



# PANTHER POST

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revised

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### Save the Date:

**Feb 9** — Family Cooking Night @ 6:00 pm



**Feb 15** — No School/Presidents' Day



### Transportation Changes:

The safety and security of our students is our priority. Please remember to send a note in with your students with any transportation changes for dismissal the morning of the change. We cannot accept any changes over the phone. You may also fax a note to the school with a copy of your driver's license **before 1:00 P.M.** Any changes made after 1:00 P.M. will NOT be made. Thank you for your cooperation with this important matter.

### Early Sign-Outs

If you're planning on picking your student up early from school, please send a note with your student so that both the teacher and front office are aware and can be prepared. No students are allowed to be signed out after 3:15pm.



### Harry Chapin Food Pantry

We are now in partnership with the Harry Chapin Food Pantry and have a food pantry on-site. Please reach out to Mrs. Otero or Ms. Gonzalez (274-3932) if you are in need of visiting our pantry. It can be accessed by appointment and at all major school events.



**Harry Chapin Food Bank**  
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

### Stay current by following us:

Ray V. Pottorf Elementary

@rayvpottorf

@rvpelementary

### Media Center News:

Did you know?

Using "Book Dash" is like ordering food for pick up. When you place an order, you have to give us time to find your book, process it, and put it in the Book Dash Closet out front. You will not get it the day you order it. Ms. Engvalson is teaching classes all day and will prepare your book that evening or during her planning time the next day. In most cases, your Home Connect teacher will let you know your books are in the Book Dash closet.



### Friendly Reminder:

Please remind your child(ren) to bring in a water bottle that they can leave at school. We have **new** filtered water fountains they can use to refill and stay hydrated throughout the day!

### Math News:

We are half-way through the year! We are excited to see our students continue to develop their mathematical thinking in class and at home. One way you can help support your students math thinking from home is by having your student cook with you. Cooking requires students to learn and apply their math understanding through measuring ingredients, calculating cook time, and partitioning the food equally onto plates. Be sure to check out the upcoming virtual spaghetti dinner and cook with other Ray V Pottorf students and teachers. Computer resources also help support your student's mathematical thinking at home. Imagine Math, Freckle, or Khan Academy are three resources that many of our classrooms use. An additional 15 mins of practice a day really helps improve students' mathematical ability over time. Please ask your student's teacher for login information. Monthly Math Question: Which number doesn't belong and why? 9, 99, 123, 36 Let your teacher know what you think!



### Technology News:

When students return to a face to face model for instruction, please remember to return all school/district issued technology and materials with them. This allows us to update and ensure each piece of technology is working appropriately. This also allows your child access to additional learning opportunities in the classroom. If you are experiencing problems with district issued technology, please contact the school so we can help resolve the issue(s) and ensure your child has access to necessary programs for learning.

### PBIS News:

- Students can learn behavioral expectations for different situations.
- Students learn expected behaviors for each school setting through explicit instruction and opportunities to practice and receive feedback.
- Stepping in early can prevent more serious behavior problems.
- Each student is different, so schools need to give many kinds of behavior support.
- How schools teach behavior should be based on research and science.
- Tracking a student's behavioral progress is important.
- Schools gather and use data to make decisions about behavior interventions.
- School staff members are consistent in how they encourage expected behavior and discourage infractions.

<http://www.understood.org>

### Out-of-Field Teachers

Florida State Statute 1012.42 recognized that teachers at times must be assigned duties in a class outside the field in which the teacher is certified. The teachers at Ray V. Pottorf Elementary School are certified, but may be assigned one or more classes outside their areas of certification and are required to take appropriate steps to comply with the statutory regulation. The following faculty members are engaged in training to add the endorsement, English as a Second Language (ESOL), to their certificate: Samantha Coronel, Jamie Costa, Tracie Freeman, Kasey Gallagher, Marcy Garvey, Martika Hendricks, Nancy Koupelis, Ashli Little, Michelle Metcalfe, Elizabeth O'Connor, Sarah Pederson, Gina Schaak, Wanakane'e Stevens, Katheryn Stickley, Gina Van Pelt, Terrie Vargas, Rakisha Walker, and Janelle Zingaro. The following faculty members are engaged in training to receive additional certifications: Jamie Costa.

### PTO News:

We are now preparing for our Spring Silent Auction and we need your help! Please reach out to any local businesses that you may have a contact at and ask them if they are willing to donate (an item, a gift card, passes/memberships, etc.) to our Silent Auction. If you are able to donate, please email Ms. Smith at [christinaasm@leeschools.net](mailto:christinaasm@leeschools.net) and thank you for supporting our PTO!



### Joke of the Month

Q: What do you call George Washington's false teeth?



