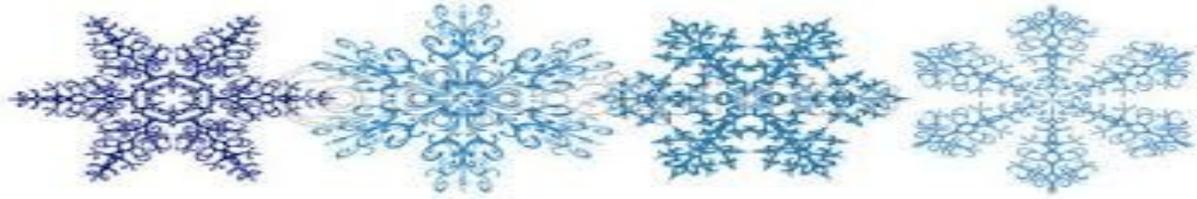


Panther Pride News



Plantation Key School

Volume I, Issue II

December 17, 2015

Holiday Fun at the Marketplace

By Hannah Lane and Nola Frank

On Friday, December 11th, Plantation Key School students held the Middle School Marketplace. The Middle School marketplace is where students set up tables (2-3 students per table) and sell things that they would like to get rid of. It usually helps students raise money to buy holiday presents for their

loved ones. The event, originally called the Paperback Exchange, has been going on for over 25 years. Retired teacher Pamela Brown started the event with the other middle school teachers. Back when this first started, students only brought in books to trade or sell to other students. Over the years, the Paperback Exchange grew bigger

and bigger, letting students sell yard sale items and food. About five years ago, the teachers decided to change the name to the Middle School Market Place to reflect the new changes. This year's event was very exciting! Many students sold baked goods and fun toys to play with. Students had so much fun shopping

with their friends and even the elementary students had a lot of fun buying from the middle school students.



Attacks in Paris Shock the World

By Andreja Medina



On November 13th, 2015, there were horrific attacks in Paris, France. The terror started late at night during a soccer game in a stadium. A source states that a bomb went off outside at 9:20 pm. CNN News reported that at only 5 minutes later, masked shooters went inside a restaurant called, La Petite Cambodge. While that was happening, two more bombs went off and shots were fired outside of a bar. Then the terrorists attacked a music venue and took hostages.

At least 129 people were killed in the strikes. Throughout the world, people and celebrities took action and showed their support. Celebrities from David Beckham to Ashton Irwin and Kim Kardashian to Katy Perry showed their love for Paris on social media. Many others are donating and volunteering for the Red Cross and other organizations.

If you can, show your support for France. You can go to the website IRFC.org to donate. #PrayForParis

Inside this issue:

PKS Winter Dance	2
STEM Night	2
Upper Keys Threat	3
Holiday Q & A	3
Sports	4
Games	5
Picture Page	6

Bi-line Correction from October Issue:

Summer Riddell wrote the story "Halloween Costume Favorites"

Middle School Holds Winter Dance

By Hannah Lane and Nola Frank

On Thursday, December 10th was the first annual Plantation Key School Winter Break dance. Students paid 10 dollars admission at the door, which included a slice of pizza and a drink. All Upper Keys Monroe County students were allowed to attend.

Like the Halloween Dance in October, students dressed up in holiday appropriate costumes, but instead of the Halloween costumes, they wore ugly holiday sweaters. There was even a contest for the best ugly sweater! Students had so much fun dancing to music, hanging with friends, and eating fun snacks.

Lets give a big thanks to Ms. Jensen, Mrs. Perrotti, and all of the student council members for planning this event! We can't wait to see what next year is going to be like!



6th-8th graders enjoyed the music and pizza at the PKS dance.

Plantation Key STEM Night is a Success



Students, teachers, and parents enjoyed playing math games and browsing the STEM fair projects.

By Karli Richards

The P.K.S stem night was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 from 5:30-7:15 at Plantation Key School. The night was filled with good food like dinner, which was provided by the community bank and free popcorn from Scooby's gourmet popcorn. After that guests had gone to browse students STEM fair projects on display in the multi-purpose and the hallways. They had math games for all the grade levels in the cafeteria and then they let you do a little Christmas shopping in

the book fair. This was all is from 5:30-6:30. Then from 6:30-7:15 was the international week of code. After that was using technology to make math fun, Microsoft office, taking the mystery out of middle school math placements, careers in science, technology, engineering, and Math, and then the final thing at 7:15, was the best part of the night the door prizes! They awarded prizes like STEM parent books and Winn Dixie gift cards. Parents, students, and even teachers had so much fun at this event!

Calendar

December 18: last day for students before winter break, early release

January 5, 2016: students return to school

January 21-22, 2016: Mid-Term Exams/ Early Release for Middle School

Threat Interrupts School Day In Upper Keys

By Hannah Lane

On Monday, December 7th, Coral Shores High School was under suspicion of a person with a gun. Plantation Key School first found out between the times of 8:00 to 8:30 AM. News reports say that an 11 year old girl saw someone walking around the Coral Shores campus with a suspicious object. They ended up reporting the sighting to the police.

