



THE BRIDGE

Palm Beach Day Academy Newsletter

Fall 2011

FIRST DAY 2011 - 2012

PBDA Opens with Improved and Improving Facilities, but the Time-Tested Formula for Success Remains the Same

Palm Beach Day Academy had its 91st First Day on September 6. Many of the students who were present for first day #91 will still be here for the school's 100th birthday in 2021. That's the year that our current Kindergarten will graduate from 9th Grade. What will change in those years and what will remain the same? The school has big plans for the future - many of them already underway. All of those plans are thoughtfully built around our school's time-tested formula - superior teachers, involved parents, good and improving facilities, and an environment oriented toward achievement.

There is much more to the planning than that, including clearly articulated programs, input from specialists, and ongoing professional development. But,



those are the elements that we believe give each child the greatest possibility for success.

Palm Beach Day Academy is committed to hiring, retaining and developing the most qualified and dedicated teachers. Our teachers are part of the school family and many have been with the school for one or two decades - some more. They know the children as members of a family and are therefore part of a broad support system. Ongoing monthly professional development allows our teachers to collaborate, refocus and recharge. Low student to teacher ratios allow each student to receive personal and individualized

attention. Our teachers fulfill this vital role with care and pride.

Parent involvement is clearly essential for student success and Palm Beach Day Academy parents do their part, and more. Mostly, they are supportive of the teachers' efforts, and their children know it. Children whose learning is well supported at home and school enjoy a clear academic advantage.

Palm Beach Day Academy is dedicated to creating a secure, up-to-date, stimulating learning environment. The school thoughtfully embraces current classroom technology and provides the necessary training to fully utilize it. Creative use of the existing campuses and plans for needed improvements are sensibly designed to enhance everything we do.

Students at Palm Beach Day Academy learn in an environment where their achievements are highly valued by their teachers, parents and peers. Individual successes are held in high regard and improving students are honored along with their most successful classmates. Our students know that they are in a demanding and supportive institution and they are rightfully proud of their accomplishments.

As children grow at Palm Beach Day Academy they benefit daily from our simple but time-tested formula. We've watched hundreds of children become competent and compassionate life-long learners and we are proud of each one of them. Those children are the reasons we believe in our formula.



Head of School, Dr. van der Bogert greets a student on his first day on the Upper Campus.

for student success and Palm Beach Day Academy parents do their part, and more. Mostly, they are supportive of the teachers' efforts, and their children know it. Children whose learning is well supported at home and school enjoy a clear academic advantage.

LEAD WITH HONOR

This school year a new initiative is taking hold on P.B.D.A.'s Upper Campus. It is called *Lead with Honor*. This program was designed to enhance our rich and vibrant curriculum by formally emphasizing character and



Each Upper Campus student signed the banner.

leadership development. The framework for the initiative incorporates five core values or pillars - Trust, Integrity, Respect, Responsibility and Empathy. Throughout



Groups of students worked together cooperatively to design their plans.

the year, students will explore the benefits of embracing each value and they will receive training designed to build their leadership skills. We hope to help each student grow in confidence and uncover and share his or her unique talents with others.

In the first week of school, student attention was focused on the five core values in two inspiring assemblies. In the first, the students were charged with the challenge of organizing themselves in small groups to achieve the common goal of creating a working paper airplane. In the process they shared leadership and responsibilities without direct adult

Reflections

When it comes to schooling, everyone has a theory. The list is endless. We need more standardized testing, smaller schools, higher teacher salaries, stronger leaders, mandatory national curriculum, and on and on. Most people are looking for THE element that will transform schools.

At the risk of joining those who are falsely thinking simplistically, I believe the answer is clear. Paradoxically, it is complex and simple at the same time. The complexity is that all of the factors that are usually cited are likely to be a PART of the solution. The simplicity is that all of these factors need to be working together in concert with a focus on one thing: having the best and brightest teachers working with our students and creating a rich environment that supports our teachers' excitement about their own learning and about how they can bring the best of themselves to the classroom.

