



**Whatever it takes, our  
children are worth it!**

**Volume 5**

**March 2015**



**Pungoteague Elementary  
School Paw Tracks**



**Grandparents' Day is almost here.**

*You are the reason that PES  
is the BEST!!*

**Grandparents'  
Day:**

**Principal's Message...  
Ms. Wandnetta McCray**

**March 13**

This is the time of year when we continue to assess the strengths and weaknesses of our students. We are reviewing students' academic progress and making recommendations for promotion or retention. Students are expected to learn and retain more information while keeping up with the steady pace of the instructional setting/ classroom. As parents, there are ways you can help your child at home be successful in school during this very important time of the year.

It is extremely important that we have parental support at home so students can practice important skills and have the foundation they need to achieve academic success. Below is a list of ways you can help ensure academic success of your child at PES!

1. Meet with the classroom teacher to gain information about how your child is progressing in all subject areas. (*March 16- Two Hour Early Dismissal for Parent Conferences*)
2. Attend school events (*Grandparents' Day- March 13h/ Title I Literacy Night- March 19th*) to learn more information about curriculum and programs.
3. Make sure that your child completes all homework in a quiet place each night and submits it to the teacher the next day. Check your child's planner for homework assignments.
4. Make sure you read with your child at home for at least fifteen minutes each night.
5. Drill addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts with your child. This helps when performing multi- step math problems.
6. Stay involved in your child's learning at school! Remember, it takes home and school work  
-  
ing together as partners to ensure academic success!
7. Allow your child to attend school for the full instructional day. Make sure your student gets to school by 8:30 a.m. and stays for the full instructional day, until 3:00 p.m. This way  
your child will not miss vital information from the classroom teacher.

*I sincerely thank all teachers, parents, and students for all you do each day!*

**Bobcat News**

**March 9-17**

**Book Fair**

**March 11**

**Parent Conferences  
Two Hour Early Out  
Book Fair Open**

**March 13**

**9:00-11:30**

**14th Annual  
Grandparents' Day  
Interims Issued**

**March 16**

**Two Hour early Out  
Parent Conferences**

**March 19**

**6:00 PM**

**First Grade Program  
Title 1  
Literacy Night**

**March 21, 2014**

**Spring Picture Day**



## **Kind Kindergarten    Ms. Gummo**

In March, Kindergarten will be celebrating Read Across America on Monday, March 2. We will be having a guest reader in our classrooms on Friday March 6th, which is exciting! In reading we are working on initial and final letter sounds and identifying beginning and ending consonant blends. In math we are continuing to work on time and we will be introducing addition. Please remember to send your child with appropriate clothing at recess we will be going outside more as it starts to warm up. We are continuing to work on collecting money for our cap and gowns. Please remember to check your child's folder each night for any important notices. March has many fun and exciting activities coming up.

## **Fabulous First Grade    Ms. J. Perkins**

Happy March! Please go over graded assignments that go home so students can understand the mistakes they are making. In reading, we are reviewing the patterns, -ng, -nk, r-controlled vowels like -or, -ore, ar, ir, ur, er. Please read with your child every night to practice these sounds and patterns. In math, we are learning about geometric shapes (squares, circles, rectangles and triangles) along with the characteristics of each one! Even though President's Day has past, we are still learning about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, along with other famous Americans due to the snow days. At this time of the year we start running out of supplies so any pencils, erasers and headphones would be a great help. Thanks again for all of your support!

## **Super Second Grade    Ms. Williams**

We've done it! We have come to the second half of the school year as well as the snow. I hope that you all were safe and warm! In Math, we are going to continue working on subtraction with regrouping and reviewing past skills. In Social Studies, we are going to be learning about the three Indian tribes: the Powhatan, the Lakota, and the Pueblo. For Reading, we are learning continuing having students read and answer questions based on the passages they've read. We encourage all second grade students (as well as the other bright scholars of PES) to carefully read their questions to find out which answer choice will be the best.

Remember to always read, read, read, READ! A student can become a stronger reader by keeping a nose in a book keeps the student's interest. Your student should spend at least 15 minutes reading a good story and tell you what they read. For the AR program, it is encouraged for the students to take and pass a minimum of 2 tests.

