

# Royal Palm Journal/A Title I School

## Summer Break!!

Lee County School District

May 29, 2018

### Important Dates

**May 28th** No School Memorial Day  
**May 25th, 29th, & 30th** Early Dismissal Days  
**May 30th** End of Fourth Quarter & Last Day of School for Students  
**May 31st** Professional Duty Day  
**August 10th** First Day of School



### Royal Palm Mission

To work in partnerships with students, family and the community to ensure that each student acquires the knowledge, skills and core values necessary to achieve personal success and enrich the community.

**Mr. Moretti** Principal

We are quickly approaching the end of the school year. We are all hopeful that the remainder of the school year is a productive, safe, and successful one for our students. Parents please keep encouraging them at home to stay focused and remain constant with regard to their behaviors. Making good choices is what we emphasize at Royal Palm and if we work together all of our students can be successful. Have a great summer and we will see you next school year.

Robert Moretti  
Principal  
Royal Palm School



**Mrs. Wilson** Assistant Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As the 2017-2018 school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your support and welcoming me as the assistant principal of Royal Palm. It's amazing to me how quickly time goes by. I would like to wish each of you a safe and happy summer break, and I look forward to continuing to work with you next school year.

Latoria Wilson  
Assistant Principal

# Classroom News

## Elementary

**Ms. Joceline and Ms. Jackson** **Pre-K-Kindergarten**

We are so excited, summer is finally around the corner and there is much to celebrate. Our class has made impressive gains in reading, math, science, social studies, and crucial social skills! Our students especially had a blast running the Slime Lab for the Science Fair. We are so proud to be a part of your child’s success’ throughout this past school year. We wish each one of our students a very safe, happy, and well deserved Summer Break!

**Ms. Winiarz and Ms. Hawkins** **1st & 2nd grades**

As the school year comes to a close, we ask that you continue working with your child daily on the new skills that they have learned throughout this school year. Please read to them or listen to them read to you. Have your child count objects on the way to different places while in the car. If you have a computer at home or access to the public library, they can get on Compass Learning and complete some lessons. This program has automatically generated a learning path based on your child’s reading and math ability. The students have come so far both socially and academically and we are so proud of them!

**Ms. Nedelman and Ms. Walker** **1st & 2nd grades**

Ms. Nedelman and Ms. Walker would like to thank each and every one of you for all of the time and support you have given your child this year! First grade is such an amazing time to watch your child blossom as a reader and writer. Your children have worked very hard and we are very proud of them. It has been a great year that has been filled with much joy and happiness. We have covered a lot of material and have gotten the opportunity to participate in many fun projects.. As your child moves from 1st to 2nd grade, there are some very important things that you can do this summer to help them succeed. Take the time to listen to your child read and make sure that they are reading each night for at least 15 minutes. Have them practice their math facts so that they will be ready for 2<sup>nd</sup>-grade math. Encourage your child to write often. If you go on vacation this summer, then encourage your child to take a journal with them and write a little bit about their trip each day. Encourage good social skills and help them make good choices. All of these things will help your child lead to big successes going into the next school year. It has been our pleasure getting to know your child this school year. Having your parental support was an essential part of the year and your involvement and engagement in your child’s education is a critical factor in supporting them towards success. Thanks again for a wonderful year. Have a fantastic summer.

**Ms. Bidwell, Ms. Thornton, and Ms. Hayes** **2nd grade**

Summer is upon us and it's hard to believe another school year is over. The children have learned so much in 2nd grade. It is truly amazing to see how much each child has grown and prospered throughout one school year. Next year your child will be taking the 3rd grade reading FSA. It is vital to ensure your child reads 20 minutes a day over the summer. When children stop reading for extended periods of time; steps are geared backward in reading skills. We salute one of our students, upon his learning journey and much success in his new educational setting within the district. Have a great summer full of many safe adventures. Parents thank you for sharing your children with us and letting Ms. Thornton and I educate your child's young mind.