I don't think any parent would argue that the key to the quality of a child's education is the quality of that child's teachers. Something that many don't agree with, however, is the vital role that professional development plays in teachers bringing their best to the classroom. Unfortunately, when finances are tight, it's one of the first things that gets cut.

Teachers who are passionate about their jobs teach because they make a difference in their students' lives. Part of their passion comes from being in an

Dr. Rebecca van der Bogert
Head of Palm Beach
Day Academy

environment where they can have experiences with colleagues that continue to expand their ability to meet their students' needs. A truly exciting school culture should be as close to a university environment as possible. This culture should involve providing course work in relevant subjects, forums for dialogue, outside speakers who bring the latest in research and challenge our thinking, the development of study groups, the opportunity to visit the best schools both nationally and internationally, and the opportunity for teachers to propose new ideas and pursue them.

We are fortunate to have this at PBDA thanks to the commitment of our Board of Trustees, the ability of our Campus Heads to tap into the interests and talents of our teachers, the generosity of our parents, and the excitement our teachers have about learning.

One might ask how our teachers' learning directly impacts the students. Over the years, I've been able to observe the many ways in which a focus on our teachers' growth is a focus on providing the best for our students. I've been able to watch firsthand how teacher involvement in coursework, workshops, and developing ideas benefits students.

Hiring and Retaining the Best and Brightest

During the hiring process, we look for teachers who are going to be life-long learners and who are excited about always pursuing ways to better meet the needs of each student. In interviews, we repeatedly learn from candidates that they've heard about our Professional

Development Program and that a school environment that encourages their growth is important to them. The opportunities for our teachers to grow helps us recruit and keep the best and brightest.

Modeling a Love of Learning

Many of us look back on our favorite teachers and, often, one of the qualities that stands out for us is that they were excited about their own learning and shared that passion with us. They were willing to say "I don't know" and follow it up with an interest in finding out. What better way to get our students excited about learning than allow them to spend time with adults who model their own love of learning.

Latest Strategies and Materials

Research in the cognitive sciences is advancing every day and providing us with a much greater base of knowledge about how students learn. Information about the way the brain processes information helps us create the appropriate materials and classroom environments that facilitate learning in more interesting and effective ways.

New School Wide Programs

One of the opportunities PBDA teachers have for bringing an idea from the visionary stage to reality for our students is our Keenan Grant Program, which is endowed by the Keenan Family. Our teachers have the opportunity to apply each spring for a small grant to pursue ideas that they want to develop. One of the criteria is that the results need to impact the whole school. Due to our teachers' creativity and commitment these grants have given birth to programs such as *Lead with Honor*, *Making Thinking Visible*, *China Partnership*, *Community Garden*, and an *Enhanced Advisory System on the Upper Campus*.

Lead with Honor

Continued from front page

direction. In a second gathering, the students, one by one, signed their names to a *Lead with Honor* banner, symbolizing their commitment to the five core values.

This year at PBDA, students will continue



The banner signing process was thoughtful and dignified.

to have a wide variety of leadership and outreach opportunities. These opportunities will allow the students to develop their leadership skills while enjoying the satisfaction of helping others.

In the short time that school has been in session there has already been a positive response from the students. Their energy and enthusiasm have brought the initiative to life. The students are already involved in making decisions for the school community and for themselves, they have stepped up to welcome new friends, they have signed up for community service and they are deciding what they stand for as members of our community.

Enriching students with confidence, a strong moral compass and the knowledge

and skills to lead honorably has long been a tradition at PBDA and begins with our youngest students who are introduced to *Life Skills* on the Lower Campus. As we look to the future we accept the responsibility to continue to develop our students as global citizens who are prepared to *Lead With Honor*.



Test flights were an important part of the airplane design project.



SUMMER IMPROVEMENTS

Both campuses saw big improvements over the summer. Interior and exterior work on the Lower Campus paved the way for future projects. A campus-wide uplift on the Upper Campus gave the building a unifying design that looks to the future and honors the past.



DRESS CODE

PBDA families have been patient and cooperative as the school changed uniform suppliers over the summer. Currently, all approved uniform items are

available at PB Boys Club and PB Girls Club on Palm Beach, and at Lands End Online.

