



PLEASANT HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

664 Rawl Road, Lexington, SC 29072 (803)821-2800 (803)821-2803 (fax)

www.lexington1.net/phes/index.htm/

www.edline.net/pages/Pleasant_Hill_Elementary_School

"Preparing and Honoring Every Student"

May 2012



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PHES FAMILY!

Pleasant Hill Elementary School has received the Palmetto Gold Award for 2011-12 for general performance and the Palmetto Silver Award for 2011-12 for closing the achievement gap! Thanks to everyone for working together to help our students achieve at outstanding levels!

PLEASE NOTE: The PHES Fifth Grade Graduation has been changed to Thursday, May 31, at 8:00 AM in the PHES cafeteria.

PLEASE NOTE: On June 1, 2012 and June 4, 2012 students will be dismissed at **11:00 AM**

END-OF-YEAR SURVEY

Along with this newsletter, you are receiving our end-of-the-year survey. We would really appreciate your taking a few minutes to share your comments with us. Information you provide us is vital as we begin to make plans for 2012-13. We value your input very much.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

In celebration of Children's Book Week, we would like to invite everyone to dress up as one of their favorite book characters on May 7, 2012. We hope that you will show your love of books!

RELAY FOR LIFE

PHES is joining Lexington County to honor and celebrate those whose lives have been touched by cancer. We would love for you to join the PHES team on Friday, May 11, at 7:00 PM at the Lexington High School practice football field (by the stadium). In addition, you may send in a donation to the American Cancer Society and/or you may purchase a luminary bag for \$10.00 (by May 1).

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Students, stay cool by making a big splash with your summer reading! On May 15, you will receive a summer reading brochure that details all the great ways you can continue to be the wonderful "Cougar Readers" you already are. The brochure will list genres and even how you can earn a free book from Barnes and Noble, just by reading! Look for tweets about cool books over the summer @PHESCougarsRead. When we return next school year, we will celebrate your summer reading successes! Read Cougars, Read!

NEWS FROM PHES SCHOOL NURSE

A new DHEC policy is in place for the 2012-2013 school year **requiring a physician's signature on the Permission for Prescription Medication form** in addition to the parent signature. If your child has prescription medication at school please obtain a medication form from the nurse for your physician to sign. A physician's signature will be required in order for our nurse to administer prescription medication next school year.

PHES SIC ENCOURAGES PHES PARENTS TO REGISTER TO VOTE

The PHES School Improvement Council encourages all PHES parents to register to vote. In order to vote in the June 12, 2012 primary, you must register to vote by May 12, 2012. A citizen who wishes to register to vote may register in person at their county board of voter registration or download a form, complete it and mail, fax or email it to their county voter registration office. The link is [http://www.scvotes.org/South Carolina voter registration information](http://www.scvotes.org/South_Carolina_voter_registration_information). Or, one of the secretaries in the PHES office can give you a voter registration form. **Your vote is important – and counts!**

FOR YOUR 2012-13 CALENDAR:

Class Assignment Day - Monday, August 13 from 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Kindergarten students will have individual appointments with K teachers ("Getting to Know You") on August 14, 2012.
Partial Immersion Kindergarten students will have individual appointments with K teachers on August 13, 2012 or August 14, 2012.
Open House & Parent Orientations for grades 1 - 5 - Sunday, August 19 from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Kindergarten Parent Orientation Monday, August 20, 2012 at 6:00 PM

