



# Pemberton News

## We are Pemberton Elementary School



January 2015

Issue 5

### Principal's Message

Welcome to 2015! I hope you and your family had a relaxing winter break full of memorable family time together. With the New Year comes a new Teacher of the Year for Wicomico County. Please take a moment to reflect on your child's experience here at Pemberton and nominate a teacher past or present that you feel would represent our school well! Nomination forms will be given to families the first week of the new year.

January 19th schools will be closed in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King and on Monday the 26th schools will be closed for staff development.

Term II will come to a close on Friday, January 23rd with report cards issued to families on Friday, January 30st.

I hope the new year brings you and your family new possibilities and prosperity!

*Curt Twilley*



### IMPORTANT CHANGE THIS YEAR!

County Wide, all elementary schools are implementing a new practice to ensure student safety. 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: 410-677-5848

Email: Contacts: [psmullen@wcboe.org](mailto:psmullen@wcboe.org), [chlewis@wcboe.org](mailto:chlewis@wcboe.org) or your child's teacher.

### From the Desk of the Assistant Principal

#### January



January sparkles.  
January's bold.  
January huffs and puffs.  
January's cold.

Welcome 2015! The New Year brings hope, new beginnings, and New Year's resolutions. For many of our students here at Pemberton, it also begins a season of testing. The following assessments will be administered during the month of January:

- \* **The Scholastic Math Inventory** will be given to our **second graders** on January 7, 2015.
- \* **Access for ELL Students** will be administered starting January 12, 2015 through February 13, 2015 for **K - 5** students.
- \* The second administration of the **Scholastic Reading Inventory** will be given during the timeframe of January 5-16, 2016 for our **second grade** students.

With the upcoming assessments, please make certain that your child is well rested and on time for school.

*Carla Hicks*

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

#### Upcoming Dates:

- January 5th—School Reopens
- January 9th—Final GeoBee round @ 9 am
- January 15th—Spelling Bee School wide at 1:30 pm
- January 16th PTA Spirit Dance @6 PM
- January 19th Schools' Closed- Martin Luther King Day
- January 23rd —2nd Marking Period Ends
- January 26th — School's Closed— Professional Day
- January 26th Chipotle Fundraiser 5-8 pm
- January 30th— Report Cards go

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#### Important Information:

Peanut Butter Food Items will no longer be served in the cafeteria for the 2014-2015 school year. They will be substituted with either deli ham or deli turkey sandwiches.



## Grade Level News:

### PreK:

Winter has arrived. With cold noses and frigid toes, we move about wondering when we will warm sunny days return (sometimes winter seems to last an eternity). The pre-kindergarten children have been in search of summer weather and are curious if it will ever return. January is devoted to introducing our young scholars to the seasons: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall (aka. Autumn). We will investigate the weather associated with each season and answer questions like "Why doesn't it snow in the summer?" and "Can I go outside in the snow with bare feet?" We will view different animal habitats and discover how the creatures adapt to each season. Some of the literature we will use to support our lessons include: **A Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats**, **Bear in Sunshine** by Stella Blackstone, **Rain** by Donald Crews and **Gilberto** and **the Wind** by Marie Hall Ets.

**Please remember that in January Schools are Closed: Monday, January 19, 2015 Martin Luther King Day and January 26, 2015 School Closed for Teachers' Professional Development.**

### Kindergarten:

In kindergarten, for the New Year, we will continue our Sunshine and Raindrop weather unit and the children will read many books about the weather. Reader's theatre, poetry, and emergent readers will be used as a part of our daily reading. High frequency words will continue to be a vital part of our reading block. We will continue to help the children blend and segment words when reading and writing. January is a good time on the cold days, to make a visit to the library to let your child pick out a few books about the topics we are studying in school. The Wicomico County Public library has many children's programs, and is great place to warm up on a chilly Saturday. Please continue to make time to read to your child each evening. Reading aloud to your child is one of the most important things you can do to help them learn to read. In math the children will continue to have fun measuring and making comparisons for length, weight, and height. We will also continue working on number bonds and will be formerly introducing addition and subtraction. The children love to play outside even on the very cold days we do take them outside for recess unless the temperature drops below 32 degrees. So please remember to send your child to school dressed appropriately for the weather each day. A warm coat, hat, and gloves, will keep our kindergarteners warm while they have fun on our playground.

### First Grade:

The first grade is excited to get back to work since we returned from our holiday break. We will continue to learn new high frequency words, and work on skills of sequencing, summarizing, and main idea in reading. We will work extensively with opinion writing during the month of January as well. In math we will work on skills of 10 more and 10 less, place value, and comparing numbers. Students should continue to practice learning their addition facts to 10 as well. Please review your child's homework with them each night. As we begin a new year it is a good time to check your child's supplies to make sure he/she has all the materials they need to be successful in school. Students need pencils, glue sticks, crayons, and scissors each day. We hope you have a wonderful break!