The Bulldog Store on Seaview Avenue has closed its doors after many years of service. Such a big change could have resulted in uniform problems. So we went looking for students in the correct uniform and

found them everywhere. Thank you to all for helping to make the supplier switch go smoothly.

Below are samples of approved uniforms for the both Upper and Lower Campus students.



Grades 4-8 - regular non-winter dress

Grades 4-8 - regular all seasons

Grades 4-8 - Fridays & special occasions



Primary Grades - regular all seasons

K - 3 - regular all seasons

Primary Grades - Fridays & special occasions

Girls K-3 & Boys 1-3 - Fridays & special occasions

DUKE UNIVERSITY TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

On the basis of their 5th or 6th Grade standardized test scores, seventeen PBDA 7th Graders qualified to take the next step toward acceptance to the Duke University Summer Program. Eligibility is earned by scoring at or

above the 95th percentile on age/grade appropriate achievement or aptitude tests within the past two years. Palm Beach Day Academy uses the CTP scores to determine Seventh Grade eligibility.

Achieving a qualifying score on the CTP is the first step for students who would like to participate in the TIP offerings on the Duke campus next summer. To apply, qualifiers must take either the ACT or the SAT in the 7th Grade.

PBDA 7th Graders Who Qualify to Apply to Duke TIP

John Farris
Andres Garcia
Ben Kern
Teddy Kramer
Briggs Lalor
Eloise Levenson
Madison McAuliffe
Jack McKenna
George Moss
Rhys Robinson

Kole Rosin
Atticus Stonestrom
Alex Tummon
Jamie Vacco
Robert Williams
Alexandria Winchester

Former PBDA Students
Ella Wahlestedt

PALM BEACH DAY ACADEMY WELCOMES EIGHT NEW FACULTY

Eight new teachers have joined the PBDA team and several have taken on new assignments.

Annette Johnson will be teaching chorus and drama on the Upper Campus.

Annette holds a B.A. in Music Therapy from FSU, a M.A.T. in Music Education from FAU, and a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from Barry University.

Annette is one of three founders of Spotlight on Young Musicians which is presented at the Kravis Center each year. She also founded the Jon Smith Subs Race for the Arts - now in its 11th year. She received the Palm Beach Post Teacher of Excellence Award and was a Dwyer Nominee. Her hobbies include singing in her church choir, running up to half marathons and bike riding for charity. She and her husband Mark have a Lhasa Apso and a cat.



Annette Johnson

Courtney Beers joins the Palm Beach Day Academy faculty as a Primary teacher. She earned her BA in Psychology and Education from Bucknell University and her MAT in Early Childhood

Education from Mercer University. Prior to joining Palm Beach Day Academy, Courtney was a lead teacher for four years at St. Francis Day School in Atlanta, Georgia where she was the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award. Outside of the classroom, she enjoys spending quality time with family and friends and she is excited to be a part of the PBDA team.



Courtney Beers

Vasanth Siva joins PBDA as a Third Grade teacher. She has enjoyed diverse teaching experiences around the world and in the United States for more than 25 years. Originally from Sri Lanka, Vasantha comes to us from the Hillsborough School District where she taught Gifted Math & Science for the past 5 years. Her teaching experience also includes her work in the Lincoln Community School, an International Baccalaureate school in Accra, Ghana and at the American Embassy School of New Delhi. Vasantha received her Bachelor of Education from the University of Peradeniya in Sri Lanka and a Master of Philosophy of Education from the University of Colombo in Sri

Lanka. Her three children were born and raised in the U.S.

Outside of school, Vasantha enjoys painting, dancing, traveling, and anything else that is fun and creative - all interests that she shares with her students.



Vasantha Siva

Deena Sobel is excited to join the family at Palm Beach Day Academy. She was previously serving as school counselor at Santaluces High School for the past six years. Deena's began her career as a Reading Teacher before becoming a counselor, working specifically with students enrolled in one of the school's five magnet programs. She enjoys collaborating with families and teachers in order to ensure that the needs of each student are met. Deena is looking forward to working with students individually, in the classroom setting, and in small groups.