**Ms. Torres and Ms. Anderson** **2nd & 3rd grades**

The end of the school year is here! We are excited for our summer break. We are ready for fun in the sun! We have been working hard on our final weeks in school. We would like to wish you a happy and safe summer break. During the break I recommend your child read a book or two, get online and research hurricanes, and go to the library for some arts and crafts. We hope you make the best of it, see you next school year!

**Ms. Lee, Ms. Hayes, & Ms. Hawkins** **Elementary Life Skills**

Dear Parents, It has been a great year in our life skills class. We have learned so much. We did a little bit on telling time and reading. Our favorite math activity was graphing candy hearts and then eating them! We learned about black history month and made projects. We especially like playing learning games on the smart board. I hope you all have a terrific summer and see you next year!

**Ms. Rios and Ms. Harris** **3rd grade**

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students, during the month of May our third grade students have learned the Multiplication Tables 0-12 and the second grade students learned about adding and subtracting two digits without regrouping. During summer time, please continue reading and listening to your child read to you. Together you can visit the public library and find some books to read during night time. Also, the students can keep working on Compass Learning from home, at compass.leeschools.net. Thank you for your support and everything you do for your child. Have a great summer!

**Ms. Fisher and Ms. Briscoe** **3rd & 4th grades**

Dear Royal Palm Families, it’s that time of year! School is out for summer! I have enjoyed working with each and every one of my 3rd graders! They have worked hard and accomplished great feats in the process. I hope all families have a great summer and spend quality time reading with your child! That is what makes memories that last a lifetime! I will miss all of you, and look forward to seeing you in August. What I have told my 2 son’s while they were growing up, “Is be safe and have fun!”.

**Ms. Barnes and Ms. Tindall** **4th grade**

As the school year 2017— 2018 comes to a close, we are very proud of our students’ accomplishments. It has been both challenging, and a fun learning experience throughout the year. The students have shown improvement in all academic areas and in their behaviors, as evident by the class’ Level System. There were times when we were at odds with one another and couldn’t find a kind word and then there were other times we couldn’t stop laughing and showing how much we really cared! With the involvement of all the tedious work this year, it is only fitting that relaxation and some fun filled days of summer is well deserved! Parents remember to continue to expose your child to reading materials via online or through your travels, or personal time together reading a favorite book or story. Also, it is always a great idea to visit your local Library. They are certainly a good resource for engaging summer reading activities. Be safe and remember to use a sun-screen of 30 SPF or higher!

**Ms. Perl and Ms. Midget** **4th & 5th grades**

Our 4th and 5th grade students got a lot of work done this school year! We are so proud of their accomplishments in both their academics and behavior. These are just a few of the many areas of achievement. The students learned how to multiply two and three digit numbers, write a complete paragraph with correct punctuation, read longer paragraphs, as well as having completed many science experiences. I was especially proud of my students when they participated in the Science Fair. They truly enjoyed working together and learning the three laws of motion by Isaac Newton. The class worked extremely hard in improving their school work and behavior, and all of my students got student of the week at least once this school year. Please read to your child and let them read to you for at least 15-20 minutes a day. I could not have asked for a better class and it was wonderful getting to know each of them. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing your children next year at Royal Palm!

**Ms. Richardson and Ms. Williams** **4th & 5th grades**

This school year has been dynamic and challenging for our 4th and 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. We have learned over 200 new spelling and vocabulary words, read stories about inventors, space travel, music and fictional adventures. We learned about place value, long division, decimals, fractions, graphing and measurements. We also learned about the solar system, matter, and the laws of motion. Our Science project this year was on water cycle. We made tornado bottles, rainbow clouds and walking rainbows. In social studies we learned about exploration, the native Americans, and colonial times. I wish all of you all a wonderful and safe summer!

**Mr. Eady and Ms. Farmer** **5th & 6th grades**

I would like to congratulate my students on a another wonderful effort on their most recent STAR Math and STAR reading assessments. Our class has made positive gains in both areas . As the school year comes to an end, I am hopeful that our class will continue making positive strides both academically and behaviorally, in their next school year.





