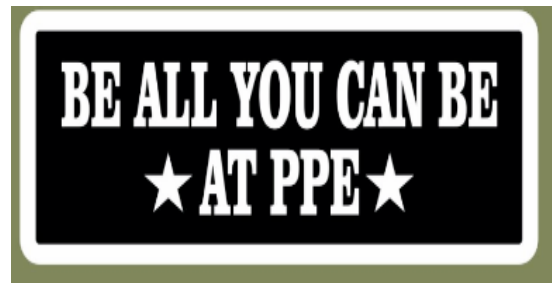


# Whoo's News

Ms. Julie Gittelman, Principal  
Mr. Peter Policastro, Intern Assistant Principal  
APRIL 2018



*The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure, which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity and expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, or sex.*

## PRINCIPAL'S GREETING

Safety continues to be our highest priority. Thank you for all of your support with our new procedures. We raised \$1,700 for MSD between the MSD Day and the Chorus fundraiser. We are in the process of evaluating our building to continue to improve our safety practices. We are also looking into getting i.d. badges for our students as every Broward County Public School student and staff are required to wear badges. Please keep our front loop clear and do not park in the Fire Lane. After April 15<sup>th</sup>, police will be writing tickets across the county. We will be discussing school safety at every SAC meeting. Please come and let your voice be heard! We will also be having a Cyber Bullying parent training on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Come learn how to keep your children safe on the internet.

April is a busy testing month! We have implemented many interventions this year to help **all** children succeed. The different grades have met to analyze data, monitor progress, plan instructional focus calendars, enrich, and remediate **all** students. We are a team and have worked to accomplish our main goal, an increase in student achievement. You are a part of the game plan and should reinforce with your children to "Be All You Can Be at PPE, Mission Possible!"

Remember that a test is like a snapshot. It is a one-time look at a child's performance. All children have skills and knowledge that tests do not measure. A single test score **does not** tell you everything about a child. Thank you for your cooperation this month by bringing your child(ren) to school on time and ready to "show what they know!" If a child arrives late on a test day, he or she will not be able to enter his or her classroom until the "all clear" for testing is made. Please help us by having your child(ren) here on time.

Broward County Public Schools is administering the AdvancED Survey to parents, staff, and students in an effort to improve system practices in our school and District. Your opinion is important to us and we ask that you take the time to complete this survey. See details on the last page of this newsletter.

Don't forget the PTA Auction, Raffle, and Dinner will be held April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30-8:30pm. Please send in items to auction off, purchase raffle tickets, and plan on attending that evening. Help fund the many wonderful programs PTA helps support at PPE. Money collected this year will be used on school safety and technology.

This month, I will be sponsoring our annual student essay/poem contest for Staff Appreciation in May. Winners will get to have lunch with the staff member they wrote about and administration! Look for details in today's Whoo's News. The deadline is April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, soon our support staff and teachers will start forming classes for next year. Many factors such as academic levels, work habits, and behavior are taken into consideration. For this reason, we **do not** honor teacher requests. If there is a compelling reason why your child can not be with another child or in a particular class, please put it in writing to me by May 18, 2018. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

*Be All You Can Be at PPE! Mission Possible!*  
Julie Gittelman  
Proud Principal

## DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2 Start 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter  
April 2 SAC-SAF @ 2:25pm  
April 4 Hey Look Us Over @ 8:30am  
April 5 Spring Pictures  
April 6 Coffee Talk @ 8:15am  
April 6 Read Across Broward Forms Due  
April 6 PTA Auction, Raffle, and Dinner  
April 10-11 Grade 3 FSA ELA  
April 12 Report Cards  
April 13 Wear Blue Day  
April 18 Cyberbullying Parent Training @ 6:30pm  
April 24-25 Grade 5 FSA ELA  
April 25 Staff Appreciation Essays Due  
April 25 Administrative Assistant Day  
April 27 Chorus Family Night