Recently married, Deena enjoys spending time with her husband and family, especially her four nephews. She considers herself a "foodie" because she loves trying new restaurants and cooking at home.



Deena Sobel

Jamie Bartlett joins our Kindergarten team. She was born and raised in Miami, Florida. She graduated from Florida State University with a B.S. in Rehabilitation Services. Jamie earned a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of North Florida and began her teaching career in 2007. She comes to us from Wellington Elementary School with experience ranging from Primary through Fifth Grade teaching.

Jamie is an active volunteer and leader for organizations supporting hospitalized children. She enjoys spending time with her husband and two young children who are new students at PBDA.



Jamie Bartlett

A native of Black Point, Connecticut, **Paula Martin** received a BA in Urban Studies from the University of Tampa. She returned to Connecticut for a few years before settling in Boca Raton to work at Office Depot's Worldwide Headquarters. There Paula enjoyed more than 15 years in Merchandising, Marketing and Inventory

Management. She then spent two years at the Ritz-Carlton, Palm Beach, in hospitality management. During the period of time the Ritz-Carlton was closed for renovations, Paula began a relationship with the Historical Society of Palm Beach County. She accepted a staff assignment with the Society in 2007. While at the Historical Society, Paula's job responsibilities included Retail Operations, Special Events, Public Relations, Marketing, and Development. Most recently Paula served as the Society's Director of Development and Marketing. Paula is an active member of the Forum Club of the Palm Beaches and the Palm Beach Chapter of both the Public Relations Society (PRSA) of America and the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). She currently serves on the Board of Directors of PRSA and AFP. Paula has lived in Palm Beach County for more than twenty years.

At PBDA, Paula will serve as Associate Director of Development.

Originally from the mountains of eastern Pennsylvania, **George Yeager** joins our 3rd Grade Team. George has taught writing and science to 3rd - 5th Graders for the past 8 years at Highland Elementary in Lake Worth. This past year he was also the head of the writing department / writing coach. George is ESOL endorsed and a National Board Certified Teacher. He is currently working through a Curriculum and Instruction Masters program through FAU sponsored by PBDA.

George enjoys outdoor activities such as boating, fishing, kayaking, snorkeling. He also enjoys playing music-mostly guitar and harmonica and builds cigar box guitars (electric guitars with a cigar box as the body of the guitar).

George and Jessica, PBDA 2nd Grade teacher, live in Boynton Beach with their boxer, Jack.

Jessica Yeager came to Palm Beach Day Academy from Highland Elementary School where she was a Fourth and Fifth Grade teacher for the last seven years. She served as the grade level chair for Fourth and Fifth Grade, as well as a member of the leadership committee. Jessica received her B.S. in Education from West Chester University, her teaching certification in English for



Paula Martin



George Yeager



Jessica Yeager

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A WELCOME FROM ROBERT NORBERG, PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new and returning families. Even though school has just begun, I am sure you are already feeling the excitement, energy and caring for our children that PBDA is known for. This year the excitement will continue grow as we move forward with the Great Expectations Campaign.

I want to take a moment to acquaint everyone with the Parent School Council (PSC). The PSC was created to offer parents an effective way to communicate their ideas, suggestions and concerns to the greater school community. The PSC also provides opportunities for parents to become actively involved in the school community. The best part is YOU are already a member! All parents of enrolled students are automatically members and there are no dues!

During the year, the Parent School Council sponsors and assists at events that benefit the entire school community. A "Speaker Series" (drawing well-known speakers on topics relevant to parenting in today's world), Book Fairs, Auction, Thanksgiving Project, Teacher Appreciation Week and Bulldog Outreach are a few of the events that allow parents to get involved. The PSC also assists with New Family Welcome and Mentorship programs.

In the early weeks of school, grade level Parent Coffees will be held to allow parents to learn more about how they can share their time and talents with our school community. Becoming a Room Parent or volunteering on a project committee is an extremely rewarding part of our children's school experience.

The PSC focus is on communication. The PSC Board consists of Parents representing all grade levels, Faculty liaisons, Administration staff and Board of Trustee members. Each month the PSC Board meets to discuss how our school is doing. I encourage you to talk to or email any PSC Board rep. Your ideas, suggestions and concerns are a vital part of maintaining the best school environment for our children.

