

# Whoo's News

Ms. Julie Gittelman, Principal  
Dr. Ingrid Osgood, Intern Principal  
May 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

May is a busy testing month at PPE! Please make sure you pay attention to your child's grade level test dates. Thank YOU to the entire PPE team for your perseverance! Special thanks to Mrs. Fimiano, Testing Coordinator, for leading our team and to all students, proctors, test administrators, and the JCC for donating treats. Test scores will be shared with parents when available. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK is May 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> and National Teacher Day is May 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope that our teachers and staff always feel appreciated, but to help them feel extra special, this week is dedicated to them. May 9<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon. As a reminder, the PTA will be providing lunch that day due to testing. If you would like to donate towards the luncheon, please send in money to the black box in the front office labeled "PTA Luncheon." Reach out to your child's room parent for specific details for your class. Personalized letters and tokens of appreciation are always appreciated for the hard work of all teachers and staff.

The SAC Committee finalized the School Choice Enhancement Ballot at the April SAC meeting. The ballot will be sent home for majority vote May 8-15, 2019. Please return the ballot before the deadline. The vote is to determine the projects that will be completed using the \$100,000 General Obligation Smart Bond funding. All parents, registered volunteers, and staff members will have one vote. If you have any questions about the process, please call the school.

We are in the process of finalizing our budget recommendations for next year and will review them at our final SAC/SAF/PTA meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. We will also review a DRAFT copy of our SAC goals, Parent Engagement Plan, and School Compact for next year. Your input is valued. Get involved, help your child, and help our school!

We couldn't do all we do without YOU! Thank you to the many volunteers who always go the extra mile. I want to recognize our PTA Auction Chair, Mrs. Cruz, for leading another successful auction at PPE. We raised over \$17,000. We are celebrating YOU at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am. We hope you can attend and be recognized! Special thanks to our parent leaders and our departing 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents.

The month of May will be busy with several activities. The end of the month begins our Awards Assemblies. ALL guests will need to have proper identification to enter the building. Please make sure to tell all visitors!

I invite you to take the time to come out to our special school and participate in our many worthwhile events. We have a lot of reasons to celebrate!

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

Julie Gittelman  
Proud Principal

## DATES TO REMEMBER

May 1-31	Soda Tab Collection
May 1	Interim Reports
May 1-2	FSA ELA Grades 4-5
May 1-31	iReady #3 Grades K-5
May 3 & 6	NGSSS Science Test Grade 5
May 6-10	Staff Appreciation Week
May 7-8	FSA Math Grades 3-5
May 7	National Teacher Day
May 8-15	School Choice Enhancement Vote
May 9	PTA Staff Appreciation Luncheon
May 9	Early Release Day @ 12:10pm
May 13-24	Band-Aid Drive
May 13-14	Primary Reading Test Grades 1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup>
May 15	SAC/PTA/SAF @ 6:30pm
May 17	Volunteer Breakfast @ 8:15am
May 17	Chorus @ SPSHS 6:30pm
May 20	Donuts for Dads
May 24	PreK & KDG Awards @ 8:30am
May 27	No School/Memorial Day
May 28	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Awards @ 8:30am
May 29	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Awards @ 8:30am
May 30	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Awards @ 8:30am
May 31	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Awards @ 8:30am

## ELEMENTARY TESTING SCHEDULE

May 1-31, 2019  
KDG-5<sup>th</sup> iReady Diagnostic #3

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 13-14, 2019  
Grades 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Primary End of Year Reading

## BEST OF LUCK

Mrs. Robinson left PPE to be a Registered Nurse.

## 2019-2020 CLASS LISTS

Soon we will start forming classes for next year. Many factors such as reading levels, work habits, and behavior are taken into consideration when placing students in a particular class. For this reason, we do not honor teacher requests. If there is a compelling reason why your child cannot be with another child or in a particular class, please put it in writing to Ms. Gittelman by May 17, 2019. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

## DONUTS FOR DADS

At PPE we appreciate all of our family members! We will be honoring dads, uncles, grandfathers, etc. at PPE by inviting them to breakfast! Research shows that children do better in school when male role models are involved with their children.

