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PALMETTO LITERACY COUNCIL



Building a Stronger Community Through Literacy



ADULT SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

LIKE GROUP TRIVIA – BUT IT'S SPELLING!

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026

7:00 – 10:00 PM

FOOD CASH BAR RAFFLES
50/50 SILENT AUCTION

AT BLUEWATER RESORT

2001 S Ocean Blvd Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

To Register Your Team

or Join the Audience, [CLICK HERE!](#)

ALL PROCEEDS
BENEFIT

PALMETTO LITERACY COUNCIL
BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY THROUGH LITERACY





We have **Ed Piotrowski** as the Emcee and lots of other surprises, including additional competitions within the Spelling Bee.

Spelling Bee judges include **Myrtle Beach Mayor Mark Kruea**, **Matt Pivarnik**, CEO of Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, **Pam Dawson** of the Horry County School Board, **Destiny Kennedy**, anchor and producer of WMBF's *Grand Strand Today*, and **Caleb Wygal**, local author of the *Myrtle Beach Mysteries*.

Join the Spelling Bee Fun! [Click Here!](#)



Kelsey Petersen Graduates!



Kelsey Petersen is the first to graduate from PLC in 2026! Kelsey's Volunteer Tutor is **Jennifer Wingerter** (it was her birthday!). Kelsey's first tutor was **Peggie Anderson**. Kelsey admitted she has secret flashlights so she can

continue to read after lights out. "She loves to read," Mom and Dad agreed. Jennifer's other student, Leah, stayed for the celebration. Margaret Burke, PLC Volunteer Liaison for Socastee Library, and Lee Browne, the Socastee Library Manager, also attended to celebrate Kelsey's achievement!



Walker Jenkins Graduates!



Our second graduation! Congratulations to **Walker Jenkins!** We're so proud of you! We know you'll keep reading and writing!



Our Students Are Making Great Progress!



Holden



Ta'maries



Ellison



Jade



Nicolas



Greysen



Meilin



Emma



AJ

Holden Kurtz made amazing progress during this whole binder, recognizing advanced words, successfully using them in sentences, and reading stories more fluently, helping him to understand the concept. It has been an amazing experience seeing him develop his reading skills. Holden's tutor is Angie Sanchez-Carrillo.

Ta'maries Bellamy received TWO progress certificates! He is doing very well. His tutor is John Boyle.

Ellison Ganucheau received a progress certificate. Greysen's tutor is John Boyle.

Jade Alvarado is doing very well with her lessons. She is a delight to tutor. Jade's tutor is Catherine MacInnes.

Nicolas Deas has shown clear progress in analyzing text elements. He's moved from identifying basic story components such as characters and settings to explaining how these elements are related in the big picture. His responses to the questions reflect his growing critical thinking skills. Nicolas' tutor is Tori Wran.

Greysen Rapazzo received a certificate for completion of *Passages to Comprehension, Level 2*. Greysen's tutor is Carol Westbrook.

Meilin Davis received her reading certificate for binder RD-05, section 2. Her tutor is Vickie Osborne.

Emma De La Cruz received her 1st Certificate of Completion. Emma is such a delight to work with! She comes so eager and ready to work and has made great progress! Emma's tutor is Debbie Luoi.

AJ Baxter is excited to earn his first certificate. He's working hard! AJ's tutor is Diane Pasciolla.

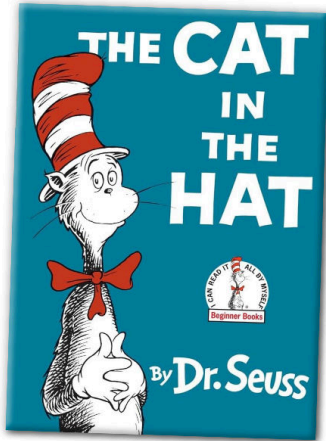


Dr. Dodi Hodges Appeared on Grand Strand Today



They discussed our upcoming Spelling Bee and the work that PLC does. Watch it online - [Click Here!](#)

Coming Soon . . .



It will come with a **THUMP!** It will come with a **ZAT!** It will knock the red hat right off of the Cat! It's not in a box, and it's not on a shelf. It's a secret I'm keeping all here to myself.

It's bigger than whales! It's faster than foxes! It's better than things found in red wooden boxes. The Fish in the bowl will give a big **CHEER!** And say, *"I just love when a big surprise is here!"*

He'll flip, and he'll flop with a grin on his face, and splash lots of water all over the place! For I'll give you a hint, and I'll give you a wink, It's much more amazing than you'd ever think!

A Message From Our Director



Happy spring!

Oh my goodness...we are so excited about our upcoming Adult Team Spelling Bee event on Saturday, March 7! We are all in a buzz!

Thank you to our community for supporting us! This year is starting like so many of the years we have been in business. We have more students coming in to get help, more volunteers, and more

donations. We appreciate the community's feedback about how important what we do is for the future of our community. It is amazing. We have a very passionate group of volunteers and staff at PLC. Thank you.

Here are some little nuggets of news:

- We had two students graduate from Palmetto Literacy Council in February! Kelsey Petersen and Walker Jenkins!
- We are scheduled to have four Volunteer Orientation and Training sessions in March. It is a good thing! We have 47 students on the Waitlist.
- We said goodbye to Dr. Noreen McAllon, screener for PLC. We wish her the best in her pursuits!

- We are grateful to JoAnne Murray, Lead Screener, and Dr. Betty Brown, Screener, for volunteering to do this important job! We are adding two more screeners, Debra Miller and Donna Basting. They come to our organization with amazing experience and education!
- We also hope to add a couple of Volunteer Liaisons. More to come...Sneak preview-one will be at the Loris/Little River/North Myrtle Beach libraries until Loris gets too big. We will continue to look for Little River/North Myrtle Beach.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Spelling Bee, either as a team member or in our audience. Seeing some of your friends get gonged will be quite fun! I mean, watch them win or get the auction items they bid on!

Stay Safe, Healthy, and Warm!

Dodi



Volunteer Orientation and Training

All VOT takes place at our office at
1435 Cannon Road, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

[Google Map](#)

- Wednesday, **March 4**, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Tuesday, **March 24**, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, **March 25**, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, **April 15**, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Tuesday, **April 28**, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- Thursday, **May 14**, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Tuesday, **May 26**, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm



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.

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!

Donate Now



1435 Cannon Road, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
palmettoliteracy.org • (843) 945-9278

