

# Whoo's News

Ms. Julie Gittelman, Principal  
Mr. Peter Policastro, Intern Assistant Principal  
FEBRUARY 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

It has been a busy month at PPE. We have had several safety drills, planned and unplanned, testing, and have reasons to celebrate and grieve. Recently, we lost a very dear friend to PPE. Mr. Jim McGonigle, PPE volunteer, recently passed. He has had a tremendous impact on our city and schools, especially PPE. He has brought our school so many resources and positive programs: Kiwanis dictionaries for every 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, books for our primary students, K-Kids Service Club, Zone Spelling Bee, PPE Spelling Bee, Zone Rep, Advisory Rep, SAC Member, City Basketball fundraiser, planting and school clean-ups, school supply donations, Christmas tree donation, etc. etc. He has been our Senior Volunteer of the Year many times. He will be missed, however, his hard work will live on in our city and PPE forever. Stay tuned for more information on a special dedication in his honor.

We also say good-bye to Dr. Osgood, Intern Principal, until May 2018. She has taken a position in the District Evaluation Department as an Evaluation Coordinator. We welcome Mr. Policastro, Intern Assistant Principal, to PPE. He has been a 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Math Coach, and recently Master Coach from the District Coaching and Induction Department. He will stay at PPE until Dr. Osgood returns. Stop by and welcome him to our PPE family!

Broward County Public Schools has designated Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018 as "Take Your Child to Work Day." This event is designed to help children between the ages of 8-18 learn about job possibilities.

The Principal's Reading Challenge begins this month on February 1, 2018 and ends on March 16, 2018. The theme is "Mad Science!" Help your child meet their individual reading goal in order to participate! See page two of this newsletter for more information.

Regular student attendance is important for learning and progress throughout the school year. The state's financial support for schools is directly linked to attendance. To ensure our attendance records are counted for maximum state funding, please have your child attend school from February 5-9, 2018.

The PTA is hosting our annual Family Fun Day on Saturday, February 10, 2018 from 11:00am-3:00pm at Heritage Park. They have planned fun activities and will have food trucks at this annual family event!

STANDARDIZED TESTING is beginning next month! Mark your calendars now! You can help prepare your children by reinforcing good listening skills, work habits, and encouraging them to always do their best. It is also important to communicate with your child's teacher and/or our Testing Coordinator, Mrs. Miles, any special needs your child may have.

On the last page of this Whoo's News, you can find important internet resources. It is important to reinforce and practice skills children are learning at school at home. Time spent on these programs is time WELL SPENT! The programs will help your child(ren) be successful on the upcoming assessments.

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER

February 1	Reading Challenge Begins
February 1-9	BSA Make-Ups 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>
February 1	Report Cards
February 1	Af. American Hist. Programs
February 2	Take Your Child To Work Day
February 2	Crossing Guard Appreciation
February 2	Coffee Talk @ 8:15am
February 5-9	School Counselor Week
February 5	SAC/SAF @ 2:25pm
February 6	Seminole Middle visit-5 <sup>th</sup>
February 7	Class Pictures
February 8	PTA Smencil Sales End
February 10	PTA Family Fun Day
February 12	Elocution Finals KDG-2 <sup>nd</sup>
February 13	Elocution Finals 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>
February 13	Interim Reports
February 13	100 <sup>th</sup> Day of School
February 19	No School/President's Day
February 22	Early Release @ 12:10pm
February 22	Hands-On Science Day
February 23	Chorus Spring Sing-A-Thon

*February is African American History Month!  
Character Trait for February is Honesty!*

## ELEMENTARY TESTING SCHEDULE

January 29– March 22, 2018  
ACCESS for English Language Learners (ELL)

February 1 - February 9, 2018  
Grades 3-5 BSA Make-Ups

March 6, 2018  
Grades 4 and 5 FSA ELA Writing

March 13– 14, 2018 LOOK  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade CogAT

April 10-11, 2018  
Grade 3 FSA ELA

April 24 - May 11, 2018  
Grade 3 FSA Math  
Grade 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> FSA ELA and Math  
Grade 5 Science

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

## HEARTS FOR HEROES

We will be giving Valentines to men and women in the military this month. It is the perfect time to make a positive gesture to those who are helping others. We appreciate our armed services!