May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:40am-8:10am in the cafeteria

### MEDIA CENTER NEWS

Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who helped facilitate both our Fall and Spring Book Fairs. This school year, we have added 338 hardback books to our book collection. For those parents who aren't aware, when books have been checked out for more than 90 days, the computer system automatically marks them "lost" and assesses a fine. It is very important that books be returned and/or obligations are paid in a timely manner. These obligations remain with your child's record. Lastly, please remember that any books that have been read after April 2<sup>nd</sup> should be included in next year's Reading Across Broward list. You can download forms on our PPE website. Please remember to record *different* titles on the list (books shouldn't be duplicated). Also, it's helpful if the exact title of the book is listed (i.e. instead of Diary of a Wimpy Kid #2, it should read: Rodrick Rules). Forms may be turned in any time prior to the deadline of April 2, 2020. However, they will not be accepted AFTER that date. Have a great summer and keep your children plugged into reading! Ms. Kim Worcester, Media Clerk.

### COUNSELOR'S CORNER

**CONGRATULATIONS to our Principal's Honor Roll students for the third quarter:** *Chloe Cave, Jackson Codd, Georgia Jackson, Nicolas Paul, Harrison Robbins, Sydney Thomas, Macy Sznitken, Derek Brown, Natalia Brown, Ricardo Perez, Afsana Ria, Lucas Rodriguez, Harper Souilliard, Hailee Alexander, Mackenzie Barter, Jonathan Hunley, Hannah Then, Kastani Whittington, Hunter Zealy, Khayla Chetty, Nathaniel Madraymootoo, Maddison Mendez, Emma Santacroce, Jordan Sosonkin, Mackenzie Herndon Smith, Tyler Hunter, Ava Vitale-Sclafani, Jason Zheng, Alexander Killings, Nola Morgan, Kendall Stevenson, Kay-Lynn Foster, Ella Pardillo, Jori Collins, Leyla Cruz, Isaiah Fernandez, Krishna Gosine, Sasha Jahangirnezhad, Jayden Johnson, Ayaan Khan, Sebastian Maragh, Anita Miller, Leah Millon, Sofia Montefusco, Madison Quara, Dylan Saito, Jordan Sanders, Ella Staszsky, Lorelei Sverak, Jacob Thomas, Alex De Armas, Karina Madraymootoo, Grace Boehly*

Congratulations to all of our April-Tolerance Kids of Character! Check out the Counseling Bulletin Board to see them after April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Upcoming:** All grade levels are beginning the Family Life and Human Sexuality curriculum this month. We encourage you to preview the curriculum beforehand by visiting [www.browardschools.com/Page/33679](http://www.browardschools.com/Page/33679). Please contact Mrs. Codd or your child's teacher if you have questions. Letters went home for parents to opt out.

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 and changes that are experienced in everyday life. For appointments and information please call (754) 323-1974.

### VIRTUAL EDUCATION

Florida Statute requires Florida school districts to offer a virtual program to students in grades KDG-12 using distance and online learning technologies. Students must meet criteria to qualify for enrollment. More information about virtual options can be obtained online at [www.bved.net](http://www.bved.net) or by calling Broward Virtual School at 754-321-6050.

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

### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2019

Mark your calendars! The first day of school for 2019 for students will be on Wednesday, August 14, 2019. Visit [browardschools.com/calendars](http://browardschools.com/calendars) for a copy of the 2019-2020 calendar.

### HEPATITIS A

The Florida Department of Health confirmed Broward County has been identified as one of the several areas experiencing a Hepatitis A outbreak. Please encourage good hygiene with your children by teaching them to wash their hands after using the bathroom. This plays an important role in preventing spread of the disease.

### NEWS FROM THE CAFETERIA

The last day students will be able to bring in checks was April 30, 2019. 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!

### **2019 SUMMER PROGRAMS**

Exciting summer fun is just around the corner! Check out the 2019 summer programs at [browardschools.com/summerprograms](http://browardschools.com/summerprograms). This valuable resource provides a wide variety of exciting and fun-filled camps and programs that unlock curiosity, inspire engagement and promote learning throughout the summer. From Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, there is something for everyone.

