

# Whoo's News

Ms. Julie Gittelman, Principal  
Dr. Ingrid Osgood, Intern Principal  
April 2019

PPE → LIFE



*The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, handicap, national origin, marital status, religion, or sex.*

## PRINCIPAL'S GREETING

State testing begins this month for our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders! 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 try their very best. 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!"

Broward County Public Schools is still 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 before the deadline. See details on the last page of this newsletter.

Don't forget the PTA Auction, Raffle, and Dinner will be held April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:15-8:30pm. Please send in items to auction off, purchase raffle tickets, and plan on attending that evening. Help fund the many wonderful programs sponsored by our PTA!

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 26<sup>th</sup>.

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 17<sup>th</sup>. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

As a reminder, the SMART Bond has allocated \$100,000 towards School Choice Enhancement projects at each school to improve the condition of the educational environment. The projects are chosen in a collaborative effort with the School Advisory Council (SAC), staff and the school community. SAC has been working on the ballot that will be presented to the school community and staff for a final selection by way of a vote. Voting is by basic majority. Please attend the April 8<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting at 2:25pm to provide input.

Finally, the our last mindset is **"We are Connected!** It teaches us to understand that everyone who comes into our lives can assist us in living our dreams. By applying this mindset, you will learn to constantly explore synergies with others, embrace diversity, and relish competition that will help you maximize your potential with and through others."

*"Seas the Day! Make April Ridiculously Amazing!"*

Julie Gittelman  
Proud Principal

## DATES TO REMEMBER

April 1	Start 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
April 2	Read Across Broward Forms Due
April 2	See Something Say Something Posters Due
April 2	Grades 4-5 FSA WRITING
April 2-3	Grade 3 FSA ELA
April 5	Coffee Talk @ 8:15am
April 8	SAC-SAF @ 2:25pm
April 12	PTA Auction, Raffle, and Dinner
April 15	Spring Pictures
April 16	Report Cards
April 16	Hey Look Us Over
April 16	Chorus Family Night
April 18	Grade 5 Orlando Field Trip
April 19	No School-Holiday
April 22	Earth Day
April 24	Administrative Assistant Day
April 25	Kindergarten Program
April 26	Staff Appreciation Essays Due

*The Character Education trait is Tolerance  
April is Child Abuse Prevention and World Peace Month  
The Mindset of the Month is We Are Connected*

## ELEMENTARY TESTING SCHEDULE

April 2, 2019  
Grades 4 and 5 FSA ELA Writing

April 2-3, 2019  
Grade 3 FSA ELA

May 1-2, 2019  
Grade 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> FSA ELA

May 3 & 6, 2019  
Grade 5 Science

May 7-8, 2019  
Grade 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> FSA Math

May TBA, 2019  
Grades 1 and 2 Primary End of Year Reading

## CHORUS FAMILY NIGHT

Tuesday, April 16, 2019  
Westfield Broward Mall  
5:30pm-8:00pm

## APPRECIATIONS

Administrative Assistant Day is on April 24, 2019!  
*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 16, 2019 @ 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.

## WELCOME TO PPE

Mrs. Meredith Codd, School Counselor  
Mrs. Marian Vollman, JCC School Director



### READING ACROSS BROWARD

Just a reminder, the Reading Across Broward forms are due Tuesday, April 2, 2019. This list should include all books read since April 2, 2018. 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. Award books in our school's collection are labeled with a sticker on the spine. 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 of the parents who took time to attend their child's "All Music, All People: SEAS the Power of Music!" Classroom Concert Series on March 15-20, 2019. The concerts were a huge success! Each grade level presented a musical rendition of a classic children's book, complete with not just music, but acting, costumes, dancing, and playing instruments. GREAT JOB ALL! FYI- All "Make Your Own Instrument" projects were due by March 21<sup>st</sup> and were judged by community members on March 21-22, 2019. 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 April 6<sup>th</sup> in order to receive a passing 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report card grade. Check back next month for the contest winners! 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, as well as, posted in their music course on Canvas. To access Canvas, sign in to [www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com), then click the orange circle- CANVAS, then click your child's music course and look under assignments. 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 to learn only certain symbols. 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.**

### STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

Parents as the year is quickly winding down, please check your student's obligations. Obligations can occur from lost library books, text books or from lost/misplaced ID badges. You can see your student's obligations in either Virtual Counselor or by logging into [store.browardschools.com](http://store.browardschools.com) and select pay student obligations under our school. Obligations will remain with a student until paid. Obligations can affect student's graduation status, prevent students from going on end of the year extracurricular field trips or participating in celebrations. Letters are also sent home to alert parents of the obligation.

### BLUE DAY

Thank you for wearing blue on March 15<sup>th</sup> and donating money towards Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). We raised \$370 to help research efforts to keep people healthy and safe until we find a cure for the disease. You can still donate online! Way to go!

