out the different competitions that can take you to Seattle, Washington this summer. We're sure you'll find one that interests you.

FCCLA's Mission is: To promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and community leader, members develop skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation.

Check out our State website; ffccla.org or the National website: fcclainc.org.

Please consider being a FCCLA sponsor to support our members. Your donation helps us attend the State and National conferences. Please contact Mrs. Holmstock at 561-333-5500 or shelley.holmstock@palmbeachschools.org.