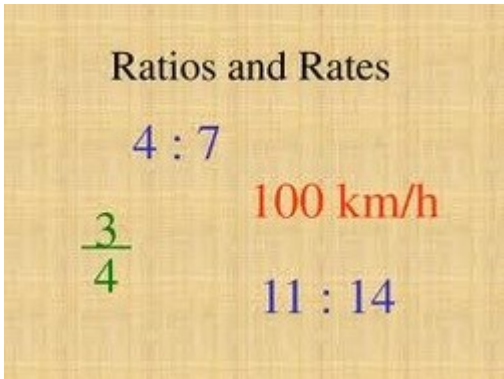
# Classroom News

## Secondary

**Ms. Florit and Ms. Sneed**

**6th grade**

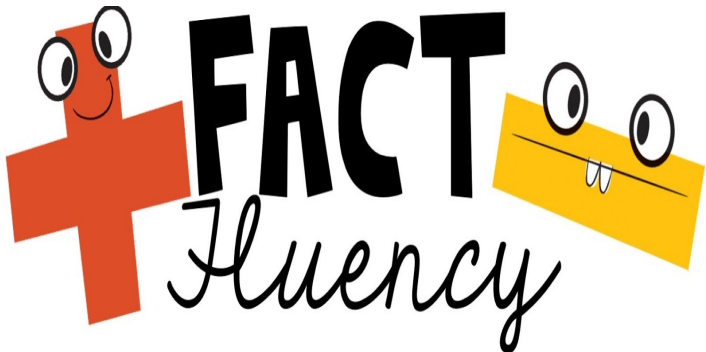
Dear Parents, It was a great pleasure having each of your children in my class this year. It has been a tremendous year of growth and accomplishment in each of our students! Our sixth grade class has shown great strides as we come to the final days of this school year. In math we have mastered ratios and rates and have been able to discover many ways to apply them to real life. In Language Arts we have finished up with Unit 10, which was a great accomplishment. In Science and World History we discovered the world in various ways and are growing in our knowledge. We are really working hard on practicing our goals to get along with each other and express our feelings in a positive way. We are growing and maturing every day. We wish you all a great summer, stay safe and prosperous!



**Mrs. Kiesinger-Morales and Ms. Candelaro**

**6th-8th Math**

Extra, Extra, Read All About It!! Dear Students, Parents, and Families, Wow, what a year! To better state that- what a GREAT year! We have covered a lot of material and participated in many fun and exciting projects. We started to develop skills needed for the next grade level in the area of math. We have made many new friends along the way too. As your child moves to their next grade level, there are some very important things you can do to help them succeed. Engage in meaningful conversations with your child everyday. Take time (if only a few minutes a day) to really listen to what they have to say. Ask questions, make predictions, make life to text connections as you read. Practice those math facts as a way to really be ready for the next grade level math. Help your child develop a sense of working and solving problems independently. Talk about ways and start practicing getting and staying organized. Encourage your child to write often! Writing stories, letters, journal entries, etc. are great ways to get thoughts organized and put onto paper. These little things will lead to big successes in going into the next school year. Again, thank you for a wonderful year. Have a fantastic summer and see you in the fall semester!



**Ms. Kunze and Mr. Buckley**

**6th-8th Social Studies**

I cannot believe this school year is coming to an end already. Time is flying, but we had a good year! The 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders were very busy completing all their required tests and lessons for the year. They have earned their summer break. Take the break to have some family fun and enjoy life. I look forward to seeing everyone in August.

**Mr. Weigand and Mrs. Lemos**

**6th-8th Language Arts**

Wow! Is it possible that another school year is about to conclude? It seems like it was just August 10<sup>th</sup> and the school year was beginning. Where did the time go? It has been a great year overall in middle school language arts. During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter we have continued to work on concepts previously covered with an emphasis on spelling and the correct usage of capitalization and end punctuation. We went over character education lessons at the beginning of each week. One of the lessons we did emphasize was the distinction between perseverance and procrastination. In preparation for the FSA, we spent time covering test – taking strategies, specifically the importance of reading each question in its entirety and looking for ways to eliminate distractor answers. In the final weeks of the school year we will be reviewing pronouns and also going over job applications.