### Second Grade:

Welcome back from winter break! This month we will wrap up our Amazing Animals theme in reading and begin **Unit 3: Communities**. In math, we will continue working on problem solving, place value up to 1,000 and regrouping numbers to add and subtract. Please encourage your child to use strategies that we practice in class on their homework

## Second Grade continued:

assignments. Instead of using the traditional algorithm to solve equations. Science instruction will focus on animal classification and Social Studies instruction will focus on various topics including holidays celebrated in January. We welcome the donation of tissues and hand sanitizer as our supply dwindles at this time of year. Please make sure that your child wears a warm jacket as the temperatures drop during the winter season. As always, please make sure to check your child's agenda each night for important notes and to make sure that they are completing their homework.

### Third Grade:

Happy New Year!

Third grade will be continuing our study of traditions and cultures in Reading and Social Studies. We will be working on food chains and animal adaptations in Science and in Math we are continuing measurement. It is important to your student's progress to practice multiplication and division facts and read daily at home. Be sure to replenish your child's supplies (pencils (not mechanical), crayons, glue sticks and paper) for the New Year.

### Fourth Grade:

Welcome 2015! As we return, students will have 3 weeks left in the second marking term. In reading, we will continue the theme of heroes, focusing on myths and biographies. In language we will continue refining our writing skills. In science, we will continue using our new weather station to study the local climate. Students will be finishing their focus on the regions of Maryland. In math, we will begin Unit 5: **Fraction Operations**. The students will use their understanding of adding and subtracting fractions and generating equivalent fractions to solve problems involving fractions and mixed numbers. The school wide Spelling Bee will be January 15th. Please remind runners-up and class champions to study their grade level lists. Students will be involved in essay contest dealing with freedoms and the mayoral contest. The final round of the Geo Bee will be held on January 9th. We will also be preparing for the next round of reading and math interims.

### Fifth Grade:

Happy New Year! In January, students will continue to work with fractions in math class. We will begin to use visual models to multiply and divide fractions and solve real-world problems involving multiplication and division of fractions. In reading, students will continue their unit called **Making a Difference**. Students will develop a general understanding of people who make a difference in their lives. In social studies, students will begin to discuss early colonial settlements and colonial life. In language, we will review types of figurative language and apply them in our writing. During science, students begin their exploration and study of physics and motion. Please remember that our spelling words as well as our vocabulary terms are closely linked to the academic content students are learning. In order to help parents reinforce these words at home, both vocabulary words and spelling words can be found online at <http://spellingcity.com>. Please use this resource as you help your child with their weekly homework assignments. 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



**Grade Level News continued:**

**Fifth Grade continued:**

upon us, it would be a big help if parents could continue to donate such items as tissues and hand sanitizer to our classrooms. Our supply is already dwindling. Finally, be sure to check the weather regularly so that your child may dress appropriately when we venture out to recess in the coming days. Layering clothing is always a good idea. Be sure students have an appropriate sweater or sweatshirt (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:**

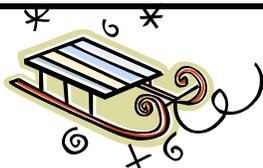
**Thank You, Thank You, and Thank You!!!!**

Pemberton would like to say thank you to all of the families who participated in the Primary Family Night at Food Lion. A very special thank you goes to Jenna, Josh, and Cynthia from your local Food Lion on Nanticoke Road. Food Lion hosted Pemberton's Family Reading and Math Night on December 4, 2014 for our PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. We had over 160 people attend this event, where students were able to apply reading and math skills to everyday practices. We would also like to send another huge thank you to Mr. Steve from the Deli at Pecan Square. Our fun-filled evening concluded at the Deli, where a delicious buffet was prepared by Mr. Steve and his friendly staff. The menu consisted of goulash, grilled chicken, coleslaw, salad, rolls, fruit, bread pudding and drinks for the families that participated in the evening's events. Thank you Mr. Steve for making our evening so special!! PES families, don't forget to support your local businesses.

Our Intermediate students will be receiving invitations in January for the upcoming Family Night at Food Lion, February 5, 2015. Stay tuned!

Pemberton's Parent Advisory Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 5:45 PM in the office conference room prior to our PTA 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 in March, please fill out the bottom portion and send it back to school with your child.

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.



**Guidance Corner By Joanne James:**

Happy New Year! Parents here are some suggested good routines for "Good Study Skills and Homework" throughout the year.

1. Make sure your child has good lighting while studying.
2. Encourage your child to work at a desk with a straight, firm chair.
3. Make sure your child's study area has plenty of needed supplies. This will save time and keep your child on task.
4. It is important to get organized before going to bed. Place books and homework in the book bag.
5. Look over your child's homework.

**HAPPY**  
*Holidays*

Pemberton Chorus would like to invite you to their program on December 18th at 6:30 pm at Pemberton Elementary School

Click on the QR Code to get a special message from the Pemberton Chorus!

# EAT FOR CHANGE



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support Destination Imagination. Just come into the Salisbury Chipotle on **Monday, January 26th**, from **5:00pm** to **8:00pm**.

Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to Destination Imagination.

