



# TERRIER TIMES

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 3  
JANUARY 2025

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome back! As we begin the second semester, I hope you're feeling re-energized and ready to tackle the exciting opportunities ahead. The new semester brings a fresh start and the chance to set new goals, build on your successes, and stay focused on achieving your best.

One of the most critical factors in a student's academic success is regular attendance. Consistent attendance allows students to fully engage in their learning, build strong relationships with their peers and teachers, and develop important study skills. When students miss school, they may struggle to keep up with their coursework and may miss valuable opportunities for growth.

Parents and Guardians, I encourage you to please make every effort to ensure your student attends school each day, unless they are truly ill. If your student is absent due to illness, please notify the school office as soon as possible.

Students, stay determined, ask for help when you need it, and support one another as we work together toward a successful semester. We're proud of all that you've accomplished so far and are excited to see what the second half of the school year holds.

Here's to a semester full of learning, growth, and achievement!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tara Whisenant  
Principal



## ADMINISTRATION

Principal

**Tara Whisenant**

Assistant Principals

**Dr. Paul Curtis**

**Zachary Wheeler**

Deans

**Chris Stephenson**

**Gabrielle Thompson**

Guidance Counselors

**Eric Grzechowiak**

**Tammi Harvey**

ESE Liaison

**Marjorie Stevens**

Social Worker

**Kearstin Pineda**

School Resource Officer

**Deputy Anderson**

23000 Midway Blvd.

Port Charlotte FL 33952

**Phone:** 941-255-7460

**Fax:** 941-255-7469

**Attendance Line:** 941-255-7467

**Office Hours:** 8:00 - 4:30



# 2



## SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



6th Grade: Long Thai and Analia Tunnell  
 7th Grade: Ethan Schroeder and Isabella Torres  
 8th Grade: Diego Durand and Aries Carrasquillo

## OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

### *Congrats!*

6th Grade: Carson Carey and Ximena Medina  
 7th Grade: Bayne McNamara and Melody Lopez  
 8th Grade: Kyle Zhang and Jaylin Zapien

## NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



6th Grade: Bernadette Yaege and Dylan Byers  
 7th Grade: Zoey Clarke and Landon Perez  
 8th Grade: Aliyah Fricas and Robert Cahill

## PORT CHARLOTTE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Please help us congratulate Mrs. Tara Eiken, one of our 7th grade ELA and Intensive Reading teachers, for being named our PCMS Teacher of the Year!



## PORT CHARLOTTE MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR

Please help us congratulate Mr. Kevin Martin for being name our PCMS Support Staff of the Year. Mr. Martin dedicates every minute of every day towards keeping our campus safe.



## CHARLOTTE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Students looking to make hands-on learning part of their high school experience should consider dual enrollment at Charlotte Technical College. CTC's diverse range of programs lets students explore their passions while gaining valuable, practical skills. Several CTC programs allow enrollment as early as 9th grade, including:

- Applied Information Technology
- Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair
- Baking & Pastry Arts
- Building & Construction Technology
- Criminal Justice Operations
- Digital Design
- Game Simulation/Animation
- Professional Culinary Arts & Hospitality



The CTC campus is just a short walk from PCHS, and transportation is provided for students who attend CHS and LBHS. Most courses are Honors or Advanced Placement weighted, and all courses satisfy the Practical Arts credit requirement for high school graduation. Many of the industry certifications earned at CTC can even be used to satisfy graduation requirements for math and/or science.

For more information about dual enrollment at Charlotte Technical College, check out the CTC website at [yourcharlotteschools/CTC](http://yourcharlotteschools/CTC) or click on the QR code to learn more about specific high school programs at CTC:



**Slack**  
ORTHODONTICS

Maura Stanchak, DDS, MS  
Specialist in Orthodontics

**941-249-9193**

18334 Murdock Circle • Port Charlotte, FL 33948

[www.SlackOrthodontics.com](http://www.SlackOrthodontics.com)

**C | B | H | C** CHARLOTTE Behavioral Health Care

**SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS for children, teens, & adults:**

- Individual & Group Therapy
- Bullying
- Psychiatric Services
- Crisis Services
- Parent/Child Conflict
- Substance Use Disorder
- Teen Anger Management

