March 14, 2013

Dear Parents or Guardians:

Students at Palms, along with public school students throughout California, will participate in the state’s Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program this spring. The STAR testing program has three components:

- California Standards Test (CST), Grades 2-11
- California Alternative Performance Assessment (CAPA), Grades 2-11 is administered for students with severe cognitive learning disabilities being instructed in an alternate curriculum.
- Standards-based test in Spanish (STS) is administered to Spanish speaking English learners who have been enrolled in a United States public school less than 12 cumulative months at the time of testing. This test will be administered April 22 through May 2nd.

The school will test from April 22, 2013 through May 2, 2013. The schedule is as follows:

- **Monday, April 22**
  - English Language Arts, Part 1
  - 12:20 dismissal
- **Tuesday, April 23**
  - English Language Arts, Part 2
  - 12:20 dismissal
- **Wednesday, April 24**
  - 6/7th Gr. Math, Part 1, 8th Gr. History
  - 12:20 dismissal
- **Thursday, April 25**
  - 6/7th Gr. Math, Part 2, 8th Gr. Science
  - 12:20 dismissal
- **Friday, April 26**
  - 12:20 dismissal
- **Monday, April 29**
  - 12:20 dismissal
- **April 30, May 1 & 2**
  - Make-Up Testing
  - 3:00 dismissal

A report of your child’s results on the STAR tests will be sent to your home after they arrive in the district. Individual student results are merged to prepare grade level reports for each school, district, county, and state. The results are also used to calculate the Academic Performance Index (API) and federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

We encourage you to have your child tested. We believe test results provide valuable information about your child for both you and the school. Parents/guardians may request that their child not be tested with any of the STAR Program tests or with any specific content area. If you do not want your child tested, submit a written request to the counseling office prior to testing. Include the student’s name, birth date and the specific test or content area from which they are to be exempted. Be sure to sign and date the request.

Please contact the school if you have questions about the STAR testing schedule for the spring or the process for reporting student and school results.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. D. Moriuchi
Principal