The Second Grade team insists that all students dress properly for the winter weather. They need to make sure to have a warm coat, a hat, and a pair of gloves.

## **Scholastic Book Fair and Grandparent's Day     Mrs. Zager**

The Scholastic Book Fair will be returning to the PES Library with lots of brand new titles and many old favorites. We will have everything from board books for toddlers to novels for teen readers, as well as reference books and cookbooks. There will also be a variety of school supplies and fun tools for sale as well. The book fair opens Monday morning March 9 and runs through March 17. Shopping hours are 8-8:45 each morning and from 3-4 each afternoon.

Grandparents' Day is always special at Pungoteague and this year we have a wide variety of vendors with lots of information for our grandparents! Mark your calendar for Friday, March 13 from 9-11:30 AM. Of course the book fair will be open all day for you to shop with your favorite student!

Volunteers are always appreciated for Book Fair and Grandparents' Day. Contact Mrs.

## **Terrific Third Grade     Mrs. Elliott**

Students are busy using their logical thinking skills to compare fractions and subtract numbers. This month we will also be working with money. It is important to be able to make accurate change and to understand if the amount of change you receive when shopping is correct. When possible, encourage your child to make small purchases when shopping. Please continue to encourage independent reading at home. As we enter the second half of the year, it is important for your child to be able to read for longer periods of time, independently. There are some exciting programs coming to school this March, including the NED show and the Scholastic book fair. Students will also receive Shore Birds tickets if they have met their goal of passing 4 AR tests.

## **Fantastic Fourth Grade     Mr. Anstrom**

Fourth Grade is rapidly approaching the Jamestown field trip. The official date in April will be announced within the next couple of weeks. We have begun our unit on the Civil War and we are closing our unit on adding and subtracting fractions in math; and beginning graphs this week. Congratulations to those receiving Bobcat Awards! As al-

## **Fifth Grade     Mr. Tucker**

The fifth grade students have recently started learning about making positive decisions with Corporal Widgeon as part of the DARE program. In math, we have been learning about the various types of angles, how to measure angles using a protractor, and the three types of triangles. In science, we will begin studying the ocean environment. Look for details about our upcoming field trip to the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center!

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**Whatever it takes, our  
children are worth it!**

**HAPPY MARCH!**

**THIS MONTH CLASSROOM GUIDANCE LESSONS WILL FOCUS ON COMPAS-  
SION/TOLERANCE.**

**WE WILL PRACTICE THE SOCIAL SKILLS OF ACCEPTING SOMEONE FOR WHO  
THEY ARE**

**AND WORK TO CREATE A DESIRE TO HELP  
OTHERS.**

**WORD OF WISDOM:**

**"Kind words do not cost much.**

**Yet they accomplish much"**

**B. PASCAL**



**DAYS TO REMEMBER : MARCH 17, 2014, ST. PATRICK'S Day**

**MARCH 20, 2014, FIRST DAY OF SPRING**

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME**

**Premier Pre-K Mrs. Ida Nedab**

The ECSE and Pre-K have been working very hard since the beginning of our school year. We celebrated the 100th day of school by counting to 100 with various objects in class. Everyone learned about the special days in February such as Groundhog's Day and we learned that the Groundhog saw his shadow which means (6) weeks of bad weather, Valentine's Day, President's Day, Heart Month, Dental Month, and Black History Month.



**Assistant Principal's Message.....**

**Ms. Belinda Rippon**

Folklore can be fun! The traditional phrase of March coming in "like a lion" and out "like a lamb" is definitely holding true for the end of February/ beginning of March weather. Let's hope with the beginning of March, spring weather is right around the corner and our Bobcats can settle back into a routine at PES! The coming of spring also marks the beginning of the SOL After School Program. This program will be beginning in the middle of March and lasting through mid-May. Students in grades 3 through 5 will be selected by teachers based on data. Letters will be going home the first week of March with further information. If your child is invited, please plan for them to attend. This is an important tutoring program for our Bobcats, and it gives the students a chance to practice skills and receive extra support in a smaller setting. If you have any questions, please contact the school.