*The Character Education trait is Tolerance  
April is Child Abuse Prevention and World Peace Month*

## ELEMENTARY TESTING SCHEDULE

April 10-11, 2018  
Grade 3 FSA ELA

April 24 - May 11, 2018  
Grade 3 FSA Math  
Grades 4 and 5 FSA ELA and Math  
Grade 5 Science

May 7 - 11, 2018  
Grades 1 and 2 Primary End of Year Reading

## NEWS FROM THE CAFETERIA

The last day to bring in checks is Friday, **May 4, 2018**. The cafeteria will only accept cash or online payments using [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Please make sure to fill up those accounts before the deadline!

## CONGRATULATIONS

On behalf of the State of Florida, congratulations to PPE's high impact teachers. A recent analysis of student performance on statewide standardized assessments found the following teachers had a high impact on student learning growth that is among the most positive in the entire state: Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Rice-Haines and Mrs. Ross! Way to go!

## DONATE TO HELP JUVENILE DIABETES

Wear blue on Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and donate at least \$1.00. All monies raised will go to help fight diabetes!

## CHORUS FAMILY NIGHT

Friday, April 27, 2018  
Shops at Plantation One

## APPRECIATIONS

Administrative Assistant Day is on April 25, 2018!  
*Special thanks to Ms. Ayala, Mrs. Crawford,  
Mrs. Specht, and Mrs. Worcester for keeping  
PPE on the right track!*

## HELP US GET THE WORD OUT

April 4, 2018 @ 8:30am will be our time to have prospective new families look at our wonderful school at our "Hey Look Us Over" event for kindergartners and new families within our boundaries. Help us get the word out! Thank YOU!

### READING ACROSS BROWARD

Just a reminder, the Reading Across Broward forms are due Friday, April 6, 2018. This list should include all books read since April 1, 2017. Students in K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades need to read 100 different books on their level. Those in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades need to read 50 different books. All forms need to include five award books. The students who complete these goals will receive a trophy at their end-of-year awards assembly.

### TAKE NOTE... GENERAL MUSIC NEWS

Thank you for participating in Music In Our Schools Month in March! PPE students and I greatly appreciate all the parents who took time to attend their child's "Sound of Music!" Classroom Concert Series on March 16-21, 2018. The concerts were a huge success! FYI-All "Make Your Own Instrument" projects were due by March 22<sup>nd</sup> and were judged by community members on March 22-23. Projects count for 33% of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter music report card indicator in grades 3-5. Late projects must be turned in to Mrs. Greggs by 4/6 in order to receive a passing 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report card grade.

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners of the 2018 Make Your Own Instrument Contest are:**

- K- Olive Meyer- "Trumplue"
- 1st- Andrew Smith- "Wind Chime"
- 2nd- Sydney Thomas-  
"Egg-straordinary Shaker Set"
- 3rd- Colten Walters- "Pipe Xylophone"
- 4th- Krishna Gosine- "Steel Drum"
- 5th- Rebecca Rubenstein- "Xylo-Gong"

Best In Show- Leyla Cruz-  
"Homemade Karaoke Machine"

Other winners will be announced on WOWL. Winners will receive their certificates and awards during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April. All projects are on display in the Media Center until April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**The Music Bee is coming!** During April and early May, students will continue using recorders in grades 3-5, and review music concepts and theory in grades K-5 in preparation for the Music Bee, a cumulative, end-of-course music exam at each grade level. The top 2-5 scorers in each class will be revealed at the end of year Awards Shows and the #1 winner per class will receive a \$10 gift card. The top winner in each grade will receive a special ribbon, and the top scorer in the school will earn \$50! **Music Bee Study Sheets** will be sent home with all students in April. Children should look over their symbols and terms for about 5-10 minutes each night. Be sure to check the key "What to Study" though the study sheet has ALL the symbols for grades KDG-5, younger grades need learn only certain symbols. Study sheets are available online at [www.musicmakerscamp.com](http://www.musicmakerscamp.com). First click the PPE General Music Link. Next, click on the Music Bee Study Sheet link on the left. Last, good luck and THANK YOU to FAU Music intern Manuella Valenzuela as she graduates in May! We will miss you! Have a great month! -Nicole Greggs, NBCT- EMC/Music.

