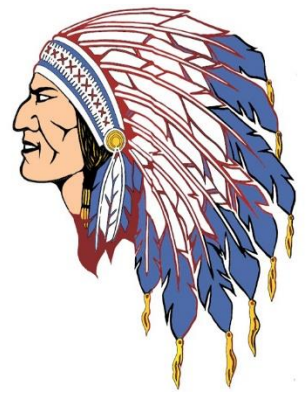


Pawnee Grade School

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.

FEBRUARY

We have had a wonderful start to February at Pawnee Grade School! On Thursday morning, our student body participated in an assembly that took them on a “kindness adventure” to Africa. Students learned about spreading kindness and accepting others no matter our differences. It was an awesome experience! We currently have items that were handmade in Kenya on sale in the office. Some proceeds will help “pay it forward” so other schools may experience the same assembly, and another portion of the proceeds will be used to build clean water wells for communities in Kenya. Items are \$7, \$10, or \$15 each. Students who are interested may bring money and stop in the office to purchase an item.

On that same note, we have quite a few classrooms taking part in a Kindness Challenge during the month of February. It is heartwarming to see students’ participation. We hope that these little acts of kindness impact others in a huge way. Please support us by carrying over these messages at home. Take a peek at our Facebook page on a regular basis to see some of the pictures and challenges!

We are having a kindergarten PREregistration on Thursday and Friday of this week. This is for upcoming kindergarten students who are not already in our preschool program. Please help us spread the word! Families unable to stop in during the day may also call the office to preregister. This will help us get a more accurate attendance count for next year, and ensure that we communicate pertinent information to those families this spring.

Our next monthly assembly will be held on Friday, February 23rd at 8:30 a.m. We welcome you and hope you can attend!

Mrs. Jenny Mendenhall

Principal

(217) 625-2231

jmendenhall@pawneeschools.org

Important Dates

February 6

- PTO Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

February 8 & 9

- Kindergarten Preregistration – 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

February 14

- Valentine’s Day Parties – 2:00

February 16

- Dismiss at 12:00 p.m.

February 19

- NO SCHOOL

February 21

- County Spelling Bee – 1:00 p.m.
- Board of Education – 7:00 p.m.

February 23

- Monthly Assembly – 8:30 a.m.

February 26

- Dismiss at 2:00 p.m.

March 5

- NO SCHOOL

VALENTINE'S DAY CLASSROOM PARTIES

Valentine's Day is February 14th. Classroom parties will begin at 2:00 p.m. **Although tempting, please do not send valentines that include any type of food or candy.** To ensure the safety of all students, such items will be sent back home (see our classroom treat policy on page 32 in the student handbook). Classroom treats also need to be ordered from the cafeteria prior to February 9. Thanks so much for cooperating with this policy and helping to keep our school a safe place for everybody!

SCHEDULE/CALENDAR CHANGE

This is just a reminder that the original 2:00 p.m. dismissal on March 26th has been changed. **School will NOT dismiss at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 26th.** Instead, **school will dismiss at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 9th.**

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.** Please see page 15 in the student handbook for additional details.

PGS LITERACY NIGHT

Pawnee Grade School will host a school-wide literacy night on **Thursday, March 15, 2018!** Please make plans to attend – we're sure you'll have a "magical" time! (Times and additional details will be sent home soon!)

BUNDLE UP

Please make sure children are dressed for the Central Illinois weather! Students will go outside for recess as long as the "feels like" temperature is at least 20 degrees. Students need winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves, etc. If your child needs these items and you are unable to provide them, please let us know so we can help!

ILLNESSES

It's STILL the dreaded cold and flu season, and unfortunately, we are seeing our share at PGS. As stated in the handbook, please do not send your ill child(ren) to school. If your child is running a fever, vomiting, and/or has diarrhea, please keep him/her at home until s/he has been symptom free for at least 24 hours *without* medication. Students who receive antibiotics must be on them for at least 24 hours before returning to school. Also, if your child is ill and needs to be sent home from school, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to have the child picked up within an hour of notification. Please help us prevent the spread of illnesses and keep our students and staff healthy.

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

Are you looking for a fun way to help support your child(ren) and school? Please consider attending our PTO meetings, which are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the library. This is a great way to meet new people, provide input, and help our students, teachers, and staff. **The next PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:00 p.m. in the library.** We hope to see you there!

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.