## 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. 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.

### ELOCUTION

PPE's Elocution "Poetry in Motion" Finals will take place on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am for Grades K, 1, 2 and on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am for Grades 3, 4, and 5. Finalists, please practice your poems and be ready to WOW our judges with your poetic interpretations. Students are judged on facial expressions, eye contact, poise, gestures, memory, voice inflection, diction, and pronunciation. We look forward to another dazzling display of POETRY IN MOTION at the ELOCUTION FINALS. All parents are welcome to attend. *Thank You, Mrs. Peterson, Elocution Moderator.*

### SPELLING BEE

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, the top spellers from each 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom competed for the 1<sup>st</sup> place spot in the PPE Spelling Bee. Brian Stewart, a 4<sup>th</sup> grader, took 1<sup>st</sup> place and will continue on to the Script's National Spelling Bee in March. Way to go super spellers! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact *Mrs. Ross, Spelling Bee Coordinator.*

### TAKE NOTE... GENERAL MUSIC NEWS

PPE is proud to present... the 2018 Music In Our Schools Month Classroom Concert Series- MUSIC CONNECTS US!- to be held March 16-21 in the music room! Each class will present a 30-minute concert during their regular music time, based on the theme, "The Sound of Music." All students will continue NGSSS-based learning activities this month, including singing, playing instruments, moving, thinking critically, and creating music, as they prepare to dazzle you. Parents and friends are invited to attend this entertaining celebration (see flyer going home soon for exact dates/times)! We hope to see you at your child's MIOSM Classroom Concert- the class in each grade with the highest parent attendance percentage will receive a popcorn party. 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students have received their recorder order forms. These forms are due back by February 2, 2018 to Mrs. Greggs. Having a recorder in class is part of your child's music grade this spring, so every child must either purchase, or borrow a free instrument by February 2, 2018. Last, mark your calendars NOW for the PPE STAMP FAIR on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, where science and the specials programs will be featured during a hands-on parent night. Have a fabulous February! -Nicole Greggs, NBCT- EMC Music.

# IMPORTANT

### PRINCIPAL'S READING CHALLENGE

The Principal's Reading Challenge will run February 1 to March 16, 2018! This is a schoolwide challenge to increase independent reading. The theme for this year is "Mad Science!"

Pre KDG and KDG: 25 (ten minute) sessions

All students are responsible for tracking their own time on a reading log that was specially designed for the challenge. Parents should initial the log nightly. *Logs are due March 16<sup>th</sup>.*

1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades: SRC Data

All students are responsible for meeting their individual Scholastic Reading Counts student goal that was set with your child's homeroom teacher. *Scholastic Reading Counts data will be pulled on March 16<sup>th</sup>.*

The top reader at each grade will attend a pizza lunch with administration and our Literacy Coach. A closing activity will be held on March 22, 2018. If your child meets his/her individual reading goal, he/she will get to participate in a special chemistry demonstration by the Museum of Science and Discovery. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

### CHORUS CORNER

Plantation Park Singers have begun learning new spring music and preparing for our annual Musicianship Tests, which will be given on Tuesday, February 20, 2018. Our **Spring Sing-a-Thon** is Friday, February 23, 2018 from 2:10pm-6:30pm. This fun fundraising event raises needed funds for our choir and general music program and provides performance opportunities for our developing singers. Spring Sing-a-Thon pledge sheets will go home soon. 50% of pledges earned by each child this spring may be used to fund a child's Spring end-of-year event. Also, this month, signed 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Chorus report cards are due back from every chorister by February 23, 2018. Choristers should soon be able to access spring practice music through their chorus course in Canvas. Coming up, our annual "Hey Look Us Over" performance will be April 4, 2018, and our spring show "ROCKIN' THE RENAISSANCE!" will be held on May 17, 2018 at PPE and May 18, 2018 at SPS. In May, we are also looking forward to the Broward County Elementary Music Performance Assessment Festival. Watch for emails regarding all of these events.

Parents, if you have not been receiving Chorus emails, please EMAIL MRS. GREGGS from your correct email address, so that you don't continue to miss important information. Thanks! The next PPSBA General Chorus parents meeting will be held Friday, February 23, 2018 at 5:45pm in the cafeteria, in conjunction with the Sing-a-Thon Concert. We GREATLY NEED AND APPRECIATE your input and help. Hope to see you there! Sincerely, -Nicole Greggs, NBCT- EMC Music.

### **PTA**

Our next Coffee Talk is scheduled on February 2, 2018 at 8:15am in the Media Center. Please join us to find out more about the great PTA sponsored events and activities at PPE.

### **VALENTINE SMENCILS**

Valentine Smencils sales run from January 31, 2018 to February 9, 2018. An order form will be sent home with your child. If you need more order forms, they will be available in the front office. Smencils are ideal for parents to purchase for their kids or kids to purchase for their friends. They cost \$1.50 each. Please send in the exact amount. No change will be provided; any left over money will be used as a donation to the PTA. Thank you!

### **BOXTOPS**

Our current Box Tops contest ends March 1, 2018. Collect your Box Tops and bring them in a ziploc bag with your child's teacher's name on it. The class in each grade with the most Box Tops will win a party. Bring in your Box Tops now! They will go towards the end of year totals.

### **FAMILY FUN DAY**

Join us on Saturday, February 10, 2018 from 11:00am-3:00pm, for our annual Family Fun Day at Heritage Park. You don't want to miss it! Bring the whole family for fun carnival games, face painting, bounce houses, food trucks, music, and more. We're working hard to make this year the BEST Family Fun Day ever! Spend the day with PPE teachers, staff, families and celebrate PPE!