21500 Gibraltar Drive, Port Charlotte • 1700 Education Avenue, Punta Gorda  
 941-639-8300 • [www.CBHCfl.org](http://www.CBHCfl.org)



## LIVING WITHIN OUR VALUES

Each month, Superintendent Vianello asks CCPS staff members to recognize their peers who are "Living within our Values." CCPS employee values are empowerment, community, collaboration, communication, integrity, resilience, innovation, and safety. In the month of October, six of our staff members were recognized by their peers for exemplifying at least one of these core values. Congratulations, Mrs. Lisa Nagy, Mrs. Gloria Smith, Ms. Stacy Banks, Mrs. Amanda Miller (not pictured), Mrs. Lisa Chapin, and Mr. Kevin Martin!

## THANK YOU!

**A special thank you to our PCMS benefactors:**

- Faith Lutheran for supplying a check for Thanksgiving turkeys
- Port Charlotte Church paired with Pilgrim Church and United Church of Christ for providing Thanksgiving sides for our families
- Nackpack4kids for supplying canned goods and snacks for our school food pantry
- Trinity Anglican for supplying money for our benevolence fund
- Sonshine Baptist Church for supplying donuts for the staff and supplying Christmas sides and hygiene products for our students
- Our PTO (Kim Seward and Ali Lobb) for donating their time and being an integral part of PCMS's success
- WAWA for donating a goodie bag for every student who attended the suspension-free 3v3 tournament.



'Terrier Times'  
January 2025 • Issue #3  
Published Four Times Per Year  
Charlotte County Public Schools  
1445 Education Way  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1052

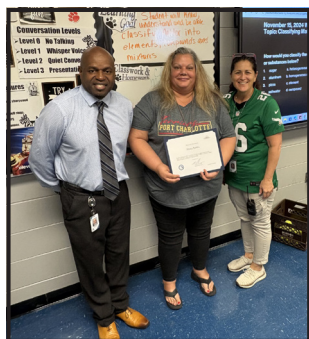
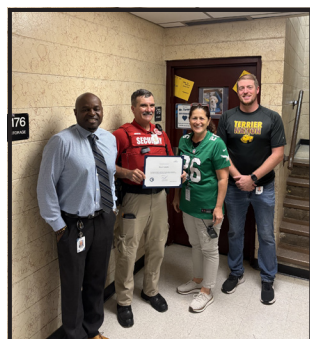
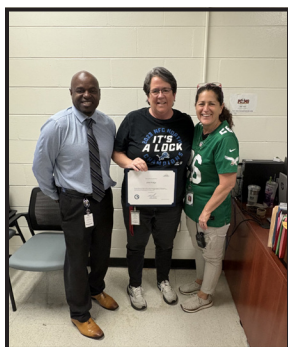
## SCHOOL CALENDAR

This year, Charlotte County Public Schools will have two more early release days which are dedicated to Professional Learning for our staff. On these days, schools will dismiss two hours early.

### Early Release Days:

February 12 and April 30.

- Bus schedules will be adjusted by two hours to bring students home.
- All on-campus after-school camps will proceed as normal.
- For off-campus programs, please check with the people in charge of those programs directly for information about pick-up arrangements for those days.



Please scan the QR Code to see Port Charlotte Middle School's 2024-2025 calendar.



**FENCE MAN FENCING**  
941-440-6377  
**REPAIR & INSTALLATION**  
WOOD – CHAIN LINK – ALUMINUM – VINYL

fenceman.pro

**PANTHER HOLLOW DENTAL LODGE**

19240 Quesada Ave. • Port Charlotte, FL 33948  
(941) 743-7435 • www.PantherHollowDental.com

Ashley N. Reynolds, D.M.D.  
Robert G. Coseo, D.D.S. • Timothy L. Palmer, D.D.S.  
Melissa M. Duston, D.D.S. • Neil B. Seaver, D.M.D.

*We Welcome New Smiles!*

# 4



## CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK



### PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Our Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP) is available now. Please scan the QR Code for more information.



## CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK

**BOOK FAIR, CONTESTS, A FAMILY NIGHT EVENT, AND MORE!**

**Monday - Friday**  
1/27/25 - 1/31/25

**About Literacy Week**

Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! is designed to raise awareness about the importance of reading and to inspire Florida's students and families to make reading part of their daily routines.

**Event Highlights**

**Book Fair**  
The Book Fair will be open Mon - Fri, 8:50 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**The Masked Reader**  
Participate in daily contests all week! Guess the name of the Masked Reader on WPCM to win a prize.

**Family Literacy Night**  
Wednesday, 1/29/2025  
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy a free dinner and raffle drawing! Learn about our e-book resources, shop the Book Fair, and hear about how you can inspire a love of reading at home!

**RSVP!**



### POSTER CONTEST

The PCMS Poster Contest winners are as follows:

- **Best in Show:** Cristo Huerta (8th grade)
- **Administrator's Choice:** Zayden Guillmette (7th grade)
- **8th grade:** Katie Long (1st place) and Violet Wallin (honorable mention)
- **7th grade:** Summit Tower (1st place) and Alex Cortes (honorable mention)
- **6th grade:** Rylee McDougall (1st place) and Ben Guerrier (honorable mention)
- **Staff Choice:** McKenzie Roe (1st place) and Yaimarie Rio (honorable mention)

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP/SGA SPONSOR, MRS. KELLE ANDERSON

**Leadership-** The students in the PCM Leadership class volunteered for over 120 hours at various elementary schools and other locations in Semester 1. Many students volunteered at the local shelters and many of the communities' organizations that help out families in need. We also made memory ball ornaments for senior citizens with Dementia. In class we learned about the importance of saving and investing. We researched stocks and learned the basics of how money works for us. This semester we will be playing the stock market game and hosting guest speakers from the community to explore various jobs and opportunities for employment our area has to offer.

Student Government hosted the winter movie night. It was a great success, and a good time was had by all. Look for the upcoming "Movie under the stars" which will be happening on February 5th at 6:30. No bags, backpacks, outside food or drinks will be allowed, but you may bring a blanket or towel to sit on. Also, SGA will be collecting items for their annual service project starting in February. Stay tuned for more information about what items to send in. Lastly, 8th grade parents, save the date for the Farewell Dance on May 17th. All 8th graders are invited to attend.

### RECYCLING CLUB

The PCMS Recycling Club meets every Thursday afternoon, and all students are welcome to join.



*We Support*  
**Port Charlotte Middle School**

**MCDONALD'S**  
3232 Tamiami Trail  
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

*Go Terriers!*

### HOPE AMBASSADORS

Meetings are scheduled for the following dates (Thursdays from 4:10-5:10 in the Media Center): January 9 and 23, February 6 and 20, March 6, April 3 and 17, and May 1 and 15. All are welcome!

### INTRAMURALS

PCMS offers an intramurals activity (sports) club after school (weather permitting). The club runs Monday through Thursday after school from 4:10-5:10 p.m. ANY STUDENT may stay after school to participate in a choice of activities to include soccer, basketball, flag football, and volleyball (when the gym is available). Students need to get a consent to participate form from the gym and return it to Coach Hibbard or Coach Renne prior to participation. Students may stay whichever days they choose. ALL behavioral expectations and pick up times should be followed or it may be cause for your student to be dismissed.

PROUD TO SUPPORT THE PCMS TERRIERS



**TRULY NOLEN**  
PEST CONTROL  
TERMITES

**PEST • TERMITE • RODENT • LAWN • INSULATION**

## OUT OF FIELD

The following teachers are currently teaching Out of Field:

Megan Dean	ESOL
Richard Fry	ESOL, English
Christine Salmon	ESOL, Reading, English
Marjolene Faustin	Social Science
Wesley Marshall	Biology, MG Earth-Space, MG Life Science
Stephen McKeith	Math
Nicolette McKermitt	English
Prince Powell	Physical Education
Jana Tornabene	ESOL
Kristina Weston	ESOL



# 5

## CERTIFICATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who have earned an ICT certification in Spreadsheet Essentials: Adam Baradith, Enzo Franko, Hunter Clay, Aurora Mietz, Jackson Moudy, Matthew Henry, Michael Rodriguez, Reagan Reynolds, and Benjamin Bauerlein.

