

PALMETTO LITERACY COUNCIL

BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY THROUGH LITERACY



1435 Cannon Road, #101, Myrtle Beach SC 29577 [Google Map](#)



A Message From The Director

Happy Holidays!

We are so grateful to all of you! You are changing lives and families in the most positive direction. Thank you!

We have a new sign on the building. It is our logo! It is beautiful!
Thanks to Fast Signs of Myrtle Beach!



Adult Team Spelling Bee Fundraising Event

We have rescheduled the Adult Team Spelling Bee! It is happening, folks! Please save the date for Thursday, February 27 from 7 pm – 10 pm. If you don't have a team, it will be great fun to watch! More information is coming!

Adult English Language Learner Program

We're excited to announce that we have hired a Program Manager for the Adult English Language Learner (ELL) Program. Please welcome **Caryn Cortez** who will start her full-time position with PLC on Monday, December 2, 2024. Read more about Caryn and our ELL program a little further down in this newsletter.

We hope the holidays are filled with joy and gratitude!

Stay safe and healthy!

Dodi

Remember, our new address is: **1435 Cannon Road, #101, Myrtle Beach SC 29577**
([Click here](#) for a Google Map of this address)

Our Kids Are Making Progress!



Mary Beth Topczynski is the tutor and **Bella Bess** is the student. Bella has passed the *Passages Level 3 Read Closely* section



Gabriela Vizcarra has passed the *Passages to Comprehension, Level 2* section.



Congratulations to **Jeremiah Smith** for completing a section in his binder! He is a hard worker and his tutor, **Polly Putorti**, says he is a pleasure to work with during their sessions. Keep up the great work Jeremiah!

Donations

We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3). We use grants and donations to provide free tutoring for our children and adults in Horry County who struggle with basic reading, writing, and/or math. Thank you to all who have donated to our organization. Your donations have provided materials for our Volunteer Tutors to use and helped our students learn!

Due to our growth, we need funding to purchase computers, desks, and supplies. If you can, we would appreciate any help you could give us to continue to provide Horry County with high-quality, free tutoring. We are grateful for any donations. You can donate on the PLC website by [clicking here](#), or by clicking on the **Walmart Spark Good** website below.



We are registered for the Walmart SparkGood donation hub. Donors can purchase gift cards or other items we have listed to donate to our organization. This is the donation link on the Walmart website:

<https://www.walmart.com/registry/RR/36fa7082-9cde-489a-a5e8-4d31844ea9a1>

Other News

Toys for Tots

We have a drop box for Toys for Tots! Please drop off unwrapped toys to be given to children in our community. Toys will be distributed to children on December 15.

Thank you Donna Gaynor for your volunteer work as the Volunteer Liaison at Carolina Forest Library for the last few years! And for sticking around until we could find a new Volunteer Liaison! We appreciate your giving of your time, knowledge, and experience to help all of us!

Welcome Betty Nobles for joining our team as the new Volunteer Liaison at Carolina Forest Library! Betty has an extensive background in education and is currently a substitute teacher in Horry County Schools. We're excited to have her on the team!

Adult English Language Learner Program Manager



Please welcome **Caryn Cortez** as she begins at PLC as the Adult English Language Learner Program Manager and a full-time employee. Caryn will work with Dodi to adapt a curriculum to fit the PLC model for our adult English Language Learners. Caryn will begin on Monday, December 2, 2024. Her position is funded through the Horry County Development Block Grant (HUD). We are so excited to be able to help our adult ELL community members who are emergent readers in their primary language and/or in English to those who are early readers. Our goal is to have them reading at the 5th-grade level.

Caryn was born and raised in South Carolina. Her many accomplishments include graduating Summa Cum Laude from Coastal Carolina University, earning a Masters Degree in Hispanic Literature. Caryn's passion for language can be seen in her career as a language teacher. She has also gained a deep appreciation for language and culture-based education.

Caryn enjoys many creative outlets which include being an active member of the local dance community in Myrtle Beach and connecting with others by exploring different cultures through movement and by the worldwide travel that she has done. Her goal in being the program manager for the Building Community through English Language Learners Program is to assist clients in their English language journey.

Our Kids Are Making Progress!



Haines Campbell is tutored at Surfside Library by **Mariellen Smith**. Mariellen is so proud of how well Haines is progressing in his reading, comprehension, and writing. Great job!



Sue Walters, Tutor, with **Haleli Cohen**. Haleli graduated from PLC! We are so proud of her tenacity and love of learning!

Volunteers

Want to give back to your community? It only takes 2 hours each week to tutor a child or adult who struggle with basic reading, writing, and/or math. We provide materials and training which are designed to meet the individual student's needs. We also provide training and opportunities to learn from other tutors (Tutor Talks).

If you can help, please attend one of our **Volunteer Orientation and Training** sessions or give the office a call (843) 945-9278. You can check when the Volunteer Orientation and Training sessions are scheduled on our [Calendar](#) on our website. We welcome you to bring friends to these sessions.

Free Hearing Wellness Screenings In Honor of National Protect Your Hearing Month!



During December, United Way of Horry County will be providing all employees, volunteers, and community members (18 and older) with complimentary hearing screenings. The screenings will be available to you, at no cost, at the clinic location most convenient for you.

Your screening will include:

- An Otosopic Evaluation
- Full Hearing Screening
- Copy of your Audiogram Results

Click below to choose your location and schedule your 15-minute hearing screening.

SCHEDULE NOW. [Click Here!](#)

Happy Holidays!

There are 18 holidays celebrated in the month of December 2024 all over the world. We hope that whatever holiday you celebrate it is a joyous celebration!

