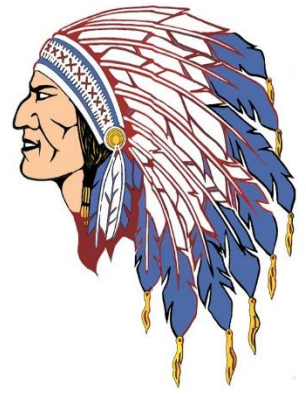


Pawnee Grade School

2017-2018 Family Newsletter



At Pawnee Grade School, our goal is to create a community of empowered learners in a safe, supportive, and healthy environment that inspires all learners to achieve and excel academically, socially, and technologically.

The staff at Pawnee Grade School believes that all students should be immersed in a positive atmosphere where mutual respect is modeled, collaboration is encouraged, and individuals are valued and supported. We shall strive every day to provide challenging opportunities that allow students to grow and reach their full potentials, while establishing a culture of universal achievement and promoting a love of lifelong learning.

MARCH 2018

Spring is FINALLY in the air! I like the seasonal changes that the Midwest has to offer, but I'm ready for winter to move along. Our students have enjoyed the warmer temperatures and sunny days (while they lasted), and I think we have some pretty serious cases of "Spring Fever" at PGS! (I might be suffering from that too!)

We wrapped up February with some somber news in the headlines, and I want to assure you that we keep our students' safety on the forefront of conversations in Pawnee. We are lucky to have the Pawnee Police Department present each day; however, we also know that's only a small piece of the puzzle. Please bear with us as we continue to analyze and possibly make changes to our "traditional" routines. Student and staff safety is of the utmost importance, and we will openly communicate any changes that we feel are necessary.

On another note, I highly encourage you to stay informed and take the time to monitor your children's use of media (television, apps, video games, websites, etc.). Knowledge is power, and you might be surprised to learn about what our children have access to that we are completely unaware of (some of which is truly astonishing). Please take time to regularly peruse the Common Sense Media website at <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/> and educate yourself. I use this resource as an educator and parent, so I want to pass along the information. Included on their site is some extremely useful information connecting to a variety of media and how children are impacted.

In closing, we invite you to attend our monthly assembly on Friday, March 23rd at 8:30 a.m. Please call or email if there is anything that I can do to assist you and/or your family! Have a wonderful month and spring break!

Mrs. Jenny Mendenhall

Principal

(217) 625-2231

jmendenhall@pawneeschools.org

Important Dates

March 6

- PTO Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

March 9

- Dismiss at 2:00 p.m.

March 12

- Spring Pictures

March 15

- PGS Literacy Night – 5:30 p.m.

March 19-23

- PARCC Testing (grades 3-6)

March 21

- Board of Education – 7:00 p.m.

March 22-23

- PreK Screenings

March 23

- Monthly Assembly – 8:30 a.m.

March 29

- Dismiss at 2:00 p.m.

March 30 – April 6

- No School – Spring break
 - School resumes on April 9

PGS LITERACY NIGHT

Enjoy the “Magic of Reading” as Pawnee Grade School hosts a school-wide literacy night on **Thursday, March 15, 2018!** Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.! Families may listen to a magical story, create some souvenirs, and enjoy a snack. Students will also get to take home a free book! Our event will conclude with a magic show featuring Richard Landry and Snowball. The magic show will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Students who participate will also have a chance to win breakfast, aka “Muffins with Mrs. Mendenhall,” and the classroom with the highest attendance will earn a Barnes & Noble gift card. We cannot wait to see you there!

PARCC TESTING

Students in grades 3-6 will participate in PARCC testing during the week of March 19. **Please do not schedule appointments and/or vacations during this window of time.** Please see page 15 in the student handbook for additional details.

ILLINOIS SCIENCE ASSESSMENT

Fifth graders at PGS will take the Illinois Science Assessment on Wednesday, April 11th. This assessment is one hour in length and will take place during science class. **If you have a 5th grade student, please ensure that s/he is in class on this day.**

KINDERGARTEN PREREGISTRATION

If you know of an incoming kindergarten student who is not currently enrolled in our preschool program, please have the family call our school office and preregister. This helps us plan for next year as well as communicate upcoming events that relate specifically to kindergartners. We appreciate your help!

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

Our local PTO would like to extend a warm and welcoming invitation to parents and guardians at Pawnee Grade School. Any amount of time that you can volunteer is appreciated and will help ensure that school activities and support will continue for many years to come. We hope you can make it!

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

By May 15, 2018, all kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 6th grade students must present proof of receiving a dental exam within the previous 18 months.

Pawnee Grade School

Home of the Indians



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EDUCATION