Congratulations to the following students who have earned an ICT certification in Presentation Essentials: Emily Fountain, Bailey Powell, Eddie DeLizo, Elle Parkinson, Ezekiel Barnes, Isabella Del Rio, Jaden Le, and Logan Carey.

Congratulations to Andrew Lin for earning a certification in Word Processing Essentials.

## PE NEWS

Students in Physical Education classes continued practicing team work and learning modified rules of games and offensive/ defensive strategies in game play with cooperative games. They added to their knowledge of offensive and defensive strategies with team sports: flag football, soccer, and basketball. They completed their training for the fall mile run and completed that, as well as a cross country run and 40 yard dash. Mile run time leaders are as follows:

- 6th grade: Gavin Bove (7:02) and Leah Olivert (9:28)
- 7th grade: Gavin Gonzalez (6:28) and Zoey Clarke (8:00)
- 8th grade: Jayden White Cakpo (5:47) and Chantel Wilson (7:40)

The 40-yard dash times as follows:

- 6th grade: Philippe Pierre (5.2) and Leah Olivert (6.1)
- 7th grade: Prince Alexander (4.9), Kendall Brown (5.8), and Ella Podolskiy (5.8)
- 8th grade: Jamaal Abdullah (4.7) and Aaliyah Gil (5.2)

We are looking forward to a "Summer Olympics" unit, more games, and another mile run, 40-yard dash, and cross country run in the spring!

### PE Reminders

Changing out is a part of your students' PE grade. Black shorts and grey shirt are preferred and can be purchased with a lock for \$20 at school (during PE) all year long OR you may purchase your own clothing/ outfit outside of school and only pay the \$2 rental fee for the locker.

If your child misses a class due to an "in school" or "out of school" suspension (ISS or OSS), they can make up the missing grade for partial credit. ISS work should be requested from the ISS coordinator (Ms. Davis) and OSS work can be found on the teacher's CANVAS page under the classwork section.

1932 Kings Hwy | Punta Gorda

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

7AM – 8PM  
Sunday 7AM – 3PM  
(941) 625-1115

Like us on Facebook!

BREAKFAST | SANDWICHES | SUBS  
PASTA | BURGERS | DINNER | DESSERTS

Leydy Toribio Fabelo, DMD  
Dr. Diana Rivera-Ramos, DMD  
GENERAL DENTISTS

1940 Tamiami Trail, Suite 102 | Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Call us today to schedule your appointment  
at 941-625-7413  
or schedule online at [completedentalcarefl.com](http://completedentalcarefl.com)

**A+ Action Appliance Service & Sales, Inc.**  
Family Owned and Operated

Port Charlotte  
941.627.0056 • 941.627.0061

2626 Tamiami Trail  
Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
[aactionappliance@yahoo.com](mailto:aactionappliance@yahoo.com)  
[actionappliancesalesandservice.com](http://actionappliancesalesandservice.com)

All Major Appliances Served

**WE STREAMLINE THE BULKY AND TIME CONSUMING PUBLIC BIDDING PROCESS**

We Work with Local and Owner Preferred Contractors

Robert J. Warholic  
c: 607-760-2350 • [Rob@EssentialConstructs.com](mailto:Rob@EssentialConstructs.com)

CONSTRUCTION DONE IN THE SAME CALENDAR YEAR

[EssentialConstructs.com](http://EssentialConstructs.com)

# 6



## PCMS CELEBRATES OUR VETERANS

*Pictured:  
Dr. Paul Curtis, Mr. Len  
Lorenz, Deputy Teresa  
Anderson, Mr. Kevin  
Martin, Ms. Rebecca Senat,  
and Mr. Richard Fry*



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, MS. GABBY THOMPSON

This spring, students have the opportunity to participate in Track and Field, Soccer, and Wrestling. In order to be eligible to participate, students must have a 2.0 GPA and a completed sports physical on file. Sports physicals can be picked up in the Front Office at Port Charlotte Middle School or accessed on the CCPS athletics website. Please be on the lookout for Remind messages related to tryouts for each event. Track and Field will open our spring season with the first date of practice on January 27th. Students must sign up prior to attending the first practice. Sign-ups will be available to students in the cafeteria from January 13th-January 22nd. Students must have a completed sports physical no later than January 22nd to participate in Track and Field.