If you think you missed something, or if you have additional or follow-up questions, please contact a member of the PSC to see how we can help. Contact information can be found on the PBDA website, in the Directory and on handouts at the start of school.

I am honored to serve as your PSC President and I hope you will join me and all of our volunteers in the pursuit of excellence for our children at PBDA, The school of Great Expectations.

Sincerely,
Robert Norberg

NEW FACULTY

Continued from previous page

Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) from NOVA Southeastern University, and she is currently enrolled in a Master's Program from Florida Atlantic University. In 2010 Jessica was one of the top five finalists for the William T. Dwyer Award (Palm Beach County's Teacher of the Year). At PBDA,

Jessica will be part of the Second Grade Team.

Jessica moved to Florida in 2003 and currently lives in Boynton Beach with her husband, George and their boxer, Jack.

A few returning faculty members have taken on new responsibilities. Laura Jane Linck is teaching with the Kindergarten team this year. Jim Gramentine is teaching a section of 6th Grade math.

Parent/School Council Officers for 2011-2012

Robert Norberg	President
Susan Elhilow	Vice President - Upper
Jennifer Wilson	Vice President - Lower
Katie Wandoff	Secretary
Elizabeth Fifield	Program Coordinator
Valerie Winchester	Upper Campus Rep.
Sdana Kretschmar	Lower Campus Rep.
Betsy Slocum	Primary Rep.
Elizabeth Sheehan	Faculty Liaison - Upper
Kari Petrovics	Faculty Liaison - Lower
Lourdes Fanjul	Board Liaison
Stephanie Carden	Board Liaison
Stephanie Carden	Past President
Becky van der Bogert	Head of School

Board of Trustees 2011-2012

The Trustees are responsible for establishing overall goals and objectives, determining policy, and maintaining fiscal stability for the school. They also select the school head to whom they delegate the management of the school and the implementation of their policies.

Scott Johnson '79 - President
Lourdes Fanjul - Vice President
Glenn Straub - Treasurer
Stephanie Carden - Secretary

Michael Ainslie
John Cohan
Frances Fisher
Jill Glazer
Lou Hager
Kevin Lamb

Donna Lloyd-George
William Matthews '67
James McCann
Christopher Orthwein
Sue Patterson
Claudia Player
Joe Sambuco
Matthew Smith

Ex-Officio
Dr. Becky van der Bogert,
Head of School
Robert Norberg,
Parent School Council President

PALM BEACH DAY ACADEMY sixteenth annual

Golf Classic

Saturday
November 19, 2011

BREAKERS OCEAN COURSE

Pre-Tournament Gathering - Nick & Johnnie's
Friday, November 18 2011



Golf Tournament Chairs - Joel Kassewitz & Matt Smith

OPENING WEEK 2011



FACULTY SUMMERS 2011

As the joke goes, the three best reasons to become a teacher are June, July and August. At PBDA, June, July and August are still three great months for teachers, but not because they are taking an extended break. More than ever, PBDA's teachers are using that time to accomplish serious things that will make September through May an even better experience for their students. Over the years, PBDA's well-supported Professional Development has been quietly producing great results. This summer was filled with individual and group study, research and educational travel.

Twelve PBDA faculty began an FAU Master's program in Curriculum and Instruction. Through the support of a school family, that group will move through the program together and be taught on site in the Wean Library.

Also with the support of a school family, another group of ten teachers from both campuses attended Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The week-long conference provided training on ways to encourage, enhance and reveal student thinking. The theme of "Making Thinking Visible" focuses teacher attention on continually challenging children to think for themselves and support their points of view.

Several teachers continued pursuing

higher education and some completed their studies and received advanced degrees. Others attended conferences on Autism, Junior Great Books, and Library Science.

Individual work on curriculum and classroom materials occupied many teachers and new school-wide initiatives were developed over the summer months. The *Lead with Honor* theme, that will unfold during the year on the Upper Campus, was developed over the summer after hours of research and planning.