### PRINCIPAL'S READING CHALLENGE

"Reading is Magic" was this year's theme. Special thanks to the JCC, Mrs. Dilks, Literacy Coach, and all of the students who met their reading goal! 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.*

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

Kindergarten: Amelia Hansen  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Audrey Siska (top in the school)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Addison Ross  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Sydney Thomas  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Leah Jeffers  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Sofia Montefusco

### 14TH ANNUAL STUDENT STAFF APPRECIATION ESSAY / POEM CONTEST

#### TOPICS:

- The staff member that demonstrates "Seas the Day" or is the "Most Ridiculously Amazing Staff Member" and 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 5-26, 2019.
- Our Partners in Education will judge the essays/poems.
- Students may enter one poem/essay.
- Child's name and 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 26<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!

### **CHORUS CORNER**

**Happy April everyone! GREAT JOB CHORUS** at the Spring Sing-a-Thon on February 22<sup>nd</sup>! We sang beautifully and collected almost \$1900 in one night! Congrats top pledge earners- Kaydee Russell, Lyla Young, & Tiana Ortiz, and to the Senior Choir for stealing the Top Dawg Award from the Juniors! We also kicked off our annual Penny Wars to benefit the Lymphoma & Leukemia Society of America. 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! Also, CONGRATULATIONS to the PPE Chorus on earning a Superior Rating and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in their recent competition at MUSIC USA Festival, Universal Studios, Orlando on March 8<sup>th</sup>!

**COMING UP** during 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, we have our annual "Hey, Look Us Over!" performance on April 16<sup>th</sup>, as well as, our Chorus Family Night the same evening at The Westfield Broward Mall from 5:30pm-8:00pm; our 28<sup>th</sup> annual Spring finale & Awards Night, "PIRATES- THE MUSICAL!" will be Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at South Plantation High School Auditorium. PPE school shows are May 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am and 9:30am; the BCEMPA adjudicated local music festival will be one day May TBA; and finally, our end-of-year celebration on May 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:30pm-5:00pm at Heritage Park. Musicianship test re-takes will be given during early April, and spring chorus music practice tracks are now available on Canvas. Please 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.*

### **SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING**

The PPE School Safety Committee is commissioning student artists to create posters encouraging students to notify an adult when they notice concerning or suspicious behavior or objects both in and outside of school. See the flyer that went home for details about this schoolwide poster contest. Posters are due April 2, 2019 to the front office. Winners will have their designs displayed throughout the school campus and will win awesome art kits!

### **PTA**

Please join us for our next Coffee Talk Meeting on Friday, April 5<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 a member of our Nomination Committee, Nadine Flynn, [nbeckers2000@hotmail.com](mailto:nbeckers2000@hotmail.com) or Maggie Sverak [Maggie@mysverak.com](mailto:Maggie@mysverak.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 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. PTA is a fun way to get involved with our school.

### **YEARBOOK NEWS**

Yearbooks are still on sale! 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 KDG-O'Quinn, 1<sup>st</sup>-LaCastra, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Fiene, 3<sup>rd</sup>-Welch, 4<sup>th</sup>-Ross, and 5<sup>th</sup>-Alexander. They will be awarded a cookie 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 and Ms. Kim for all of your help 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.

### **PTA AUCTION / RAFFLE / DINNER**

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 12, 2019 @ 5:15pm-8:30pm. 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 [at cruzalejandra26@gmail.com](mailto:cruzalejandra26@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 5, 2019.

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

*Like us on Facebook!*  
[www.facebook.com/groups/PPEPTA/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/PPEPTA/)

### **SAC AND SAF NEWS**

The 2019-2020 DRAFT Student Success Plan will be shared at the PTA/SAC/SAF meeting on May 15<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 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Jones, SAC Chair.



free to contact David Apodaca, PPE's Title I Liaison, at 754-323-7150.

### **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/>. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Fimiano, ESE Specialist.

### **ESE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

All District ESE Advisory Meetings are held monthly. This month the meeting is being held on April 17, 2019 from 6:30pm-9:00pm at Piper High School, 8000 NW 44<sup>th</sup> Street, Sunrise.

### **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, 2019.

### **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.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/pubnclb.asp>. Parents may view a running record of our school grade by visiting <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.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

### **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 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 Ms. Specht 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.

### **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 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

electronic devices at home during testing. If you have questions please contact our Testing Coordinator, Mrs. Fimiano.

Publix to buy and decorate Mother's Day cakes for their special day.



### 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 in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 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: Ends April 4, 2019

Parent Survey Code: Linked from our website:

<https://www.browardschools.com/plantationpark>

### ENRICHMENT CLUBS

Our After School Enrichment Clubs Session #2 ended. We want to thank all of our club sponsors for their hard work and dedication in bringing enriching opportunities to our students. We sincerely hope it was an enjoyable experience and that you continue to support our clubs next year. A special thank-you to *Mrs. Banos, Coordinator*.

### MOTHER'S DAY CAKES

As a reminder, due to the FSA testing calendar, we will not sell Mother's Day cakes this year. Please visit your local



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



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



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



### RESOURCES

#### **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. 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>

#### **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)