



# Cardinal Chirp

Polk Avenue Elementary Lake Wales Florida April 2010 Volume 2 Page 1

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*Look What's Happening...*

*Around the Avenue*

## **Interview with Mrs. Murphy**

By Lucero Otero

On April 14, 2010, I had the opportunity to interview Mrs. Lonnie Murphy, as we all know, she is one of our Kindergarten teachers here at Polk Avenue Elementary and is a missionary. This is what she told me about her recent trip to Haiti. These are her words:

“It was good but sad at the same time. All the houses were destroyed. It was awful, but it was okay to go and I helped. I was fine, I was glad to go.”

As a student, I was able to learn the importance of helping others and lending a hand to the people in need. It is very much appreciated, the time and effort we can offer to people in this situation. I would like to encourage our school once again to help Haiti. The Pride Team already

did a car wash fundraiser, we should try and do another fundraising activity to show our support. Not only was I able to learn how important it is to help others but also to be thankful about what we have.

## **Fifth Grade Graduation**

By Summer Beasley

The Fifth Grade Graduation will be 11:00 AM, Monday, June 7, 2010. Parents of students in fifth grade are meeting every other Tuesday evening to plan this event. There will be amazing food, lots of fun, and a goodbye ceremony for the fifth grade as we see them leave. We will miss them, but we know they are moving on to bigger and better things.

## **The Downfall In the Greek Economy**

By Anthony Faro

The Greek government and economy is suffering from many of the same problems facing many countries today. The government has spent or promised to spend much more money on social programs, healthcare, and government programs than it collects in taxes. When this happens, the government has to borrow money to keep its promises and pay its bills.

In order to fix things the government has had to cut spending and cut pay to government employees and cut government programs. This has made people angry. They don't want their benefits or pay cut and they are rioting in the streets.

The Greek government is hoping that Germany or France will give them money to help meet the government's financial needs, but no one knows what will happen.

## **Trivia With Trevor**

Did you know that the word "News" is an acronym for:  
North, east, west, and south?

Dr. Seuss invented the word "nerd".

## **The Lakeland Flying Tigers**

By Cameron Wilson

The Lakeland Flying Tigers have announced their 2010 Opening Day Roster. It will feature nine top ten draft picks and ten players who appeared in games for the Flying Tigers in 2009. The roster includes 14 pitchers (2 on the disabled list), 2 catchers, 7 infielders, and 5 outfielders. (1 on the disabled list)

Third grade is going to the Flying Tigers baseball game on May 4. The Tigers are playing the Tampa Bay Cubs. All tickets are only \$2 and parking is free. 2010 marks the 45<sup>th</sup> year for Joker Marchant Stadium.

## **Barney's Dream**

By Ashely Hernandez

Barney's Dream is a playground. It is for all children to have a fun day. There are swings for disabled children and the ramps are wide enough for a wheelchair. There are practice baseball fields, a soccer field, and a skate park nearby. It is also a site for parties. It is now a famous and popular park for all the kids in Lake Wales.

## **Air Show**

By Lora Ellis

Wow! Look at those planes go. Airfest is the best place to see the Blue Angels. Manuver 6 is where 5 and 6 Blue Angels come from behind you. Also, the C-4 come out and fly also. You can go out and see the planes sitting down in take off position. Airfest is the international flying of planes that is held at the Air Force base. It is amazing to watch!

## **The Fashion Show**

By Teresa Cruz

The Fashion show was nice. We had all the girls getting dressed up and putting make up on to get ready. We also had a run way, music, and a big audience. After that everyone went up on the run way and showed off. We gathered in a big group to get a group picture. At the end of the show we ate some food before we got ready to leave. I hope we can do it again next year!

## **Accelerated Reader**

By Tayla Richardson

Accelerated Reader, or AR is very popular at Polk Avenue. Some teachers are really into it. There are many levels of AR . They are: Ready Reader, Independent Reader, Rising Reader, Super Reader, Advanced Reader, Star Reader, Classic Reader and Honors Reader.

Many students at Polk Avenue have reached Ready Reader. To do that, you have to get 5 points. Some are even Independent Readers. You have to read at least 3 books at a 1.2 level or higher and get 10 points. The next level, which is Rising Reader is harder to get. You have to read 3 books at a level 1.6 or higher and get 10 points by reading the books independently. To be a Super Reader you have to read 3 books on a level 2.0 or higher and each book has to be worth 1 point or more. The next level is Advanced Reader. To get this, you have to read 3 books level 3 or higher and each of those books has to be worth 2 points or more. The Star Reader is next. You have to read 3 books at level 4 or higher and each of those

books has to be worth 4 points or higher. The Classic Reader level is next and you have to read 3 books at level 6 or higher and each of those books has to be worth 7 points or higher.

Like I said, it gets competitive. Mrs. Lassiter gives prizes each month for people who earn them. Classes get a treat at the end of the year for having the most AR points for the year. They get their choice of either an ice cream party or a pizza party.

## **Movie Star**

by Ashley Hernandez

The Blind Side is the true story of American Football Pro Michael Oher. As a teeneager, Michael wasn't exactly part of a stable home environment. Moving around foster homes was part of the usual routine. When the mother of one of Michael's class mates discovered the hardships of Michael's life, she takes him in at once.

