

# DECEMBER 2024

# Panther Tales



- November 4 - December 6 Manna Food Drive
- December 2-20 Progress Monitoring Testing Window
- December 2-6 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group Testing
- December 3 ELA Reading Test Grades 3-5
- December 5 Math Testing Grades 3-5
- December 6 PTA School Spirit Store
- December 10 SAC Committee Meeting 9 am
- December 11-19 PTA Merry Market
- December 12 Holiday Pictures/ Make -Up Pictures
- December 18 Kindergarten Gingerbread Houses
- December 19 Kindergarten Grinch Day
- December 19 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Jingle Bell Juke Box/ The Flip Side
- December 20 Kindergarten Polar Express/Pajama Day
- December 20 End of the Second Nine Weeks
- December 20 Early Release Day 12:20
- December 23 - January 6 Winter Break
  
- January 6 Teacher Workday/ NO students
- January 7 Back to School for Students
- January 13 Report Cards in FOCUS



## HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

NOVEMBER 4 – DECEMBER 6



Please join ECPS in collecting nonperishable food items for Manna Food Bank

**ALL** nonperishable food donations are appreciated!

Financial contributions may be made at [www.mannahelps.org](http://www.mannahelps.org)

Please click the "in Honor or Memory of" button and enter "ECPS" in the field so your donation will be added to the ECPS event.



- December 2-20 Testing Window
- December 2-6 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Small Group Testing
- December 3 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Reading Test
- December 5 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Test

# PTA



Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
Shop During Lunch Time!



## December 11<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>

Pine Meadow Merry Market is coming to our school. Parent volunteers will assist children while shopping to allow them to purchase surprise gifts for loved ones. The Merry Market is a fun, unique way to empower your children with generosity! Your student can shop during lunchtime December 11-19.

## December 12

Mark your calendars...

School Santa & Holiday Portraits

by *hartman* photography 850.995.9090

A row of five small square photographs. From left to right: a child with Santa Claus, a child in a blue sweater, a child with Santa Claus, a child in a green dress, and a child with Santa Claus.

**Make -Up Pictures, Holiday Pictures, & Santa Pictures**

**PARENTS: BE SURE TO CHECK THE WITH OR WITHOUT SANTA BOX!**

Siblings can have Santa/Holiday Pictures together!

## Kindergarten Gingerbread Houses



## Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

Kindergarteners will be making gingerbread houses with their parents/guardians. All parents are invited to attend. *No siblings please.* Times will vary. Teachers will send home communication for this event.

Parents will need to scan the QR code on the information letter sent home for this event!

## Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>



Kindergarten Classes will participate in a variety of activities based on the story "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" by Dr. Seuss.

All students at Pine Meadow are asked to wear their Grinchiest Grinch Wear, wear green or dress like a who!



**December 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30**

**Wanna get in the holiday Spirit? Get ready to rock around the Christmas tree! Jingle Bell Juke Box...The Flip Side delivers holiday cheer in a collection of your favorite Christmas hits!**

**KINDERGARTEN POLAR EXPRESS**

**DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**



Students will dress up in their pajamas, slippers and robes for a magical journey on "The Polar Express".

*Sorry parents, this is a student activity only.*

**YEARBOOK**

**To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook**

*(Must be a parent or student 13 years or older)*

1. Go to [www.treering.com/validate](http://www.treering.com/validate)
2. Enter your school's passcode:  
1012923600032466

**Price: \$20.22**

*Guidance Corner*

*Ms. Steiner*

*How to teach Children Gratitude by Amy Morin, LCSW*



Teaching children gratitude can help them feel happier, support better social relationships, and improve overall health and well-being.

### **Teach Your Child to Say Thank You**

Encourage your child to say "Thank you" regularly.

Once your child remembers to say, "thank you" on a regular basis, it can be time to dig a little deeper to ensure that they aren't just going through the socially prescribed motions of saying "Thank you."

### **Ask Gratitude Questions**

Here are some questions that can help kids experience all four gratitude components:

**Notice:** What do you have in your life to be grateful for? Are there things to be grateful for beyond the actual gifts someone has given you? Are you grateful for any people in your life?

**Think:** What do you think about this present? Do you think you should give something to the person who gave it to you? Do you think you earned the gift? Do you think the person gave you a gift because they thought they had to or because they wanted to?

**Feel:** Does it make you feel happy to get this gift? What does it feel like inside? What about this gift makes you feel happy?

**Do:** Is there a way to show how you feel about this gift? Does your feeling about this gift make you want to share this feeling by giving to someone else?

### **Perform Acts of Kindness**

There are many things your child can do to show appreciation for other people. This might involve returning a favor, like loaning a toy to a friend who is kind. Or it could involve an act of service like doing yard work for a relative who attends their basketball game. There are many ways to show people that you're grateful for all they do.

Here are several ways you can model gratitude for your children:

**Say "Thank you.":** Whether you thank the clerk at the store or you thank your child for clearing the table, make sure you're thanking people often.

**Talk about gratitude:** Make it a point to share what you're grateful for. Even when you have a rough day or something bad happens, point out that there's still a lot to feel grateful for. Instead of complaining about the rain, talk about being grateful that the plants are being watered so you'll have food to eat.

**Express gratitude:** When your child sees you writing "thank you" notes or sending a token of appreciation to someone, you'll teach them to do the same.

**DECEMBER 20th  
EARLY  
RELEASE**

**DAY  
12:20pm**



**Please be on time!**

**TEACHER  
WORKDAY**



**JANUARY 6**

**Welcome Back Teachers!**

**December 20**  
End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks

**January 13**  
Report Cards posted in FOCUS

**Have a great  
Winter Break!**



**DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 6**

Students return to school January 7<sup>th</sup>.

★  
when  
you  
CHOOSE  
joy  
You feel good  
& when you feel  
good, YOU do good  
& when YOU do good  
it Reminds others  
of what joy feels like  
& it just ♥  
might inspire  
them to do  
the same.