A: Presidentures!



### Second Grade News:

February is an exciting month in Second Grade! In English Language Arts, we are learning about the author's point of view, text features, and how an author uses specific images to contribute to a text. In Math, we are adding and subtracting within 1,000 using place value strategies. In Science, we are learning all about rocks and minerals. In Social Studies, we are learning about Immigration and Colonial America. As always, please continue to read with your student each night. Reading each night will increase your student's fluency and vocabulary. We are looking forward to a successful Quarter 3!

### Third Grade News:

Hello from Third Grade!! February is an exciting month for third grade at RVP! We have many fun events and learning opportunities this month, including Black History Month when our students will learn about those who have made special contributions to our country and our way of life! Also, Valentine's Day on February 14, a celebration of love and friendship. President's Day is February 15th and how fitting that our Character Education word for this month is HONESTY! Third graders can learn about "Honest Abe" (Abraham Lincoln) and "Cannot tell a lie" George Washington. Students will learn this month the value of HONESTY! In our studies this month, third graders will be working on fractions in math, comparing and contrasting stories in language arts, learning about the Sun and Earth in science, and start lessons on economics in social studies. Our many learning adventures continue in third quarter!

### Fourth Grade News:

Happy 2nd Semester! We are continuing to work hard in 4th grade to build reading, writing and math skills. Please remind your child to read every night and have them tell you about what they are reading. You can even ask questions like: Who are the characters? Was there a theme? What new information did you learn? Can you show me a word that was tricky for you to figure out? The more time a student reads can really help them become a better reader! In Math we are working on word problems, equations, and patterns. Practicing basic math facts at home is a way that you can help! Our students had an amazing time mining in Science for minerals with Ms. Camel and will continue to learn more about rocks and minerals. Thanks for your support and please let us know if you have any questions!

### Fifth Grade News:

Hello February! 5th grade has had a wonderful jumpstart to 2021! This month is Black History Month! Our 5th grade students will participate in the schools festivities through writing. Their writing skills will be combined with the variety of talent at our school and showcased through a virtual presentation. This month we also celebrate Valentine's Day! Even though we aren't back to the "norm" due to the pandemic, we will still be able to acknowledge our classmates with store purchased, secure wrapped items. The students are always hyped about this lovely day!

We will continue our lessons in fractions throughout this month. It's such an honor to watch our students grasp concepts from lesson to lesson, interacting with their peers, excited about learning. Please encourage your student to read daily and take 2 AR test each week. This will help increase their vocabulary and comprehension skills. Together we can send our young scholars off to middle school prepared to achieve!

### First Grade News:

First Grade has worked extremely hard in quarter two and are ready to move into quarter three with a slam dunk!

During the third quarter we will be working hard on our phonics skills that are molding us into even better readers and writers. In ELA, we will be working on identifying, discussing, and comparing/contrasting characters and experiences in fictional texts. We will also be looking into the words and phrases in stories and poems that suggest feeling or appeal to the senses! Doing this will help us look deeper into the text and create connections!

In math we will focus on using addition and subtraction within 20 to solve word problems involving different situations. We are also working hard on identifying ten as a unit.

We are so excited to continue learning and growing each and every day! Please make sure you have your child reading at home as much as possible!

### Art News:

Creative Wellbeing



As we embark into the second month of the new year it is important to remember those new year's resolutions. A popular New Year's resolution that many people try to accomplish, is to make a conscious effort to take better care of themselves. Did you know that engaging in some form of art activity can help with mental health and overall wellbeing? According to mental health research, engaging in some form of art can help to boost self-confidence, help us to feel more resilient, and alleviate anxiety, depression, and stress.

Social interaction and participating in an art activity within the community can help prevent loneliness and promote a sense of belonging. Despite social distancing there are various online groups that aspiring artists can still participate in, from the comfort of their own homes.

Creative expression through art is often a voice for those who have difficulty verbally expressing emotions. Creativity is also important for child development; as innovation moves more rapidly than ever before; being able to think outside of the box or creatively is becoming more and more important. Art also helps with fine motor skills that are required to complete everyday and lifetime tasks such as buttoning, using a zipper, or tying shoes.. Scribbling is the foundation of writing while drawing, painting, and sculpting help to develop visual spatial skills. Visual spatial skills help kids to analyze what they see and make decisions based on the information they see. Arts and crafts helps kids with executive functioning, working memory, planning, and organizational skills.

Now that you have read some reasons that art can benefit well being and child development; I encourage you to spend some time at home creating some wonderful works of art with the most precious masterpieces you have already created; your children.

**Education is for improving  
the lives of others and for  
leaving your community  
and world better than you  
found it.**

Marian Wright Edelman