During summer vacation students can continue to engage in the learning process. According to The Johnson and O'Connor Research Foundation, 15 minutes per day of study in a concentrated area can enhance vocabulary, conversational, and writing skills.

We wish everyone a happy and safe summer. We look forward to the 2018/2019 school year which begins on Friday August 10, 2018.



**Ms. Brown and Ms. McMillian**

**6th-8th Science**

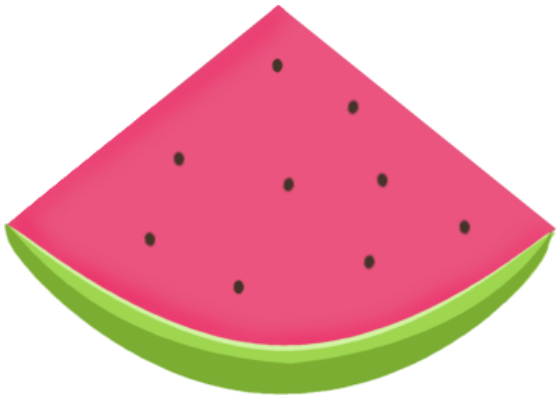
Happy Summer!! To help your child become more acquainted with science, spend time completing fun at home science - related activities. That could be cooking a meal, watching scientific shows like the Discovery Channel, or doing at home science activities together. Take a look at this website: <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments.html> for ideas. There are many activities/places to visit the Fort Myers/Naples area as well, like the Caloosa Nature Center and Conservancy of SWFL. Always remember safety first when doing experiments!! ~ Ashley Brown, Science Educator



**Ms. Miller and Ms. Lader**

**6th-8th Career**

We want to wish all of you a safe and restful summer break. It has been a delight getting to know your child this year and watching them grow into the people they are today. To my students, remember you can become anything you want, as long as you do your best. I wish you all the luck and success in your future.



# Classroom News High School

**Dr. Moore, Mr. Cummings, & Ms. Hawkins 9th-12th Life Skills**  
Happy Summer from Room 316. This has been a great year for learning in our classroom. We have learned a lot of things and have met some new friends. Everyone needs to keep learning throughout the summer. There are several summer programs around town as well as some good recreational activities. One thing I would suggest is to take some swimming lessons. Swimming lessons provide a good opportunity to learn and to have some fun at the same time. If you get proficient, you might even be able to get a job as a life-guard. Most importantly stay safe. See you in August.

**Mr. Krachenfels and Ms. Blue 8th-12th Science**  
High school Science would like to congratulate the students and parents alike of our graduating class of 2018, as well as those students that will be exiting Royal Palm this year. This past year has been a highly productive one during which our students were able to go on a field trip to the IMAG History & Science Center, plant citrus trees & plants in celebration of Earth day, and successfully master scientific concepts which they then applied to experiments that they presented at our annual school science fair. Additionally, we hope that all of you have safe and enjoyable summer vacations.

**Mr. Ramos and Ms. Tivis 8th-12th Careers & Financial Literacy**  
This school year in our class, we worked on teaching our students how to apply for a job, write in cursive, write a check, debit and credit cards, etc. We have also learned how to interview for a job and how to make change. We would like to see our students work on using cash to pay for items, whether it's clothes or food, and understanding how much change they should get back. We look forward to hearing how many of our students applied for, and/or got, jobs over the summer. I hope everyone has a great summer.