**Special thanks to Mrs. Greggs, our fabulous music teacher, for an amazing Music in our Schools Month in March.**

### PRINCIPAL'S READING CHALLENGE

Our students had a fun time this year during the "Mad Science" Reading Challenge. Special thanks to the Museum of Science, Mrs. Dilks, Literacy Coach, and all of the students who met their reading goal! It was a special time for all that participated.

Congratulations to the following students for being the top of their grade:

Kindergarten	Lyric Lebron
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Aida Anderson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Sydney Thomas
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Nola Morgan
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Lorelei Sverak
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Grace Finnerty

As a reminder, it's important to keep reading even though the challenge is over. Reading is a skill for life! Read on, Ms. Gittelman, Proud Principal.

### 13TH ANNUAL STUDENT STAFF APPRECIATION ESSAY / POEM CONTEST

#### TOPICS:

- The staff member that demonstrates "Be All You Can Be" or "Mission Possible" Why?
- The staff member that has made a difference in your life. Why?
- What is a PPE staff member?

#### RULES:

- All essays/poems must be no more than one page in length.
- Students K-1<sup>st</sup> grade may choose to draw a picture. (max 12" x 18")
- All 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>-grade essays/poems must be double-spaced typed. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade essays/poems can be handwritten or typed.
- The contest will run April 2-25, 2018.
- Our Partners in Education will judge the essays/poems.
- Students may enter one poem/essay.
- Child's name-teacher must be on the essay/picture.

#### PRIZES:

1. SIX winners will be chosen (one at each grade)
2. All winners will eat lunch with administration and the staff member they wrote about during Staff Appreciation in May!

#### DETAILS:

1. Turn in your essay/poem to your teacher by: **April 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:10pm.**
2. Winners will be announced via WOWL.
3. Several essays/poems will be read over WOWL during Staff Appreciation Week!

### KIWANIS OF PLANTATION

Special thanks to the Plantation Kiwanis Club for donating books to our PreK and Kindergarten students. All students received this wonderful gift on March 21, 2018. We are lucky to have the support of our community.

### CHORUS CORNER

**Happy April everyone!** Great job Chorus at the Spring Sing-a-Thon 2/23! With half our proceeds and an additional bucket of \$180 in cash donations, we were able to raise \$901 to support Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Congrats top pledge earners- Jasmine Dorvil, Mackenzie Herndon-Smith, & Katie Russell, and to the Junior Choir for stealing the Top Dawg Award from the Seniors! Penny Wars are ongoing through 3/22; donate your spare change to see which grade- 3, 4, or 5- gets the most points and 1<sup>st</sup> choice of toppings at our ice cream party!

We are planning three exciting events during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter: the Broward County Elementary Music Performance Assessment Festival on Fri. 5/11; our 27<sup>th</sup> annual Spring finale on Fri. 5/17 at 6:30pm at **South Plantation High School Auditorium** (PPE school shows are Thurs. 5/17 at 8:30am and 9:30am), and our end-of-year celebration. The BCEMPA is an adjudicated music festival in which the choir receives a rating. The Spring concert "Rockin' the Renaissance!" will feature traditional choral music and some very interesting characters! The annual awards presentation will follow the evening show. The end-of-year celebration is will occur the last week of May; more info. Will be sent ASAP. Email [Nicole.greggs@browardschools.com](mailto:Nicole.greggs@browardschools.com) if you have not been receiving chorus updates. Thanks! *Sing-cerely- Nicole M. Greggs, NBCT.*

### JUST DO IT

Each year one student is nominated as an exemplary student of the year with the "Just Do It Award". PPE is proud to nominate 5<sup>th</sup> grade student, Jackson Wies, for the 2017-18 school year. Jackson goes above and beyond in and out of the classroom. He is a hard-working student and a positive role model to others. Way to go Jackson!

