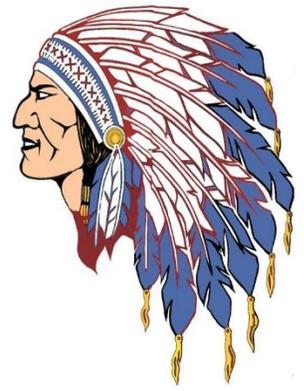


# Pawnee Grade School

## 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.*

### JANUARY

Welcome back to school! As hard as it is to believe, it's 2018 and we are halfway through the school year already! We wrapped up December with wonderful holiday concerts, fun parties, and Santa Claus even surprised our students! We've seen growth in academics during the first half of the year, and we have some exciting educational plans for the remaining portion of the school year.

Please note that there has been a change to our calendar. 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 26<sup>th</sup>.** Instead, **school will dismiss at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.** Please make arrangements accordingly for transportation, child care, etc. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause and hope the advanced notice is helpful.

Second quarter report cards have gone home. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions and/or concerns. I would also encourage you to discuss the report card with your student(s) in a positive manner and set goals for third quarter. Goals may relate to grades, improvements to make, study habits, or even behavior. Those are just some ideas, but overall, it is important to have those discussions and monitor the goals periodically. This is a great way to help your child(ren) understand the value of their education, and to show your support.

Our next monthly assembly will be held on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. I hope you have the opportunity to attend as we love to see the gym full of family and friends! Thanks for your support!

*Mrs. Jenny Mendenhall*

Principal  
(217) 625-2231

[jmendenhall@pawneeschools.org](mailto:jmendenhall@pawneeschools.org)

### Important Dates

#### January 15

- NO SCHOOL

#### January 17

- Board of Education – 7:00 p.m.

#### January 19

- Spelling Bee – 8:30 a.m.

#### January 22

- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation – 6 p.m.

#### January 26

- Monthly Assembly – 8:30 a.m.

#### January 29

- Dismiss at 2:00 p.m.

#### February 6

- PTO Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

#### February 16

- Dismiss at 12:00 p.m.

#### February 19

- NO SCHOOL

#### February 21

- Board of Education – 7:00 p.m.

## **7<sup>th</sup> GRADE ORIENTATION**

If your child is a current 6<sup>th</sup> grader, please make plans to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> grade orientation on Monday, January 22 at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Mr. Scheffers at [jscheffers@pawneeschools.org](mailto:jscheffers@pawneeschools.org).

## **RECESS**

We've recently seen just how unpredictable the weather can be in central Illinois! One day we have temperatures in the 50's and within hours, we have ice and sleet falling. Students will go outside for recess as long as the "feels like" temperature is at least 20 degrees.

Sending students outside in frigid temperatures is dangerous; however, supervision can also be a problem when trying to keep them inside. Please help us by making sure your child is dressed for the weather. This includes wearing a winter coat (at a minimum), and maybe even sending a hat and gloves as well.

## **ILLNESSES**

It's the dreaded cold and flu season, unfortunately. As stated in the handbook, please do not send your ill child(ren) to school. If your child is running a fever or is vomiting and/or has diarrhea, please keep them at home until they have been symptom free for 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 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the library.** We hope to see you there!

## **PGS LITERACY NIGHT**

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, March 15, 2018! We are planning a schoolwide literacy night for our students and families. More details will come as we get closer to the date, but please make plans to attend. It is going to be full of fun and excitement!

## **ARRIVAL**

Students who arrive for breakfast may enter the building and head straight to the cafeteria at 7:40 a.m.; otherwise, **there is no supervision available for students until 7:55 a.m.** At 7:55 a.m., students may enter the building and head to one of our gyms. Our school day begins promptly at 8:15 a.m.

## **FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE**

This is just a reminder that by May 15, 2018, all kindergarten, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students must present proof of receiving a dental exam within the previous 18 months.