Of course teachers enjoyed some personal interests including research of the family tree, travel to places in the U.S. and abroad, some backpacking, and even a little surgery, house-hunting and college freshmen delivery.

All are back, refreshed, recharged and enthusiastic about being the best teachers they can be.



Ten PBDA faculty members attended Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

JOHNS HOPKINS CENTER FOR TALENTED YOUTH

PBDA recognizes students on the Lower Campus who qualify to be tested for acceptance to Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY). Second and Third Graders, who score in the 95th percentile or higher on the Metropolitan Achievement Test which includes sub tests that reflect reasoning ability, are eligible to take the next step

toward qualifying for summer courses at CTY facilities in Maryland or California or on-line.

The following students tested in the spring of 2011 as 1st & 2nd Graders and earned eligibility to take the SCAT (School and College Ability Test) at a Prometric Testing Center. To qualify for the Johns Hopkins programs, 2nd Graders must score 435 on the quantitative, and 430 on the verbal portions of the SCAT. Third Graders must score 440 and 435 on the quantitative and verbal tests.

Current 2nd Grade

Sara Abdo
Lilia Arp
Whitney Brown
Parker Costa
Avery Emmer
Blair Haft
Sofia Halpern
Taylor Handley
Andre Karlson
Jensyn Kretschmar
Carter Levine
Stephanie Lucchesi
Elizabeth Lloyd-George
Blake Menin

Finley Murray
Madison Oatley
Seray Ozgenc
Peter Panagoulis
Dhru Patel
Amelia Pottash
William Roberts
Daniella Russo
Lauren Schram
Lauren Straub
Charlize Szeto
Aiden Thompson
Lolagrace Torres
Alysia Wilson

Current 3rd Grade

Maxwell Bergman
Mayah Bernstein
Brooks Bishop
Alexander Bylin
Isabel Carden
Alessia Degraeve
Marlowe Flom
Martina Gil
Van Gronberg
Jordan Haft
Robert Hancock
Nina Horgan
Alexander Kino
Sydney Kosoy

India Lalor
Alexander Levin
Jesse Litten
Elias Manchester
Caroline McCann
Brooke O'Donnell
Jacob Ochstein
Isabella Pargiolas
Maya Patel
Mariel Silpe
Harrison Stewart
Lauren Susick
Elisha Thornton
Caroline Wilson

2010-2011 BIRTHDAY BOOK DONORS

Each year students are invited to make book donations to the school's libraries in honor of their birthdays. Donated books are marked with a special bookplate that commemorates the gift and identifies the donor. Hundreds of books in both libraries bear the names of current students and alumni.. Thank You, to all who participated during the 2010-2011 school year.

Pre-Primary

Jack Bauer
Henry Orthwein
Olivia Quinty

Primary

Samantha Bauer
Nieve Conroy
Hannah Gerard
Bella Patterson
Annie Roberts

Matthew Rodriguez

Kindergarten

Khursheed Ali
Rafe Cochran
Halle Colbert
Eaton Flom
Spencer Fuhr
Tatiana Georgas
Annabelle Savage
Sophia Wandoff

Alexandra (Alex) Wilson

1st Grade

Avery Finch
Hadley Finch
Frankie LaBow
Ava Neary

Peter Panagoulis

William Roberts

Grace Singer

Bennett Stone

Ava Tarone

Teddy Tarone

Aiden Thompson

Alysia Wilson

2nd Grade

Max Bergman

Mayah Bernstein

Marlowe Flom

Robert Hancock

Alexander Kino

Grant Kino

J.R. LaBow (John)

Nina Passler

Lauren Susick

Caroline Wilson

Lilli Wyrztes

Will Wyrztes

3rd Grade

Sarah Abraham

Chloe Colbert

Diana Crompton

Gonzalo Gil

Laurin Norberg

Carter Nicoletti

Catherine Panagoulis

Brinton Roberts

Allison Sanchez

Austin Thompson

Danielle Weitzman

4th Grade

Perry Middleton

Hailey Pflaumer

Elizabeth Williams

Natalie Zoller

5th Grade

Adeliza Grace

6th Grade

Sam Gordon

Katie Morgan

Robbie Williams

Lexi Winchester

7th Grade

Serena Ainslie

Jack Patterson

Elliott Thornton

Alumni

Spencer Perez '10

CORRECTION

In the Summer 2011 edition of *The Bridge*, **Oliver Zenou** was mistakenly omitted from the list of winners who were recognized at the Awards Assembly on June 2. Oliver was the top scorer in Mrs. Kanai's 5th Grade WordMasters Competition - Blue Division.

