



**Pemberton News**  
**We are Pemberton Elementary**  
**School**  
**One School-One Community**



April  
 2015  
 Issue 8

**Principal and Vice Principal's Message**

The warmer weather and longer days are a brief tease to the summer months ahead. Until we have ended our school year your child's teachers are preparing for a rigorous instructional program to make certain that all students are prepared for the next grade level. Please continue to express to your child high expectations for their achievement and the need to stay focused as minds begin to wander to the summer months ahead. Speaking of the warmer temperatures, this is the perfect opportunity to remind families of the CAP elementary dress code that was given out at the beginning of the school year. If you have misplaced your copy please call the main office and a replacement will be sent home.

This month's PTA meeting will be scheduled parent conferences for your family's privacy. Teachers will be contacting individual families for appointments. If you would like more than a five to seven minute conference please feel free to schedule one at your convenience another time with your child's teacher.

May 4th will begin the registration process for students entering the Y3, Pre K and K during the 2015 - 2016 school year. The attached flier has all of the necessary information for you to complete the process in one visit. Families living with other family members and not appearing on the lease or a utility bill frequently have to make two trips to complete the process. Calling Mrs. Lewis in our main office prior to registration day can many times avoid a second trip. Please call in advance if you have any questions, 410-677-5809.

**Happy Spring to all!!!**  
*Curtis Twilley and Carla Hicks*

**Respect**  
**Responsible**  
**Ready-to-Learn**  
**Rethink**

**Upcoming Dates:**

- April 1st-6th—School Closed Spring Break
- April 7th—School Reopens
- April 14th- Title I Spring Parent Advisory Council Meeting- prior to PTA- invitations will be forthcoming.
- April 14th—Report Cards go home
- April 14th—PTA General Meeting with classroom visitation
- April 17th—Grade 1 to Airport at 12:00 pm
- April 20th—PARCC End of Year assessments begin Grades 3—5 (Schedule to be sent home)
- May 4th—Y3, PreK, & Kindergarten registration begins



**Tuesday, April 7:** This day will now be a regular school day for Wicomico students and staff. April 7 had been scheduled as a professional day, with part of the day for SLO's. Now teachers will have time on March 31 to work on their SLO's.

**Field Day will now be on June 12th**

Phone calls can no longer be accepted to change a student's method of transportation home during the school day. A note, fax or email is needed in the office prior to 12:00 pm to authorize any such requests.

Fax number: 410-677-5848

Email contacts: psmullen@wcboe.org or chlewis@wcboe.org Or your child's teacher.

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**Guidance Corner:**

**The Joy of Learning: Motivation**

One of the keys to school success is being motivated to learn and realizing that learning can be fun! As a parent, you are the most important influence in your child's school success. You help stimulate feelings that moves your child to act. Here are a few motivating tips:

- Show Your Interest - Set aside a few minutes at dinner for your child to share what's he/she studied at school. Give encouragement and show interest.
- Focus on the Positive - When reviewing your child's schoolwork, point out items that are done well. When possible, help your child find at least one part of each assignment that is especially interesting to them.
- Help Just Enough --- and No More - Mastering a difficult task motivates a child to take on more difficult tasks. Encourage your child when they want to give up by saying, "I know you can do it - try once more."
- Show hard works pays off - Teach your child that every one has to put forth effort to complete a task.

Talk about what that means to you and give examples. "Weeding the garden was tough, but it sure looks beautiful now!" all because of hard work.

*JoAnne James, School Counselor*

**Grade Level News:**

**PreK:**

Pre-Kindergarten News: Have you seen flowers popping up through the dirt and leaf buds on the tree branches ... its true, spring has (finally) sprung!! This month your pre-kindergarten youngster will be taking a glimpse at how plants, animals, and people grow and change. We will examine the lifecycle of frogs, butterflies and ladybugs. Our studies will include investigating life in the city and country including the farm and farm animals. In May, we will take a trip a local dairy farm. As our introduction to this theme, we are asking our students to bring to school a picture of themselves as a baby. Please put, on the back of the picture, your child's name and age (when the picture was taken). The students will have fun matching the baby pictures with their friends. Wonder if the kids can talk Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Venere into bringing their baby pictures in, too?

**Kindergarten:**

In Kindergarten we will begin a new theme titled "**A World of Animals**". We will be hosting a classroom rotation April 24th beginning at 9am focused on this new theme. Please keep an eye out for your invitation to come home. In math we are using many different strategies to solve addition and subtraction number sentences. Please continue to practice the fluency math flash cards nightly to increase speed. Looking ahead we will have our final fieldtrip to the Salisbury Zoo May 15th. More information will come home for this trip as the date approaches. Children become readers in the laps of their parents. Please read nightly!