This report caused Coral Shores to follow lockdown procedures. Plantation Key School also took precautionary measures because of the close proximity of the threat. The SWAT team and police checked every person at the school and went through every crack and crevice to try to find any suspicious objects

or persons. The safety precautions that PKS took for the situation were locking all doors, and keeping all students in the classrooms until the all-clear was received by the police.

"My first reaction was to keep everybody safe and everybody calm." says Mrs. House, PKS Dean of Students.

Even though the "suspicious object" was most likely an umbrella, this was still a good practice for the future if something bad were to actually happen. It was a scary practice, but a good practice. Hopefully, we won't have anything like this happen again and life can go back to normal.

What is on Your Holiday Wish List?

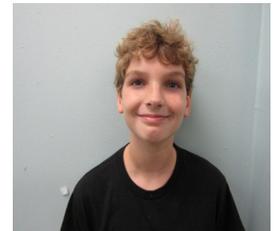
By: Lindsay Stagnitto

Photography: Zoe Marchetti



"The Divergent Book Series"

- Gage Cooper, Grade 6



"A Hover board"

-Shelby Albert, Grade 8

"A Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge"

-Aliyah Evans, Grade 6



"A Hover board"

-Katie Black, Grade 7

"A 4-wheeler"

-Hunter Dixon, Grade 7



The History of Santa Claus



By: Summer Riddell

Santa Claus; we all know who he is, but not everyone knows how he got his start as the red wearing, jolly, present-giving man we now know him as. His legend started with a monk named St. Nicholas; He was born sometime around 280 A.D. in Patara, near Myra in modern-day Turkey. "Much admired for his piety and kindness, St. Nicholas became the subject of many legends."

As you can see he was loved because of his kindness and for that he became the center of many legends. It's said that he gave all his money away, then traveled to the countryside helping the poor and sick. The story he's mostly known for is when he saved three poor sisters from

being sold into slavery by their father by providing them with a dowry so that they could be married. After many years his popularity started to spread, and he became known as the protector of kids and sailors.

He started popping up in American culture towards the end of the 18th century. The name "Santa Claus" evolved from St. Nikolas's nickname, Sinter Klaas.

In 1804, John Pintard, a member of the New York Historical Society, distributed woodcuts of St. Nicholas at the society's annual meeting. The background of the engraving contains now-familiar Santa images including stockings filled with toys and fruit hung over a fireplace. In 1809, Washington

Irving helped to popularize the Sinter Klaas stories when he referred to St. Nicholas as the patron saint of New York in his book, *The History of New York*. As his prominence grew, Sinter Klaas was described as everything from a "rascal" with a blue three-cornered hat, red waistcoat, and yellow stockings, to a man wearing a broad-brimmed hat and a "huge pair of Flemish trunk hose." Back then, he was seen very differently than how he is today. *Quotes from <http://www.history.com/>

PKS Boys Basketball Stomps KLS

By: Nola Frank and Hannah Lane

On December 10, 4:00 PM, Plantation Key School beat Key Largo School 46-38 in a game held at Key Largo School. With Dillon Walters and Bryce Bynum as team captains, PKS's awesome basketball team played really well together against KLS. This was the first time in over five years that PKS beat KLS in a basketball game. Even though it was a tough game, PKS still won by 8 points.

Here are some of the star players that helped beat KLS. Dillon Walters found his rhythm and scored four 3-pointers. Bryce Bynum who scored the winning point, finished with 18 rebounds and 12 points. Zak Filpes who was the starting point guard managed the team defensively and offensively throughout the game. Jason Filpes had 10 rebounds and more than 10 points, and last but not least, Krystopher Velunza who did an awesome job playing offence and scored a total of 5 points.

Coach Mangel saw an opportunity for all players to work together as a team and beat KLS in the big win. Hopefully the PKS basketball team can keep it up and play just as well for more games to come. Good Luck PKS Boys Basketball!

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Holiday Fun and Games



C A N D L E S K S S
 H H W Z W E W T M N
 A S R I O A N I Y O
 K A D I N E S N L W
 K N R Z S T W X I F
 U T A E L T E V M L
 N A R E G V M R A A
 A P T E E R T A F K
 H O N A M W O N S E
 E T A R B E L E C W



Cartoon by Kristina Alvarez

CANDLES
 EVE
 KWANZAA
 SANTA

SNOWMAN
 CELEBRATE
 FAMILY
 MISTLETOE

SNOW
 TREE
 CHRISTMAS
 HANUKKAH



Cartoon by Brianna Rich

Holiday Movie Favorites

By Kristina Alvarez and Lilly Trumbull

We went around PKS and asked students which holiday movie is their favorite.

Second grade thinks that "The Peanuts Movie" is the winner!!

Third grade thinks that "Charlie Brown Christmas" is amazing!!

Fourth grade thinks that "Elf" wins the best movie award!!

Fifth graded thinks that "Home Alone" is surely the best!!

Sixth grade thinks that a "Christmas Movie" is awesome!!

Seventh grade thinks that "Nightmare Before Christmas" is great!

Eighth grade thinks that "The Grinch Stole Christmas" is the best!



By Carly Lindback and Cameron El-Koury