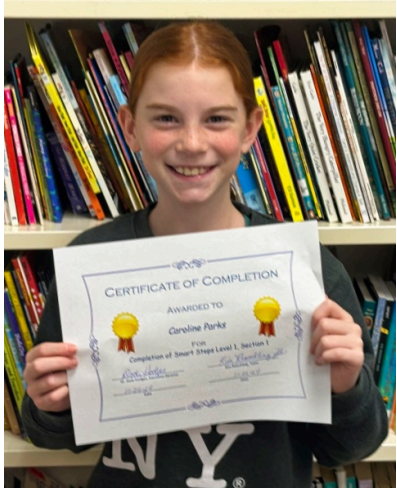


For those of you who are curious, the history and meaning of these holidays are easily found on the internet.

- St. Nicholas Day – December 5 or 6 (Christianity)
- Immaculate Conception Day - December 8 (Roman Catholicism)
- Rohatsu (aka Bodhi Day) – December 8 (Buddhism)
- Geeta Jayanti – December 11 (Hinduism)
- Feast Day of Our Lady Guadalupe – December 12 (Christianity-Mexico)
- Dhanu Sankranti (aka Dhanu Sankraman) – December 15 (Hindu)
- Las Posadas – Between December 16 and December 24 (Christianity-Latin America)
- Hanukkah – December 18-26 (Judaism)
- Yule – December 21-January 1 (Paganism – Wicca)
- Christmas Eve – December 24 (Christianity)

- Christmas – December 25 (Christianity)
- St. Stephen's Day – December 26 (Christianity-Catholic)
- Boxing Day - December 26 (United Kingdom and other Commonwealth)
- Kwanzaa – December 26 - January 1 (African-American culminating in feast called Karamu on January 1)
- Zarathoshit Diso – December 26 (Zoroastrianism)
- St. Stephen's Day – December 26 (Western Christianity) or December 27 (Eastern Christianity)
- Feast of Holy Innocents (aka Childermas) – December 28 (Eastern Christianity)
- New Year's Eve – December 31

Our Kids Are Making Progress!



Caroline Parks has completed Smart Steps Level 1, Section 1. Congratulations!



Bryana Hipkins received a certificate for completing Smart Steps, Level K, Section 3 in her binder. **Lee Doty** is her tutor at the Surfside Library. Bryana is progressing well in her reading, comprehension, and writing.

Speaking Engagements

If you have a service organization and need speakers, we would be happy to provide your organization with information about the Palmetto Literacy Council. Contact us here:

Email: info@palmettoliteracy.org

Office Phone: [\(843\) 945-9278](tel:(843)945-9278)

The Hare and the Tortoise



A Hare was making fun of the Tortoise one day for being so slow. "Do you ever get anywhere?" he asked with a mocking laugh. "Yes," replied the Tortoise, "and I get there sooner than you think. I'll run you a race and prove it."

The Hare was much amused at the idea of running a race with the Tortoise, but for the fun of the thing he agreed. So the Fox, who had consented to act as judge, marked the distance and started the runners off. The Hare was soon far out of sight, and to make the Tortoise feel very deeply how ridiculous it was for him to try a race with a Hare, he lay down beside the course to take a nap until the Tortoise should catch up.

The Tortoise meanwhile kept going slowly but steadily, and, after a time, passed the place where the Hare was sleeping. But the Hare slept on very peacefully; and when at last he did wake up, the Tortoise was near the goal. The Hare now ran his swiftest, but he could not overtake the Tortoise in time.

The race is not always to the swift.

2025 Golf Scramble Announcement!



The **2025 PLC Golf Scramble** will take place at **Shaftesbury Glen Golf & Fish Club** on **June 14**. Much more information will be coming over the next few months. Visit Shaftesburyglen.com for more course photos.

Dates to Note

You can always check the Calendar on the PLC website. [Click Here](#).

These events take place at the office,
1435 Cannon Road, #101, Myrtle Beach SC.

([Click here](#) for a Google Map of this address)

Our sign is above our entrance door. If you find yourself in front of a yellow building, that is the wrong building. We are in the brick and stucco building next door.

The office will be closed

from December 23, 2024, to January 1, 2025. We'll reopen on January 2, 2025, for regular hours.

Tutor Talks

Tutors share ideas, ask for ideas, and get to know each other! Light refreshments.

- Thursday, December 19, 2024, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Friday, December 20, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Friday, January 31, 2025, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Always a lot to learn and you get to meet fellow Tutors!

Volunteer Orientations and Training

If you know anyone interested in volunteering to tutor, please let them know about the Volunteer Orientations and Training (VOT):

- Wednesday, December 4, 2024 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 17, 2024 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, January 7, 2025 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, January 22, 2025 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Adult Team Spelling Bee Fundraising Event

Thursday, February 27, 2025 7 pm – 10 pm.

If you don't have a team, it will be great fun to watch! More information is coming!

2025 Golf Scramble at Shaftesbury Glen

June 14, 2025

This is our biggest fund-raiser of the year. June seems like a long way off, but the organizing committee will be meeting soon to start planning.

Our Mission:

The Palmetto Literacy Council's mission is to improve the literacy of youth and adults in our community by tutoring literacy skills for those who struggle with basic Reading, Writing and/or Math.

Donate Now!

If you've read this far, you're obviously interested in what we do. Your donation helps pay for student binders, office space, copy machines, paper, and much more. Please donate what you can today!

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.

Newsletter Editor -
Newsletter Layout - Bill Woodward
Palmetto Literacy Council
1229 38th Ave N #130
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
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