**Ms. Baez and Ms. Schley 8th-12th Reading & Spanish**  
Hola, this was definitely a great school year! In 8th and 9th grade we learned to identify the plot, describe the setting, and the characters in a short story using the Language Live computer and book bases system. In 10th, 11th and 12th grade, we worked with learning to identify the author's purpose and how it helps us better understand the article using LL too. ¡Bravo! Spanish was a success! The students learned the alphabet, greetings, new vocabulary, and different Latin Culture

**Mr. Hebner 8-12 English**  
Dear Parents: I began my teaching career at Royal Palm in 1992 and taught for four challenging years. During that time, we moved into the new facility that we occupy today. It has been my pleasure to return to Royal Palm for the past two years to complete my teaching career back where I started. I must tell you that the school is in better condition, and runs much more smoothly than it did in the early 1990s. It is also remarkable that a number of dedicated teachers and staff have remained on campus to carry out our mission of providing education to the students we have come to love.

You parents should be aware and comforted with the knowledge that this staff, from custodians to the Principal, are dedicated professionals who honestly care about the children we serve. Take time to get to know the teachers and administrators who work with your students daily. This will help them to do an even a better job of protecting and teaching your children. My sincere Farewell to this Royal Palm family that has been such a rich part of my life.

JD Hebner 1992-2018



**Mr. Rivas, Ms. Senat , Ms. Christian, Ms. Hawkins, & Ms. Mitchel 9th-12th Life Skills 9th-12th Life Skills**  
We give you back your child, the same child that you entrusted in our care this year. We give your child back a little bit older, a little bit taller, and a whole lot smarter! It has been our pleasure and privilege to watch them grow and learn day by day. This year we have lived, loved, laughed and learned . We have become like a family. Remember, that we will always be interested in your child, their future, wherever they may go, whatever they may do, and whoever they may become. We look forward to next school year. Thank you for sharing such a special child with us this school year!

**Mr. Kovacs and Mr. Green 8th-12th Math**  
It has been a long school year with the makeup days because of the hurricane, but we made it. So have a great summer and I will see you back here for the 2018/2019 school year.

**Ms. Alexandre and Ms. Thomas 8th-12th Social Studies**  
Hooray, it's that time again, summer is here! Hello parents, it's really a pleasure to write this note to remind you how happy it has made me to be your child's teacher and also a part of this learning community. Our students have learned a lot throughout the school year about social studies and social issues regarding our community and our country as a whole. In our social studies class our students have learned a great deal about world history, what made the world the way it's today, and how cultures evolved over the life span. They have learned about our own culture and what made it diversified over the years. They also learned about how to appreciate our diversity and how to treasure our country and our democracy. I can go on and on, but my aim is to remind you parents the importance of keeping our students proactive in learning over the summer. You can select some books that are recommended by the district for the children to read and/or you can try to reach our public libraries, which offer excellent summer programs for the children. It has been a pleasure to have you trusting me with your child's education and I hope to do this again, for the next coming year. Have a wonderful summer vacation, and hope to see you soon.

**Shandra Backens-Teacher Leader 7th-12th Credit Retrieval**  
Spend this summer explaining your everyday actions to your child. Money and time are valuable skills to understand at any age. For example, let your child handle cash and talk about the value of it, or explain why you pay with a card. How much time do they spend on a screen? How many days left until school is out? How many days left until school starts again? Can those days be converted into hours? Do you have an advanced mathematician? Check out <http://www.shodor.org> for advanced interactive math.

**Mrs. Stephens 6th—8th Art**  
Congratulations to our Art students who participated in the Lee County Art Association's Art Show at the Alliance for the Arts. Everyone received blue ribbons and I heard visitors pass by our artwork display with "Wows" and "Look at that!" Way to go Royal Palm artists! Enjoy Summer break!



**Mrs. Meltzer Reading Coach**  
This school year has flown by! Thank you for all your support this year! While summer is a time to rest and relax, it's also a good time to keep up your child's skills by reading. Your child has access to thousands of books online thanks to a collaboration of the school district and the public library through Overdrive. They can log on to this site through [overdrive.leeschools.net](http://overdrive.leeschools.net). Students can sign in using their school log in information. The Lee County Library is once again offering a summer reading program May 29<sup>th</sup> – August 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information visit your local library or their site at <http://www.leegov.com/library/Pages/summer-reading-program.aspx>. Have a great summer and we will see you in August!