**First Grade:**

First grade will be working hard to finish out the third term. In Reading we will continue working on main idea, summarizing, sequencing, and comparing/contrasting. Our Language skills will include reviewing all short and long vowel sounds, sounds of "y", and making words plural by adding -s and -es. Please keep encouraging your child to read every night and practice the words in his/her agenda. To ensure that our students are successful on their spelling tests, they should practice the words daily. In Math we will be working on addition with 3 addends and problem solving. In Science and Social Studies we will be finishing our unit on habitats and beginning to explore our Earth and Solar System. We will discuss landforms and Earth Day throughout the month. The first grade field trip to the Maryland State Police Hanger and Zoo is planned for Friday, April 17th. The permission slips have been sent home. Please finalize your child's payment for this trip as soon as possible. Please check your child's school supplies and replenish where necessary. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

**Second Grade:**

As we begin the 4<sup>th</sup> term, please encourage your child to continue doing their best on a daily basis and follow the 4 R's throughout the remainder of the school year. In math, we will work on Unit 7: Problem Solving with Length, Money, and Data. In reading, we will begin our Family Time unit and create family trees in social studies. We will begin learning about trees in our next science unit. In conjunction with our tree unit, park rangers from Assateague State Park will be visiting us to teach us even more about trees. As our tissue and hand sanitizer supplies are dwindling, any donation of these items would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

**Third Grade:**

Happy Spring! We are springing into graphing, rounding, measuring, and estimating in math. In reading and science, we are continuing our exploration of animal habitats. Social Studies brings us into new adventures as we follow the paths of various voyagers. Please replenish your child's supplies as needed. We hope to have a field trip in May. Continue to check your child's Tuesday folder for further information. As the weather gets warmer, make sure your child is dressed according to the Consistent Attire Policy. Remember, no cargo shorts are permitted. Thank you for your continued support!

**Fourth Grade:**

We are all ready for the coming of springtime and leaving the chaotic schedule of this past winter behind us. After a relaxing spring break, we will be focusing on improving our skills as we begin our final term. In math, we will be practicing for the up-coming Math 24 competition which will be held in May. In science, we are continuing our work with Matter, and eagerly anticipating Mrs. Matava's next nutrition lesson. We have really enjoyed trying some new dishes with our classmates. With Maryland Day behind us, in social studies we are continuing the study of colonial Maryland in preparation for our field trip in May. Details will be sent home in the Tuesday folder on April 7th. In reading, we are learning about some amazing people, places, and events in our theme, "**That's Amazing!**" We are also proud of our students who chose to participate in the recent American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Essay Contest. The students had to write an essay of 150-250 words on the theme, "**What Does Freedom Mean to my Family?**" Awards

## Grade Level News continued:

### Fourth Grade continued:

were announced by Unit 64 Auxiliary President Melody Knupp on Thursday, March 19th. First Place winner, whose essay will be sent on to compete at the district level was Alyssa Collins. Second Place was awarded to Gabriel Kelley. Third Place was awarded to Michelle Rao. We are so glad that our students are realizing their extra effort in the area of writing can be personally rewarding.

### Fifth Grade:

Students will work in a unit on classifying 2-dimensional figures. In reading, students will begin a theme with stories about the American Revolution. In social studies, students will continue to examine colonial times and the social, political, and economic differences among the colonies. During science, students will begin to construct their "egg drop challenge" contraptions as well. Fifth grade students will take MSA science and SRI in April. Please be sure that your child gets a good breakfast and a solid night's sleep so they are well-rested and have a full tummy on testing days. During our fast-paced and rigorous instruction using interactive notebooks, students are zipping through their supply of glue sticks and pencils, and may need a resupply of these items as well as crayons or colored pencils so that they are prepared for class each day. Be sure to check your child's supplies and replenish any missing items. Also, as the cold and flu season begins to come upon us, it would be a big help if parents could continue to donate such items as tissues and hand sanitizer to our classrooms. Finally, be sure to check the weather regularly so that your child may dress appropriately in case we venture out to recess in the coming days. Layering clothing is always a good idea. Be sure students have an appropriate sweater or sweat-shirt (following Consistent Attire guidelines). Classroom temperature can vary and students may find that an extra layer makes them more comfortable. Thanks for all your help and support! Please contact us at school if you have questions or concerns.

## Title I News:



Pemberton's Parent Advisory Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 prior to our PTA. Be on the lookout for forthcoming information regarding this important meeting. We will be reviewing our Partners in Learning Compact and Brochure as well as Parent Involvement Budget for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year. Once you receive your invitation this month, please fill out the bottom portion and send it back to school with your child. Please remember to review our Parent Involvement brochure that was sent home at the beginning of the year. If you are in need of another copy, you may pick up one in our Parent Information Center located in the front lobby. In addition, please take a moment each week to review the Pemberton Partners in Learning Compact found on the blue sticker that covers the back of your child's Tuesday folder. As the school year progresses, we all need to make sure we are doing our part as a school, as a family and as an individual student. As a school, we are continuing to provide opportunities for additional instruction to meet the needs of diverse learners through Enrichment, Intervention, ELL and after school activities such as MAST. As a family, please make sure to continue to stay actively involved with your child's learning. Be sure to read at least 20 minutes together a day, as well as reviewing basic math facts and checking over all homework. As a student, please be responsible and complete your homework each night as well as studying for any tests that you may have. Remember TEAMWORK divides the task and multiplies the SUCCESS! (quote taken from [www.messages.365greetings.com](http://www.messages.365greetings.com))

Pemberton receives funds through the Title I program and is considered a school wide program based on the number of students served free or reduced meals. Funding supports our school through additional staffing, materials for instruction and additional professional development. Parents are encouraged to review the home/school compact found on the Tuesday folder on a regular basis.

