

Pearl Rhodes Elementary

Weekly News

March 1, 2018



Third and Fourth Grade News

Happy March! It looks like mud season has already arrived this year. As we watch the sunshine melt the snow on the hill outside our window, we have been working on many learning projects.

We went to the Hitchcock Center for a field trip today! We already met "Mr. Ted" from the Hitchcock Center before the break. He introduced us to solar and wind energy using mini solar collectors and wind turbines. We are excited to learn about energy and motion. Ask your child about what we saw and did today!

As a part of Science and Writer's Workshop, students will choose a type of energy to do some research on and write a non-fiction report. To get ready for information writing we will be exploring common non-fiction text features such as description, compare and contrast, sequence, etc. An in-depth understanding of these text features will help students improve their non-fiction reading and writing.

In math, our fourth graders are into their first unit on fractions. Third graders are working on the *Math Expressions* unit that explores word problems. Some of these can be tricky. Students are encouraged to read word problems carefully!

We have so enjoyed having our AmeriCorps volunteers, Kelly and Cooper do science lessons in our class. Our last day with them is March 15th. Let's wish them well!

Ms. Solomon

Upcoming Events

March 08

Report Cards



March 23

NO SCHOOL, Teacher In-Service

April 05

3/4 to Pioneer Valley Symphony, GHS

March 5 – 22, 2018

Once again, Pearl Rhodes Elementary is taking part in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Pennies for Patients



Program. Collection boxes are included in today's Folder.

During a three week period, students will collect spare change and other donations and consolidate in their classroom's collection box. The classroom's box will be weighed weekly to see how the classrooms compare and the total amounts will be calculated at the conclusion of the program.

Your donations will help people who are sick with blood cancers like leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma & Hodgkin's disease. Every penny counts!

Lunch & Breakfast News

Did you know that you can pay for your child(s)' meals on line in the comfort of your own home? The directions say "**3 Quick Steps**". Here is a link to the directions: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6az_Rkk2vEcY1NrTXJQQI9vMDA/view

Next go to www.payforit.net. You will need your child's student ID number to do this. The number was sent home in the opening day packet; but should you need it, call the school and the administrative assistant has the list in preparation.

To be clear, there is a small fee. The fee does not go to PVRSD, it is a fee to use the program. Using a credit card, the fee is 4.75% and a checking/ACH fee is \$1.95 per transaction. You may pay for ALL your children in one transaction! It is also possible to check balances in your child's lunch account.

2018 MCAS Testing Schedule

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS						
	<u>April 3</u>	<u>April 4</u>	<u>April 5</u>	<u>April 10</u>	<u>April 11</u>	<u>April 12</u>
Grade 3				Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
Grade 4				Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
Grade 5	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3			
Grade 6	Session 1	Session 2				
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY						
	<u>April 25</u>	<u>April 26</u>				
Grade 5	Session 1	Session 2				
MATH						
	<u>May 1</u>	<u>May 2</u>		<u>May 8</u>	<u>May 9</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				

This year there are less personnel working in Food Services, so multiple reminders that you owe money, or your balance is getting low are not possible. There is one person doing this for all four elementary schools. To make sure your child has meal money, please mark your calendar so money is sent in before they run out. A reminder that the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act states that school districts should *not* be allowing families to have a debt to the meals program. Whether you pay on line, with cash, or check; **please pay ahead and make sure your child has a balance.** Thank you!

Gail Healy, Assistant Superintendent