Important Dates

- May is Better Speech and Hearing Month
- May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month
- April 26** Principal's Cabinet at 8:00 AM
PHES Dining out at Uno Chicago Grill 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- April 27** School Spirit Day
PHES Mini-Marathon
Grade 1 teachers have duty-free lunch.
Grade 2 teachers have duty-free lunch.
- April 28** Kids Day at Virginia Hylton Park
- April 30** Birthday Book Club 8:00 AM (April, May, summer)
Grade 5 goes to orientation at PHMS at 8:30 AM
SIPAT meets at 6:00 PM
- May 1** PHES Dining Out at Wendy's 5:00 - 7:30 PM
- May 2** Interims are issued (grades 2 - 5)
- May 3** Workshop for parents of rising kindergarten students at 8:00 AM or 6:00 PM
Grade 5 participates in Mr. Doug's underwater ocean activities
- Week of May 6** National Children's Book Week
Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7** Students dress up as favorite book character in honor of national Children's Book Week
Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council 6:00 PM
- May 8** PASS Reading Grades 3 - 5
- May 9** PASS Math Grades 3 - 5
- May 10** Students decorate Publix Mother's Day Cakes
PASS Social Studies or Science for students in grades 3 & 5
PASS Science for students in grade 4
National School Nurse Day
- May 11** PASS Social Studies for students in grade 4
PTA Staff Appreciation Lunch
Relay for Life at 7:00 PM at LHS
- May 15** Lexington One School Board meets at 7:30 PM
- May 17** SIC meets at 2:45 PM at PHES
- May 18** Grade 2 students go to Riverbanks Zoo
PTA Family Fun Night 6:00 - 8:00 PM
- May 21** PHES Band, Chorus, Strings Concert at 6:30 PM
- May 23** PHES Field DAY Grades K - 2 (AM)
- May 24** PHES Field Day Grades 3-5 (AM)
- May 25** **SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY!**
ESOL students go to Happy Cow Creamery
Grade 5 Egg Drop
Student library books are due today.
Principal's Cabinet meets at 1:30 PM
- May 28** **Memorial Day Holiday**
- May 29** Grade 5 "Minute to Win It!"
- May 30** Grade 1 100 Book Club Celebration at 8:00 AM
- May 31** Grade 5 Graduation at 8:00 AM
Grade 5 Sidewalk Art Festival at 1:30 PM
- June 1** Students are dismissed at 11:00 AM; buses will run; lunch will not be served.
County Fair on the field for grade 3 students
- June 4** Last day for students; Students are dismissed at 11:00 AM; buses will run; lunch will not be served.
Class parties; report cards are issued
- June 5** Last day for teachers

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The following parents have been nominated to serve on the PHEs School Improvement Council:

Kristi Harmon Brooke Scott Mary Jo Zuebert
Anthony Masino Chris Winston

We will be electing 2 parents to serve as parent representatives on the PHEs School Improvement Council for a two-year term (2012-2014). The voting will take place in our school office on Thursday, May 3rd from 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM. All parents of students at Pleasant Hill Elementary School are eligible to vote.

COLLABORATION COUNTS

In April, teachers met with teachers in the grade level above them and then met with the teachers in the grade level below them. Teachers reviewed data, shared curriculum and discussed teaching strategies.

WE SALUTE OUR TEACHERS!

The week of May 6 is Teacher Appreciation Week. We thank our outstanding teachers for their dedication, hard work, professionalism and compassion. We are very proud of our teachers, and we are grateful for them.

WE APPRECIATE OUR HEALTH ROOM STAFF!

Thursday, May 10 is National School Nurse Day. We are very thankful for our school nurse, Karen Cousins, and our health room assistant, Michelle Silver!

PTA FAMILY FUN DAY

Our PTA will sponsor a Family Fun Day on Friday, May 18 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. The fun is free! Families can bring snacks or can purchase snacks at the event. The PTA sponsors this celebration to thank all for their support.

FIELD DAYS – May 23 and May 24

This year, we are having Field Day on two mornings since it normally gets very hot in the afternoons at this time of year. On Wednesday, May 23, students in kindergarten will participate in Field Day from 7:45 – 9:30 AM, and students in grades 1 and 2 will participate from 9:35 – 11:20 AM. On Thursday, May 24, students in grades 3 and 4 will participate in Field Day from 7:45 – 9:30 AM. Students in grade 5 will participate from 9:35 – 11:20 AM. Parents, we would love for you to join your child for Field Day activities on the field/track behind our school. Please note that our related arts and lunch schedules will be changed on these two days, and we will send that information to you later.

KID'S DAY APRIL 28, AT VIRGINIA HYLTON PARK

Students and staff, please sign in at the Sonoco Recycling education table to help PHEs win the \$500 Eco Prize. The school with the most signatures wins.

In addition, a \$100 prize will be given to the K-12 student who brings the most creative RETHINK PROJECT to the Sonoco Recycling education table at Kid's Day. Students are asked to make something fun, useful, educational or beautiful out of something they would usually throw away. Entries must be submitted by noon. The \$100 gift card will be awarded at 1:00 PM. The student must be present to win.

The following students have art work in Kid's Day 2012:

Kindergarten: Logan Barrett and Wyatt Wilson.