**Mr. Cochrane and Mr. Murph** **P.E.**  
Wow! It is hard to believe that another school year has ended. Where did the time go? As this school year draws to a close Coach Murph and myself would like to thank the students, staff, and parents for a great year. We had a lot of fun this year and feel as though we saw great progress in sport skill development, fitness and sportsmanship. In the 4th quarter, we implemented a few new activities. As we head into the summer months, we will be looking for ways to make the physical education program at Royal Palm even better. An area of continued emphasis is fitness. We encourage students to be active during the summer months. According to the American Heart Association sixty minutes of moderate to vigorous activity is encouraged daily for children and adolescents. This physical activity will help them to control weight, reduce blood pressure, and gain greater self-esteem and confidence. Physical activity can be increased by reducing sedentary time which occurs by watching television, playing video games, and talking on the phone. Activities such as walking, bike riding, basketball, jogging, and swimming can help students to stay active and fit. We wish everybody a safe and happy summer. We look forward to continued progress in the 2018/2019 School Year.



**Mr. Mike Bursztyn** **Title 1 Parent Involvement**  
A BIG thank you to those of you who attended one or more of Royal Palm’s parent workshops and student activities/events throughout the year. These included our Open House/Annual Title 1 Meeting; Pastries with Parents; Science Fair; Christmas with Santa; and a number of parent workshops on various topics. It is VERY important that you get involved and stay involved in your child’s education. Your child will do better in school if you are directly involved, and my goal and my job is to encourage more parent involvement at Royal Palm. When you hear my voice on a ParentLink telephone call, or receive an e-mail or text from me about an upcoming school and parent event, please respond and do all that you can to attend some of our workshops and events. I look forward to working with you during the 2018-2019 school year, but for now, please have a relaxing and safe summer! Thank you.



**Mrs. Cioffi** **School Counselor**  
I hope that everyone has a great summer. Please remember to play safe. The buddy system is a great idea when swimming, riding bikes or playing in the neighborhood. Don’t forget to check into free programs offered at the library. There are also several locations serving free breakfast and lunch to kids in the community. Visit the district web site for more information. <http://www.leeschools.net/> Click on Parent Portal for lots of great information.



**Mr. Cioffi** **Behavior Specialist**  
It was a pleasure working with our students this school year. Students enjoyed earning “paws” and shopping at the school “Paw Store.” Please remember that we take donations of any items that would motivate kids to make good choices in school. I hope that everyone has a great summer. I look forward to seeing everyone throughout the summer and next school year.



According to Florida Statute 1012.42, we must notify parents of students who are being taught by out-of-field teachers. A teacher is out-of-field until the coverage/endorsement for a class that he or she is teaching is issued by the state of Florida. In addition, the certification and/or endorsement must appear on his or her teacher certificate. Individuals who are teaching out-of-field are certified in a least one area and are qualified to teach, but are required to take additional course work or testing to add a coverage/endorsement to their certificate. Please contact the school, 239.337.3511, if you need further clarification. The following teachers have agreed to teach out-of-field while completing course work and/or testing.

**Out of Field**  
Out of Field and Not Highly Qualified (NHQ) Essie Barns—ESOL (Endorsement), Jennifer Bidwell—ESOL (Endorsement) & NHQ Elementary Education K-6, Nichol Florit—ESOL (Endorsement), Elementary Education K-6, and NHQ, Roderick Eady—ESOL (Endorsement), Gloria Fisher—ESOL (Endorsement), Alfreda Richardson—ESOL (Endorsement), Candida Rios—ESOL (Endorsement), David Rivas-Rodriguez—ESOL (Endorsement), Suze Saint-Cry Alexandre—ESOL (Endorsement), and Bethy Senat—ESOL (Endorsement)