### **TAKE NOTE... GENERAL MUSIC NEWS**

**Congrats to the Winners of the 2019 Make Your Own Instrument Contest:** K- Lucy Barreda "Flower Harp"; 1<sup>st</sup>- Olive Meyer "PPE Drum"; 2<sup>nd</sup>- Isabella Vistoso-Aono "Stars Guitar"; 3<sup>rd</sup>- Miller Trinidad "Purple Rainstick"; 4<sup>th</sup>- Penelope Stiles "Rainstick"; 5<sup>th</sup>- Leyla Cruz "Veggie Instruments"; Best In Show- Samuel Greggs "Monster Musical Bench."

**The Music Bee is here!** During May, all KDG-5<sup>th</sup> students will take the Music Bee cumulative exam. The Music Bee measures student mastery of grade-specific NGSSS benchmarks. The student in each music class with the highest score wins a \$10 Target gift card, and the top scorer in the school wins a \$50 prize (donated by PPSBA)! The Music Bee test covers a lot of material and counts as 25% of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter music grade. **Study Sheets** will be sent home with all students soon. Kids can also access digital study guides through Clever>Canvas, then open their music course. Click on Assignments and look for Music Bee items. **Good luck to all!**

**LOOKING FOR A GREAT ENRICHMENT SUMMER CAMP FOR YOUR CHILD?** Try **MusicMakers! Summer Camp** run by Mrs. Greggs June 17-July 19, 2019. Held at Coral Springs Charter School. This fun 5-week M-F program offers instruction in singing, keyboard, string instruments, percussion, woodwinds, and musical games. This summer's themes are "Pirates- the Musical!" and "Pictures At An Exhibition!" Visit [www.musicmakerscamp.com](http://www.musicmakerscamp.com), call 954-868-5515, or see Mrs. Greggs for more information!

### **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>. Thank you to the parents that completed the annual surveys for feedback to help our school. Once results are received, we will share them at a future SAC meeting. 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. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Jones, SAC Chair.

***Research shows students do better when their parents are involved at home and at school. Grades are higher, test scores rise, self-esteem grows, and schools improve.***

**Attend our FINAL 2019  
SAC/SAF/PTA meeting:  
May 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm  
Media Center**

**Get Involved / Help Your Child / Help Our School**

### **PTA VOLUNTEER SINCERE APPRECIATION**

The PTA board would like to express our sincere gratitude to each and every one of you that volunteered this year! As they say, "It takes a village" and this is no truer than within our school. This year was a great success because of our amazing volunteers! We encourage more parents to join our volunteer team. We must also say, "THANK YOU," to the student volunteers from South Plantation High and Seminole Middle for their continued involvement! Many of our events would not be possible without their support.

### **2019 STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK**

Staff Appreciation Week is the week of May 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. Due to this year's testing schedule, we are changing our typical plans! The annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon will be held on the Early Release Day, Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. The PTA will be catering a delicious luncheon for our ridiculously amazing teachers and staff! If you would like to give a monetary donation towards the cost of the luncheon, please send the donation in an envelope marked "staff luncheon" and place it in the black box in the office. The PTA will also be purchasing a token of our appreciation for all teachers and staff. Room Parents will again be facilitating their own teacher's Staff Appreciation Week plans. We are asking instead of sending in gifts each day, a collection be handled and given to the teacher either Thursday or Friday of that week to limit the amount of disruptions each day due to testing. Cash and/or gift cards are always appreciated! Other ideas include decorating the teacher's door the afternoon of May 3<sup>rd</sup>, sending in personalized notes, crafts, etc. Also, don't forget the other staff that help our kids each day! We love and appreciate them, too!

### **2019-2020 PTA BOARD ELECTIONS**

Our last PTA meeting will be held Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Media Center. It is time for the 2019-2020 PTA Executive Board elections! We need your help to find new officers. All of the positions are open: President, VP Membership, VP Volunteers, VP Hospitality, VP Fundraising, VP Technology, Treasurer, and Secretary. There are opportunities for working parents and those who can volunteer during evenings and weekends. If you are interested in joining the PTA Board, please contact our Nominating Committee Nadine Flynn and Maggie Sverak at [ivolunteeratppepta@gmail.com](mailto:ivolunteeratppepta@gmail.com).