### PTA

Please join us for our next Coffee Talk Meeting on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am. If you would like to get involved with the PTA Board next year, please come to the meeting or email our Nomination Committee, Crystal Bond, Nadine Flynn, Natasha Waith and Mini Samai at [ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com](mailto:ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com) for more information or to express your interest. All positions are open; President, Treasurer, Membership, Hospitality, Technology, Volunteers, Fundraising, and Events Coordinator. Elections will be held at the last PTA Meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>. PTA is a fun way to get involved with our school.

### YEARBOOK NEWS

Yearbooks are still on sale for \$31. We will only be purchasing books that were pre-bought, so order your yearbooks TODAY! Yearbooks may only be purchased online at our PTA Website <http://ppe.my-pta.org>.

### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Our contest winners for the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection were PK-Hauser, KDG-O'Quinn, 1<sup>st</sup>-Criscuolo, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Tully, 3<sup>rd</sup>-Holmes, 4<sup>th</sup>-Ross, and 5<sup>th</sup>-Hartman. They will be awarded a cupcake party. If you have any Box Tops that will expire by the next school year, please turn them in so we can get credit for them and they don't go to waste.

### SPRING BOOK FAIR

Thank you to the volunteers who helped during the Spring Book Fair. We couldn't do it without YOU! We truly appreciate those of you who continue to support the PTA and our school. BIG thanks to SPHS Volunteers and Ms. Kim!

### TEACHER'S LOUNGE COMMITTEE

If you are interested in helping repaint, organize and spruce up the Teacher's Lounge, email us at [ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com](mailto:ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com) for more info.

Did you know...an anonymous Plantation Community member donated money twice to pay off student's lunch debts this year? We are very thankful for this act of kindness!

### JOIN PTA ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PPEPTA>

### PTA AUCTION/RAFFLE

Alejandra Cruz, Yami Cotilla, and the Auction Committee have been working hard all year asking companies for donations of products and services to be auctioned off. **We need your help as this event is fast approaching.** The Auction, Raffle and Dinner will be held Friday, April 6, 2018. We are looking for volunteers to assist at the event. This is an evening event and a great way for parents to get involved. Childcare activities are available for children ages five and older. Contact Alejandra Cruz at [atcruzalejandra26@gmail.com](mailto:atcruzalejandra26@gmail.com) to volunteer to set-up, work from home, donate, or get more information.

The Auction and Raffle is our last major fundraiser of the school year. **We are looking for more items!** If you or your business would like to donate, please send in your items to the front office or contact Alejandra! Or, if you simply think of a place that you are willing to ask for a donation, contact Alejandra to make sure they are not already on our list and if not, we would love to have you contact them. We will recognize any business that donates in our school newsletter and on our PTA website at <http://ppe.my-pta.org>. For an updated list follow us on Facebook, [www.Facebook.com/groups/PPEPTA](http://www.Facebook.com/groups/PPEPTA).

### GRADE LEVEL DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!

The class that brings in the most basket items in each grade will win raffle tickets. Please send anything related to the theme by April 3, 2018.

- PreK and KDG: Sports and Boys
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Girls want to have Fun
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Outside and Waterworks Fun
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Arts and Crafts
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Educational Games and Toys
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Candy, Movie, and Game Night

### SAC AND SAF NEWS

The 2018-2019 DRAFT Student Success Plan will be shared at the PTA/SAC/SAF meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>. We encourage parents to complete the annual surveys for feedback to help our school. Please get involved with the great things going on at PPE. Special thanks to our SAC and SAF members who served this year! We will be taking names for SAC and SAF Elections at the final meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Hendrickx, SAC Chair.

### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2018

Mark your calendars! The first day of school for 2018 for students will be on Wednesday, August 15, 2018. Visit [browardschools.com/calendars](http://browardschools.com/calendars) for a copy of the 2018-2019 calendar.

## **MATRICULATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

A manual has been developed by the Exceptional Student Learning Support Division to help plan for students with disabilities when matriculating from one school level to the next. The manual can be found at the Exceptional Student Learning Support website at <http://bcps-esls.com/>.

## **ESE SURVEYS**

The FL Department of Education Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Surveys were handed out in February. The online version of the survey is also available to all parents at [www.esesurvey.com](http://www.esesurvey.com). The deadline to complete either the paper or online survey is May 31, 2018.

## **TITLE I UPDATE**

As a Title I school, it is important that all parents have access to training, support, and educational performance records. The Florida's School Public Accountability Reports (SPAR) have been generated to comply with federal legislation that requires annual report cards on the educational progress of schools. The SPAR contains several types of data designed to inform parents about the progress of Florida's public schools. We sent this information out earlier in the year, but want to remind you how to view the SPAR report for PPE. A hard copy may also be accessed in the front office and/or you can go to the following website: <http://www.fl DOE.org/eias/eiaspubs/pubnclb.asp>. Parents may view a running record of our school grade by visiting <http://schoolgrades.fl DOE.org>.

Plantation Park Elementary has a School Improvement Plan (SIP) that solicits input from students, parents, guardians, and staff throughout the school year to ensure your child receives the best education possible with supports in place. The SIP is a document that reflects, in part, barriers that can adversely impact your child's education. As stakeholders, we develop a plan that brings forth best practices that will help your child succeed. If you would like a copy, it can be located at the front desk for your review.

In addition to the school's SIP, the District's Local Education Agency Parent Plan can also be accessed at the front desk for your review. We are currently developing our School Parent and Family Engagement Plan for next year. Come to our monthly SAC meetings to provide input!

Thank you to the families that completed our customer surveys last month! The Title I survey specifically provides us with valuable feedback related to the effectiveness of the parental involvement programs in our school. We will share data at an upcoming SAC meeting. Should you have any questions regarding this notification, feel free to contact David Apodaca, PPE's Title I Liaison, at 754-323-7150.

## **COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

April's Character Trait is TOLERANCE. Tolerance is recognizing and respecting differences, values, and beliefs of other people. Each of us has the right to our own thoughts and beliefs, realizing that each person's basic need is to feel safe and accepted as an "equal," and remembering that differences can divide people while diversity can strengthen them. *Congratulations to all of our March Self-Control Kids of Character! Check out the Counseling Bulletin Board to see them!*

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANNING**

A quick note for the parents/guardians of 5<sup>th</sup> graders. We automatically assign students to their zoned middle school through the District database. If you requested a reassignment or applied for a magnet program and have received a letter of acceptance, please be sure to provide Mrs. Miles with a copy. If you did not make the deadline for reassignment, you have a second opportunity on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Your child could be selected for any spots that may be remaining. It is important for you to tell us where your child is going to Middle School if it is not the District-zoned school. This is an exciting time for our 5<sup>th</sup> graders as they begin their transition to middle school. If you have any questions, contact *Mrs. Miles, School Counselor*.

## **APRIL IS A BIG TESTING MONTH**

Stress and anxiety are very normal parts of life and it is critical that our children find healthy ways to manage them. At this time of the year, students may experience heightened anxiety before a testing situation. A certain degree of test anxiety is normal and may help students prepare more effectively, work more efficiently, and remain focused during testing. Too much anxiety, however, can negatively affect performance. The following strategies may assist in reducing test anxiety.

### **Student Strategies for Reducing Test Anxiety:**

- Share your feelings of anxiety with parents and teachers.
- Think of the test as an opportunity to show what you know. Just do your best!
- Relax, breathe deeply, and stay focused on the test.

