

PALOMINO NEWS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OUR PALOMINO FAMILIES



Winter Break

MS. GREEN

Winter Break is from December 19-January 2 Students and teachers return to school on January 3, 2023. Please be safe and enjoy your time of relaxation with family and friends.

Things to think about during the holidays:

- What is your favorite part of the holiday season?
- Who do you like spending your holidays with?
- What are you hopeful for as 2022 comes to an end and 2023 begins?
- What are some goals you like to achieve/reach during 2023?



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Holiday Wishes

MS. GREEN

I want to wish all our families a wonderful Winter Break as you celebrate the holiday season. During this special time of year, please remember to share your love and care for all that are around you. This is a great time to sit together and share family stories, play board games, complete a jigsaw puzzle, and/or watch movies.

Please don't forget to read together and write about all the wonderful things happening in your family. You could have some friendly competitions with math facts and play some math games using everyday items, like dice and cards. Science experiments are always fun during this time of year. The important thing is to limit time on devices and share this time as a family.

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IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE

MS. GREEN

What is Chronic Absenteeism?

- When a student is absent 10% of the days in school, that is considered chronically absent.

Why do students need to be in school every day when they are NOT sick according to the PWCS regulation (757-1) for excused/unexcused absences?

- Student attendance determines their academic success in school. When students are absent, tardy and/or leave early, they miss vital instruction that cannot be made up. The class discussions and teacher instruction support students' learning of the required standards.

When do I keep my child home?

- If your child is sick with the following things, they need to stay home: temperature of 100.4, vomiting/throwing up, diarrhea, pink eye, and/or severe coughing or difficulty breathing. If you have questions about keeping your child home due to illness, please call the school for assistance.



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Attendance by Grade Level

AUGUST 22, 2022 – DECEMBER 9, 2022

TOTAL ABSENCES

KINDERGARTEN: 522

FIRST GRADE: 541

SECOND GRADE: 396

THIRD GRADE: 419

FOURTH GRADE: 407

FIFTH GRADE: 526

Cold Weather Dress

As the season changes to colder conditions, students need to dress appropriately. Each day, students go outside for recess and/or walks around the school, so they need to have a coat, hat and/or gloves/mittens. We follow the regulation for inclement weather to determine when students remain inside for recess, which include rainy conditions, heavy snow, temperature and/or wind chill below 32 degrees. If you need support with cold weather clothing (ie. Coat) please contact the school counselors.

It would be good for students to bring a sweater, hoodie or small jacket for the classroom.

Title I News

PARENTAL RIGHT TO INFORMATION ABOUT TEACHERS:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act, most recently reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act, states that parents in Title I schools have the right to request certain information about their child's teachers.

The information that you have a right to request about your child's teacher is:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subjects the teacher is teaching.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing has been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

At Potomac View Elementary School, we are extremely proud of our teachers and paraprofessionals, and are happy to provide you with any of the information above pertaining to your child's teacher(s). If you have such a request, please call the school at 703-491-1126 and ask for the information you are interested in.

Parental Notification of Assessment Opt Out Policies under *The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015*

According to the Virginia Department of Education, "All students in tested grade levels and courses are expected to participate in Virginia's assessment program, unless specifically exempted by state or federal law or by Board of Education regulations." On December 10, 2015, the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA) was signed into law. Section 1112(e)(2) of ESSA states that parents of students in Title I schools have a right to know about state or division policies regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by ESSA, including any policy, procedure, or parental right to opt students out of such assessments. The Commonwealth of Virginia does not currently have an Opt Out policy for SOL assessments. However, Section 22.1-253.13:3.C of the Code of Virginia states that, "The Board of Education shall not include in its calculation of the passage rate of a Standards of Learning assessment for the purposes of state accountability any student whose parent has decided to not have his child take such Standards of Learning assessment, unless such exclusions would result in the school's not meeting any required state or federal participation rate." Prince William County Public Schools regulations state that, if a parent or guardian decides to not have a student take a state or local assessment, then the person making the request should be informed about the academic consequences that decision could have on the student.

If you would like to receive more information about this topic, please contact the principal.