1st Grade: Maureen Ortiz and Jack Fennell.

2nd Grade: Garrett Dooley, Brayden Meyers, Anna Kaitlin, and Keaton Yoder.

3rd Grade: Vivan DePace, Josiah Schrodt, Olivia Schirra, Patrick Cronin, Hannah Ellis, Hannah Moore and Sydney Elizabeth Crist.

4th Grade: Ethan Landers, Lauren Gambrell, Madison Farmer, and Abby Grace Garrick.

5th Grade: Matzayani Arizaga, Marina Ray, Jessie Merkel, Thomas Stewart, Henry Patel, Mackenzie Yoder, Chloe Dawson, Reet Verma and Claire Billings.

BACK PACK

PHEs will have a donation box in the commons area from May 21 – June 4 for students to donate their used book bags for children in need. More information will be coming.

ANTI-IDLING CAMPAIGN

We want to protect the health of children by reducing harmful vehicle emissions around school campuses. Children are much more sensitive to air pollution than adults. Pollution from vehicle exhaust has been linked to asthma and other respiratory diseases, and increased risk of long-term health effects. We want to help protect our children from unnecessary emissions that could harm their health. So, please turn off your car engine when waiting for students to be dismissed. Thanks for your cooperation.

We read the newsletter!

Child's Name _____

Teacher Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Return this slip to school. We will have a drawing. If your slip is selected, you, your child and your child's teacher will receive a FREE sub from Firehouse.

Please share any comments or questions in this box.

Name (optional) _____

21st CENTURY THINKING SKILLS

This year we will highlight a skill each month that encourages students to create thinking habits. The thinking skill for May is:

Applying Past Knowledge to New Situations

"I've never made a mistake. I've only learned from experience."

—Thomas A. Edison

Intelligent humans learn from experience.

Making connections to prior knowledge may sound like the following: "This reminds me of ..." or "This is just like the time when I ..." Work to explain what you are doing now with analogies about or references to your own prior experiences.

Principal's Cabinet– 4th Nine Weeks

The following students have been named to the Principal's Cabinet for the fourth nine weeks: Dominic Feraci, Conner Shumpert, Alex Nelson, Caroline Westberry, Hayden Roof, J Broam, Krishawn Fowler, Emma Grace Jordan, Joshua Kim, and Trevor Hiltz.

Safety Patrol Members - 4th Nine Weeks

We thank the following fifth graders for serving as Safety Patrol members for the fourth nine weeks: Bruce Kuhns, Bryson Kennedy, Nick Schneider, Dylan Brettelle, Ben Carnell, Lizzie Kurtz, Erica Moody, Wyatt Hall, Megan Fly, Bailey Hoogenboom, Libby Branham, and Brooke Borough.

Flag Helpers

We thank Cole DaMoude, Chase Roose, Joshua Rhodebeck and Jeffrey Kindle for serving as our Flag Helpers.

“SUM”-mer CAMP AT PHEs

Want to “ADD” some fun to your summer? Come to the PHEs PTA “SUM”-mer Math Camp for Session 1 June 18-21 (focus on numbers and operations, algebra, data and probability) and/or Session 2 July 9-12 (focus on numbers and operations, geometry, and measurement). Taught by PHEs faculty, this math enrichment program will help your child develop critical thinking math skills through hands-on activities! You may contact our school office for a registration form 803-821-2800.

MEAL ACCOUNTS

As we come to the close of this school year, we would like to encourage all parents to make sure your child's meal account is paid. As you pay your child's meal account, please take into account the remaining number of days in the year that your child will be eating breakfast and/or lunch. If money is left over in your child's meal account, it will roll over to the 2012-13 school year. **Report cards will be held if your child's meal account is not paid.** We greatly appreciate your assistance with this important matter.

BOX TOPS

Congratulations to the PHEs fourth grade for winning our fall box top contest! We will have one more contest this year from April 30 – May 25. Please encourage your family and friends to save box tops for PHEs. The grade level that sends in the most box tops in May will receive a treat. Thanks to everyone for saving those box tops and sending them in!

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING CLASS

June 11, 12, 13, 14, 2012

Bus drivers are needed for full-time or part-time positions and to drive field trips. Starting pay is \$10.61 per hour. Some positions may offer benefits. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Harvey Clubb at (803) 821-1340.