

Pearl Rhodes Elementary Weekly News March 29, 2018



Dear PRES Friends and Families,

You received the first of 2 fundraisers that the Pearl Rhodes Elementary School PTO have decided to sponsor this spring. Yesterday we sent home a fundraiser facilitated by Yankee Candle. If you choose to participate please begin taking orders immediately and return all orders and payments by Monday, April 9, 2018.

In a couple weeks, we will be sending out a light bulb/energy saver fundraiser facilitated by Eversource. **Although light bulbs may seem like an unconventional fundraiser it is worth noting that Eversource generously donates 100% of all proceeds directly back to the school!** We feel that both of these fundraisers provide items that are useful to the families within our community and we hope that you will agree!

Our hope and dream is to raise enough money through these two fundraisers to pay for a bus for the entire school community to travel together to the Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich, VT on June 14th. An all school field trip used to be an annual tradition at Pearl Rhodes and we would love to make it happen again this year!

If you have any questions please let us know.

Thank you for your support!

PRES PTO

Aloha Friday at PRES!



Students and staff will kick off Spring Break by having a fun day and dressing for a luau. Start thinking about your outfit; flowered shirts, leis, grass skirts, & surfer attire!

Upcoming Events

April 05

3/4 to Pioneer Valley Symphony, GHS



April 13

Aloha Friday



April 16 - 20

Spring Recess

April 28

Glow Dance Party, 6:00 – 8:00
@ the Town Hall

May 23

PRES Spring Concert, 6:30

May 28

Memorial Day, No School

June 5

Elementary Band Concert,
7:00 @ PVRS

June 12

Field Day

June 14

All School Field Trip to
Montshire Museum of Science

June 20

6th grade Graduation, 6:00

MCAS Testing Begins Next Week

Starting on Tuesday, April 3rd, MCAS testing will begin. A schedule by grade level is outlined below. A few helpful reminders for your children include; getting a good night sleep before each testing day and a good breakfast at home or with the school breakfast program the day of testing.

Please help by encouraging your child to take their time (tests are untimed), write as much as they can for essay questions, show all work for math questions, and to try their best. Students continue to work hard at school so thank them for their effort!

2018 MCAS Testing Schedule

****Please Note Changes****

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS					
	<u>April 3</u>	<u>April 4</u>		<u>April 10</u>	<u>April 11</u>
Grade 3				Session 1	Session 2
Grade 4				Session 1	Session 2
Grade 5	Session 1	Session 2			
Grade 6	Session 1	Session 2			
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY					
	<u>May 2</u>	<u>May 3</u>			
Grade 5	Session 1	Session 2			
MATH					
	<u>May 8</u>	<u>May 9</u>		<u>May 15</u>	<u>May 16</u>
Grade 3				Session 1	Session 2
Grade 4				Session 1	Session 2
Grade 5	Session 1	Session 2			
Grade 6	Session 1	Session 2			

Preschool and Kindergarten March Newsletter

The seasons are changing and we welcome new life and signs of spring. Our preschool and kindergarten classroom is also seeing great change; most notably we are blossoming and growing as learners. It is so exciting to see children putting together the foundational skills that we have been learning all year to help us spring into the world of reading and writing. We have also welcomed some "new life" into our classroom. In the past couple of weeks we have welcomed Jake Stone and Emma Koppenheffer as the newest members of our preschool class. We are thrilled to have new friends in our classroom.

As readers and writers we have been learning a new program called Lively Letters. Our superstar teacher Mrs. Glazier has been leading us in these lessons and we have now learned all 44 sounds in the program.

What is Lively Letters?

Lively Letters is a reading program that turns abstract letters and sounds into lively, colorful characters. Forty-four letters and letter combinations are embedded into colorful pictures that show students what to do with their mouths when making the letter sounds. The keys to this powerful program are:

- Embedded Letter Character Pictures
- Imagery
- Hand/Body Cues
- Oral Kinesthetic Cues
- Comical Mnemonic Stories
- Songs for the Letters

What does the Lively Letters Program teach?

The Lively Letters program trains students in the critical skills of:

- phonemic awareness
- speech production
- phonics

The picture cards and, later, plain letters, are used in hands-on tracking activities to develop the phonemic awareness skills of blending, segmenting, and sound manipulation. Students' progress through the program using various levels of words and materials to develop the ability to automatically sound out words for reading and spelling. The program continues into the upper levels of phonics instruction, including mnemonic techniques for reading and spelling multisyllabic words.

In math our kindergarten class continues to work on writing and decomposing our teen numbers. We are practicing addition and subtraction equations up to 5, and we have been learning about the math symbols for equals and does not equal. Our preschool friends are also working on recognizing and writing numbers as well counting out a set of objects to represent a number. Students have been enjoying playing memory match, shape bingo, number bingo, and snail's pace race.

A huge "THANK YOU" to all the families that participated in the Pennies for Patients program. Our school raised a little over \$235.00. It is so wonderful that our school community could come together to help make a difference in the lives of others. You are all truly members of the "Hero Squad."