PBDA WELCOMES SEVENTY NEW CHILDREN

Palm Beach Day Academy extends a warm welcome to sixth-nine new students and their families. You are important to our school community. Your positive contributions to our student body make Palm Beach Day Academy a more vibrant, exciting and productive place, and we invite your full participation. We are glad you are here. Welcome!

Pre-Primary

Leah Aronson
Lian Azqueta
Grace Bartlett
Nicholas Brinson
Piper Cook
Emily Dillon
Haley Duncker
Mary Fifield
Bettina Gannon
Lila Gerard
Mia Gordon
Vivienne Kassewitz
Cooper Laliberte
Amila Manchester
Kevin McGann
Olivia Myers
Kale Remington
Sophia Simpson
Mackenzie Smith
Bella Zingaro

Primary

Lucas Andreon
Evan Barron
Jack Bartlett
Gordon Brown
Evan Fernandez
Sina Kececi
Lauren Miller
Alice (Rangeley) Newmyer
Salvatore Pargiolas
Scarlett Rooks

Kindergarten

Norberto (Bertie) Azqueta
Johnny Bylin
James Caprio
Cameron Emmer
Caroline Hart
Avyn Kerprich
Alexis Koch
Chloe Levine

Ansley Middleton
Roger Ramos
Annie Soper
Harrison Soper
George Straub

1st Grade

Lucy Newmyer

2nd Grade

Iris Hedley
Luke Miller
Alastair Precoda
James Precoda
J.T. Tague

3rd Grade

Ariana Biondi-Copeland
Drake Rydberg

4th Grade

Jada Clay
Zane Ice
Lucas Precoda
Jesse Principe
Michael Schaefer

5th Grade

Erin Tague

6th Grade

Claire Barber
Garrett Barber
Talia Chachkes
Jane Ely
Hannah Harlan
Sophia Terry
Valan Kaye

7th Grade

Zara Barrett
Aidan Biondi-Copeland
Rodrigo Haberfeld
Jordan Schaefer

8th Grade

Yu Hua Golnick
Samantha (Sami) Kahlenberg

This list includes students who joined PBDA during the year last year and students who have returned to PBDA after attending school elsewhere.

LOWER CAMPUS INITIATIVES ENRICH STUDENT EXPERIENCES

Several new Lower Campus initiatives were unveiled to parents at the recent Back To School Nights held in September. Parents had an opportunity to hear from Donna Tobey, head of Lower School, and Rochelle Ibanez- Wolberg, learning specialist, about these various initiatives.

The Writing Portfolios started in Primary last year, have moved with the children to Kindergarten and teachers will continue to document progress in this area. Eventually, the Writing Portfolio will demonstrate how a child's written expression develops from the time he or she is three years old through Third Grade.

In Third Grade, all classes now come together for Vocal Music. The new focus in Third Grade is on choral singing, and students will prepare and perform a musical later this year. The musical that's been chosen for 2011-12 is "Treasure Island" and we eagerly await this performance.

Continuing with our greening efforts and developing student awareness of issues

related to sustainability, teachers, students, and parents will be actively involved in a "recycling center" on the Lower Campus to collect and provide materials for use with educational classroom projects. This center will be patterned after the ReMida Center in Reggio Emilia, Italy. Local

businesses will be encouraged to donate usable materials.

Two local museums, the Flagler Museum and the Morikami Museum, have agreed to partner with PBDA on a new curricular project for our First Graders on

"communities." Students in First Grade will learn about communities from various perspectives and will have the unique opportunity to compare and contrast their community with the Japanese immigrants that settled near Yamato Road in Boca Raton and the people living in Palm Beach and West Palm Beach around the time of Henry Flagler. Students will also learn about the role museums play in preserving

the legacy and history of communities.