## VAPE SENSORS

There are vape sensors in every bathroom on campus in order to continue to promote a safe learning environment for all.

## AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

# Tutoring

### TOGETHER, WE CAN SUCCEED!



### CREDIT RECOVERY

**All Subjects:**  
Mondays (N137)

**SPANISH/ELL TUTORING**  
**All Subjects:** Mondays (M125)

### MATH

**6th Grade:** Tuesdays (D5)  
Wednesdays (D7)

**7th Grade:** Tuesdays (E1)  
Wednesdays (E6)

**8th Grade/Algebra:**  
Tuesdays (E3)  
Wednesdays (E2)

\*Students must sign up before 7th period on the day they want to attend.



### SCIENCE

**All Grades:**  
Mondays (B4)  
Tuesdays (B4)  
Wednesdays (A4)  
Thursdays (A4)



### SOCIAL STUDIES

**All Grades/All Subjects:**  
Mondays (N143A)  
Tuesdays (A3, B1)  
Wednesdays (B1)

\*Students must sign up before 7th period on the day they want to attend.

### ENGLISH, LANGUAGE ARTS

**6th Grade:** Tuesdays (D4, D8)  
Thursdays (D3)

**7th/8th Grade:**  
Mondays (D2, C2)  
Tuesdays (D1)  
Wednesdays (C1, C2, D1)  
Thursdays (C1)

\*Students must sign up before 7th period on the day they want to attend.



## CAMP BOW WOW

DOGGY DAY CARE & BOARDING • GROOMING

# FIRST DAY FREE!\*

- ✓ LIVE WEB CAMS
- ✓ INDOOR & OUTDOOR PLAY YARDS
- ✓ SPACIOUS CABINS
- ✓ SOCIALIZATION WITH OTHER DOGS



CAMP BOW WOW® PORT CHARLOTTE  
campbowwow.com/port-charlotte  
941-875-9410

\*LEGAL WOOF: Offer valid only at above location. New customers only. Camper must meet entrance requirements. Other restrictions apply.



# KALLIS

GERMAN

## BUTCHER SHOP

European Specialties Store



*We offer a variety of authentic products with an original German taste*

2420 Tamiami Trl · Port Charlotte, FL 33952 · 941-627-1413 [www.kallisgermanbutcher.com](http://www.kallisgermanbutcher.com)



# 2024-2025 ATHLETIC SCHEDULE *Go Terriers!*

## Track and Field

Meet Time: 9am start

2/8 (Saturday) @ Charlotte High School

## Soccer (Boys/Girls)

Games: 5:30/6:30 pm @ Centennial Park

2/20 PCM @ PGM (F1/F2) / MMS @ LAA (F3/F4)

2/27 PCM @ MMS (F1/F2) / LAA @ PGM (F3/F4)

3/6 LAA @ PCM(F1/F2) / PGM @ MMS (F3/F4)

3/13 PGM @ LAA(F1/F2) / MMS @ PCM (F3/F4)

3/27 LAA @ MMS(F1/F2) / PGM @PCM (F3/F4)

4/3 MMS @ PGM(F1/F2) / PCM @ LAA (F3/F4)

4/5 Playoffs at Centennial Park at 10am (Saturday)

F1=Field 1 (Girls) F2=Field 2 (Boys)

F3=Field 3 (Girls) F4=Field 4 (Boys)

\*\*\*Soccer tryouts begin on February 10th. You must have a physical on file to try out. See Coach Marshall in D1 for more info.