### **Parent Strategies for Reducing Test Anxiety:**

- Discuss the test openly and in a positive way.
- Have realistic expectations of your child while encouraging his/her best efforts.
- Emphasize that the test is only one measure of academic performance and does not determine a person's self-worth.

### **Parent Testing Day Support Strategies:**

- See that your child is rested and eats breakfast.
- See that your child arrives at school on time.
- Encourage your child to try his/her best.
- Do not send your child to school if ill.
- Do not remove your child from school on test days for appointments.

## **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

If your child is found to have an electronic device that reproduces, transmits, calculates or records (i.e. cell phone, camera or pager) in his or her pocket, at his or her desk, or within his or her reach during testing, the test will be invalidated. Leave them at home during testing. If you have questions please contact our Testing Coordinator, Mrs. Miles.

## **CYBER SAFETY PARENT TRAINING**

Mrs. Miles and Officer Wade will be hosting a training on how to stay safe in cyber space on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Information will be provided on how to monitor your child's internet usage and explain the responsibility we have as school personnel. Childcare will be provided.



## RESOURCES



### ANNUAL CUSTOMER SURVEYS

In an effort to improve system practices in the District and our school, the Broward County School District is conducting Stakeholder Surveys for parents, students, and staff. We value your opinion and ask that you please take time to complete this survey.

These surveys ask parents, students, and staff their opinions about their school, including their teachers, administrators, their peers, and other aspects of their experiences at school. **The surveys will be available online only** and will be available in multiple languages. Students will be taking their survey in their STEM special.

Please be assured that your responses to this survey will be anonymous. Your honest opinion is appreciated and valued. Thank you for taking your time to complete the survey.

#### Administration Window:

April 2, 2018 - May 3, 2018

#### Parent Survey Code:

<https://eprovesurveys.advanced.org/surveys/#/action/60990/p568>



[facebook.com/plantationparkelementary](https://www.facebook.com/plantationparkelementary)



[plantationpark.browardschools.com](http://plantationpark.browardschools.com)



[twitter.com/PlantationParke](https://twitter.com/PlantationParke)

### I-READY

All KDG-5<sup>th</sup> graders have been enrolled in i-Ready reading and math to assess and provide individualized instruction based on each student's unique needs.

[SBBC student single sign-on](#)

*Username: Given by the teacher*

*Username: Given by the teacher*

### FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENT (FSA)

Up to date information, practice tests, answers to frequently asked questions, etc. can be found at:

<http://www.fsassessments.org>

### SAMPLE FSA TESTS

[parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests](http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests)

[www.fsaassessments.org](http://www.fsaassessments.org)

### FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Your source for Florida Standards. This site is new! You will find resources located from all over the web to support learning in language arts, mathematics, science, civics, and more.

<http://www.floridastudents.org>

### THINK CENTRAL

Use Think Central to practice math and reading skills. Access Think Central through BEEP or [www.thinkcentral.com](http://www.thinkcentral.com)

*Username: 10-digit Student Number (starts with 06)*

*Password: Birth Date WITHOUT backslashes*

### BEEP

Utilize online textbooks, databases, games, software tools, etc. Check out the many resources [beep.browardschools.com/ssoPortal/index.html](http://beep.browardschools.com/ssoPortal/index.html)

*Username: Student #*

*Password: Birth Date*

### MATH ACTIVITES

Teaches K-6 math using hands-on and interactive mini-games. These immersive bite-sized apps for tablets and personal computers are based on a modular and spiral learning system.

[matific.com](http://matific.com)

### BRAIN POP

Brainpop engages students through animated movies, learning games, interactive quizzes, primary source activities, concept mapping, and more. Check it out!

[www.brainpop.com](http://www.brainpop.com)

*username: plantationpark*

*password: brainpop*

### KHAN ACADEMY

Khan Academy is a great way for your child to get help with what they're learning in school or to learn something completely new.

[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)