### **PPE VOLUNTEERS**

Calling all PPE volunteers! We need your help! We are looking for volunteers to join the Family Fun Day Committee. The event runs from 11:00am-3:00pm. We need help setting up at 9:00am and cleaning up at 3:00pm. We also need student volunteers for this event. They can help with set-up, clean-up, running games, selling popcorn, cotton candy, waters, etc. If you are interested in volunteering or have students interested, please email [ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com](mailto:ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com). All students will receive volunteer hours for this event.

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

We are looking for items for the Auction and Raffle to be held on April 6, 2018. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year that supports many of our school programs. No item is too large or too small! Every item helps! If you or your company would like to donate, please send in your items to the front office or contact Alejandra Cruz at [atcruzalejandra26@gmail.com](mailto:atcruzalejandra26@gmail.com). Or, if you simply think of a place you are willing to ask for a donation, contact Alejandra to make sure they are not already on our list. We would love to have you contact them. We will recognize your business in our school newsletter, Facebook page and our PTA website [www.ppe.my-pta.org](http://www.ppe.my-pta.org). Thank you for your support! More information will be coming home soon, as well as, raffle tickets to purchase and grade level specific baskets. This event requires the support of the whole school team. We appreciate and look forward to your support! Last year we raised over \$15,000, let's try to top it this year!

### **YEARBOOK NEWS**

YEARBOOKS are on SALE now! They are for \$26.00, after March 1, 2018 they will be \$31.00! Order your book today! We are trying something new this year and will **only** be taking orders on our PTA Website [www.ppe.my-pta.org](http://www.ppe.my-pta.org) or during the PTA Family Fun Day on February 10, 2018 at Heritage Park from 11:00am-3:00pm. A booth will be set-up to purchase Yearbooks by credit card or cash. You should have received a flyer in your child's Wednesday folder and an email was sent, as well, with information about ordering.

The yearbook is a BIG project! We need pictures. We are looking for pictures from all grade levels. If anyone has pictures, please email them to [ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com](mailto:ivolunteeratppe@gmail.com) Attn: Yearbook Staff or upload them directly to the yearbook site. Details can be found on the PTA website [www.ppe.my-pta.org](http://www.ppe.my-pta.org) on how to upload pictures and how to create an ad. Time is running out, so get your pictures in! Currently, ads, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade baby pictures and well-wishers are on sale until March 23, 2018. Upload your ad onto our PTA Yearbook site [www.commppe.pictavo.com](http://www.commppe.pictavo.com).

Join PTA on Facebook!

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

### **HERITAGE PARK UPDATE**

Heritage Park will soon have a face lift on the south side of PPE! They will be replacing the damage sections of the fencing and updating the land and plants along the north perimeter fence. Due to the large scale of required work, it may be a lengthy process. We will keep you posted on updates as they become available. Thank you!

### **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2018**

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.

### **ESE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

All District ESE Advisory Meetings are held monthly. This month the meeting is being held on February 21, 2018 from 6:30pm-9:00pm at Piper High School, 8000 NW 44th Street, Sunrise, FL.

### **SAC - SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

SAC is responsible for developing and monitoring the school improvement plan. We always want input. Please join us at our next meeting scheduled for Monday, February 5, 2018 at 2:25pm. We look forward to your support. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Hendrickx, SAC Chairperson.

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

February's Character Trait is HONESTY. You show honesty by being truthful, trustworthy, and sincere. Honesty is a unique character trait because while you can be rewarded for it, you can also be punished for it. Talk to your child about a time you had to choose between telling the truth and telling a lie. Explain the advantage of being a truth-teller. It's much easier to tell the truth than to live a lie! Congratulations to all of our January Respect Kids of Character! Check out the counseling bulletin board to see them!

"Kindest Across Broward Day" was on January 26, 2018. Our 3-5 graders created mini-masterpieces on coffee sleeves, which were delivered to Starbucks in the Publix Towne Square. This was a great way to share PPE's kindness with the community. We look forward to doing it again next year.

National School Counselor's Week is February 5-9, 2018. If everyone had the chance to experience all of the positivity and growth I witness everyday, the world would really be a better place. Your children make my job the best job in the school!

The South Plantation High School Family Counseling Center provides confidential counseling services for children and families of PPE. This is a **FREE** counseling program. The Family Counseling Program provides services that can help families deal with the complex issues that are experienced in everyday life. For appointments and information please call 754-323-1950.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANNING

A counselor and administrator from Seminole Middle School will present to our 5<sup>th</sup> graders on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Even if your child will not attend Seminole Middle School, they will receive valuable information.

## SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION WINDOW

The 2018/19 School Choice application window is **December 1, 2017 – February 7, 2018**. During the School Choice application window, parents and guardians may submit three applications – one in each of the following application categories: magnet programs, Nova schools, and school reassignments.

Happy School Counseling Week,  
Mrs. Miles! Thank YOU for your service  
and contributions to PPE!



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## 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.fsassessments.org](http://www.fsassessments.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)