For the past four years, the Lower Campus has been involved in looking at how we develop intellectual character. Intellectual character refers to the patterns of behavior, patterns of thinking, and patterns of



This routine is used to uncover students' prior knowledge as they respond to a target question.

interaction that define us as thinkers and learners. With the use of Thinking Maps® firmly in place at all grade levels, the Lower School is now focused on using something called Thinking Routines with all students. These routines are used to promote deeper understanding about concepts, help students make connections, and allow students to make their thinking visible. During the year, parents will learn more about specific routines that they can use at home through communication in class newsletters, the Lower Campus Update, and parent workshops.

OPEN HOUSE

For Parents of Prospective Students
Pre-K (age2) to 3rd Grade

WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 16, 2011

9:00 A.M.

Lower Campus
1901 S. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach
832-8815

Word-of-mouth is our most effective marketing tool, so please invite your friends, neighbors and business associates. Email the Admission Office at admission@pbday.org to have an invitation personally mailed.



BOARD LEADERSHIP PASSES FROM PAUL LEONE TO SCOTT JOHNSON

Last spring, at the end of Mr. Paul Leone's term, Mr. Scott Johnson took over as president of the Board of Trustees. Scott, who is the father of three PBDA students, Griffin '17, Seaton '15 and Stewart '13, has served as the board treasurer for the past three years. Scott is also an alumnus of our school - a member of the class of '79.



Scott Johnson '79

The Palm Beach Day Academy community is grateful for the dedicated work of both of these volunteers and especially wishes to thank Mr. Leone, father of Nick '14, Jake '12, Griffin '10 and Ben '08 for his many years of service. Paul and his wife Kathy have been strong advocates and supporters of PBDA and played significant roles in each of the current school's predecessor schools, Palm Beach Day School and The Academy of the Palm Beaches. Paul was instrumental in the process of merging the two schools and ensuring the smooth transition of two schools into one. He was also a thoughtful member of the search committee that recommended the hiring of our current Head of School, Dr. Rebecca van der Bogert. Paul's steady leadership has guided the board for the last three years. He remains on the board as an honorary member. All of us at PBDA join to thank him for his service and to wish Scott the best as he begins his years of leadership.



Kathy & Paul Leone

WELCOME NEW FAMILIES

YOUR SCHOOL ENCOURAGES YOUR FULL PARTICIPATION

An interesting fact about the annual opening of our school is that roughly 20% or more of the children and families present on the first day are having their very first official day as members of Palm Beach Day Academy. That's how many of us are new.

Our hope is that every one of our new members feels welcome. The New Parent Cocktail party at the home of Sandy & Stephanie Carden on the evening of Thursday, September 1 and the New Student

Orientations on both campuses the following day were part of our attempt to show how important it is for our newest members to feel part of our community.

Our school thrives on the contributions of its students and their parents. The vibrant atmosphere of our school depends on everyone. New or well-established, everyone is needed. So step up, speak up and get involved. We're counting on each of you.

Welcome!



Dr. van der Bogert encouraged new parents to join our school's active and supportive parents as full participants.



Faculty member, Elizabeth Sheehan, toured a group of new and returning students through the Upper Campus.

THE BRIDGE PALM BEACH DAY ACADEMY

UPPER CAMPUS

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LOWER CAMPUS

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The Bridge is published by Palm Beach Day Academy to inform its community of the activities of the school, its students, faculty and parents. Editor Richard Tummon and Development Director Sara Robinson invite your suggestions, reactions and comments regarding The Bridge.



www.palmbeachdayacademy.org

2012 DINNER & AUCTION

THE PELICAN & FLAMINGO FEATHER BALL

Birds of a Feather Party Together

THE BREAKERS

Palm Beach

Saturday, February 11, 2012

6:30 PM

Sponsorship, underwriting, and volunteer opportunities available.
Please contact Paula Martin at 561-655-1188 ext 125 or pmartin@pbday.org.



2012 Auction Chairs
Missy Savage, Nancy Sambuco,
Carrie Murray, & Gita Costa