### **PTA AUCTION NIGHT**

A HUGE thank you to all of the families who attended Auction Night! We appreciate Auction Chair, Alejandra Cruz, and volunteers Nadine Flynn and Anne Sznitken, for all of their hard work. We also owe thanks to all of our donating sponsors. Special thanks to Bravo, Publix, Buca di Beppo, and Vignetos for the food. You can find a list of all sponsors at: <http://ppe.my-pta.org>.

### **YEARBOOK**

Order yearbooks online at <http://ppe.my-pta.org>. Yearbooks are \$33.00. Please place your order ASAP to ensure your child will have one for the end of the school year to be able to get signatures from their friends, teachers, and principal! We hope you enjoy this year's yearbook! It takes a lot of work to create it and we would like to thank Kara Boehly and Stefani Smith for creating our yearbook this year. Also, thank you to the teachers, staff and parents who took the time to take pictures during events, field trips and for submitting them. It takes a village to make our yearbook a success and to include everyone. Thank you!

## TITLE I FAMILY PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Thank you for participating in PPE's schoolwide activities this year. When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more. Students with involved parents are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and test scores
- Be promoted
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school

Our school operates Title I programs that provide all students with equitable access to services. These resources provide parent trainings, professional development, parent engagement activities, and other supplementary activities designed to increase student achievement. Special thanks to Mr. Apodaca, Title I Liaison, for all of his hard work!

## CHORUS CORNER

Great job at PPE's Hey Look Us Over! & Chorus Family Night on 4/16 at Westfield Broward Mall! Congrats on being asked to sing LIVE on TV for the 4/23 School Board Meeting in celebration of Military Child Recognition Month. Thanks to all parents and students for your hard work & support!

May Chorus Activities:

- **Broward County Elementary Music Performance Assessment** on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Coral Springs High School. We sing two selections before a panel of judges and a clinician will help us improve our performance. We will also critique other elementary choruses. Permission forms are due back ASAP!
- 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Concert & Awards, "PIRATES- THE MUSICAL!" on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm at South Plantation H.S (PPE shows 5/17 at 8:30am & 9:30am). Concert program ads and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Senior Wills may be placed by seeing any chorister. The deadline is 5/9.
- **Final PPSBA Chorus parents meeting on 5/17 @ 6:15pm** before the spring show.
- **End-of-the-year celebration bash at Heritage Park on 5/30, 2:30pm-5:00pm.** Informational flyers to go home soon.
- Nominations are open for all PPSBA officers for next school year. We deeply appreciate your input and help! Please remind your legislators that through music, kids develop scholarship, leadership, character, and musicianship. Music makes a difference!  
*Nicole Greggs, NBCT- EMC Music.*

## SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Congratulations to our See Something, Say Something Poster contest winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Krishna Gosine  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ella Staszsky  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Luke Whittington

Winners won awesome art kits and will have their designs displayed throughout the school campus!

## 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.

## BAND-AID DRIVE

PPE students and families will be collecting unopened boxes of themed/decorated band-aids to support the Salah Foundation Children's Hospital at Broward Health. Please help bring a smile to hospitalized children by sending in boxes from May 13-24, 2019. The class that donates the most boxes will receive a donut party! Thank you, Mrs. Ross, Coordinator.

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council, along with the City of Plantation Kiwanis Club, are collecting tabs from cans to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children. The tabs from the cans are turned in for money and the money is used to purchase items for the hospital such as wheelchairs and medical equipment. Send your tabs in until May 31, 2019 to Mrs. Fimiano, Coordinator. Thank you!

## MENTAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN

The Broward County Public Schools' mental health leadership team initiated a mental health awareness campaign to increase awareness of mental health issues. A wide variety of educational resources and services available to students, staff, and the community are available through the Mental Health & Wellness Portal. The information offered intends to reduce stigma regarding mental health issues, remove barriers to attaining mental health and wellness, and provide better access to services and supports.

The Mental Health & Wellness Portal is located at:

- [www.bcps-mentalhealth.com](http://www.bcps-mentalhealth.com), or
- [www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com) listed under Additional Resources, or
- on individual school websites through [browardschools.com](http://browardschools.com) under Additional Quick links, Need Help Now!



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