## Wrestling

Dual Matches\* - Match time: 5:30pm

4/17 PGM @ PCM LAA @ MMS

4/24 MMS @ PGM PCM @ LAA

5/1 PGM @ LAA MMS @ PCM

County Tournament - Time: 10am start

5/3 (Saturday) @ Charlotte High School

# ANNUAL SUSPENSION-FREE 3V3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

PCMS hosted is annual Suspension-Free 3v3 Basketball Tournament on December 4th. In order to be eligible to play or attend this free event, students had to stay suspension-free from October 16th to December 4th. By the end of that six-week window, almost 90% of our student body was eligible to attend or play! This shows our students' dedication and commitment to their academic success. Congratulations to Carter Stanley, Landon Stone, and Marcos Nava for winning the tournament! Be on the lookout for more information regarding our Semester 2 Minute to Win it suspension-free event in March.

# GOLF TOURNAMENT AND SPONSORS

PCMS hosted our second annual PTO Golf Tournament on November 9th at The Hills @ Rotunda Golf and Country Club.

Thank you to our sponsors: Tri-County Educators Insurance LLC, Starbucks, Pet Supplies Plus, Charlie Foxtrot Brewery, Insane Conez, Sports Clips, Riverwood Golf Club, Go 4 Golf, Rotunda Golf & Country Club, Deep Creek Golf Club, Tommy's Express Car Wash, Heritage Landing Golf & Country Club, Visani, Massage Perfect, Chick-fil-A, Your Golf Shop Inc, Coastal Dermatolog, Gulf Breeze (My Favorite Race), Subway, IL Primo, LMNT, Clear Thought Neurology, Harbor Home Services, Pucci Tile, Total Comfort Cooling & Heating, Durti Runners, Norm Reeves Volkswagen & Honda, Simplicity Group, Englewood Moose Lodge, GJC Window & Door, Slack Orthodontics PA, Curtis Service, Kim Amontree (Charlotte County School Board District 2), Crews Bank & Trust, Super T, Kenneth W. Lounders, Southern Oxygen & Welding Company, Harbor Audiology, Tom Joyce Automotive Inc, and Murdock Tire.

We also want to thank everyone who came out and supported Port Charlotte Middle School at this event. Our wonderful community plays a huge part in PCMS's success.



# REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES OR THREATS

Students, parents, CCPS employees, and members of the community have a responsibility to report suspicious activities and potential threats to schools. Any suspicious activity or threat shall be promptly reported to one of the following individuals, agencies or reporting tools:

- School Resource Officer or local law enforcement agencies.
- School Administrator or any available staff member.
- The FortifyFL Reporting APP or to the Crimestoppers Tip line (1-800-780-TIPS).
- Contacting the Supervisor of District Security and Emergency Management at (941) 255-0808
- Calling 9-1-1.

Note: Reports may be done anonymously.

## Lorrie's Creations Handmade Soap & Soy Candles Custom Cups, Tote Bags & Gifts

Personalized  
Gifts



Customized  
Candle  
Scents

941-457-6100 Port Charlotte, FL  
www.LorriesCreations.com  
www.facebook.com/groups/lorriescreations

# WE ARE HERE FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS

COLDWELL BANKER SUNSTAR REALTY

14972 Tamiami Trail | North Port, Florida 34287

**PETRA KNAUTHE**  
REALTOR®  
678.978.3015  
PetraKnauthe@comcast.net  
petra-knauthe.cbfloridahomes.com



**CHRISTIE ENGLEHART**  
REALTOR®, ABR  
610.334.5808  
ClosingsWithChristie@gmail.com  
closingswithchristie.com



**BAYLOR'S SOUTHERN SOUL FOOD**

Jimmy L. Baylor, Sr. Leuvenia Baylor  
941-585-3793 941-585-3371

**A TASTE OF THE SOUTH AT ITS BEST!**



23000 Midway Blvd.  
Port Charlotte FL 33952

Non Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Orlando, FL  
Permit# 2346



## Port Charlotte Middle **TERRIERS**



## CHEER SQUAD

PCMS is the only middle school in Charlotte County with a cheer squad, and this fabulous cheer squad performed in the Christmas parade on December 14th!



## PCMS SOCIAL WORKER REMINDERS



**Resources Available**

- Backpacks
- Canned goods
- School supplies

Please contact our school social worker Mrs. Pineda for more information

