



Puma Press

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March Issue

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5th GRADE

March News

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Special points of interest:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- History Night Project
- Upcoming Dates

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 2nd from 1:30-8:00 p.m. Elementary students will be dismissed at 12:30 on Thursday to accommodate conferences. Conferences will also be held on Thursday, March 9th from 4:00-7:30 p.m.

Please remember conferences will be structured differently this session. They will only be scheduled at the parents' or teachers' request. I've already contacted families that I'd like to conference with. If you'd like to schedule a conference please contact me @ 635-4347#142 or by email.

Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books 2017 begins in March! In this program students are placed onto teams. They are given a list of books to read and after a specified period of time, they are asked questions about the books. The goal of this program is to encourage reading and to recognize the efforts of students for reading. The Battles will begin on May 30th. The two winning teams from fifth grade will participate in a "final" battle on Monday, June 5th. Please let me know if you have questions after you've had a chance to read the informational letter. Thanks!

History Night

An exciting unit infused within this trimester is History Night. Each student will select a historical topic, conduct research, write an informative paper, and create a presentation board to showcase their learning at History Night on April 4th @ 6:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars. We hope you can join us!

Math Facts

Our class will begin working towards earning ice cream sundaes as an incentive for mastering basic facts. I am challenging students to MASTER all their math facts. This means addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts. Students will participate in the first test later this month. You will be receiving an informative letter soon that summarizes the activity. After you've had a chance to read over the activity, please let me know if you're available to help provide supplies for the celebration in June. Thanks for considering!



CURRICULUM

Math In Unit 9, students will practice plotting points on a coordinate grid and be introduced to transformations of figures in a plane. The area of rectangles is reviewed and then used as a starting point to find areas of triangles and parallelograms. Volume and capacity concepts are also reviewed and extended.

Literacy Throughout the month we will continue to participate in the various components of Daily 3 (Read to Self, Work on Writing, and Word Work). Students will continue to build stamina in each of these areas and will continue to grow as independent readers and writers. Students will receive small group and one-on-one instruction based on these goals in order to help them gain the skills necessary to become proficient readers and writers.

We continue to participate in Daily Language Review (D.L.R.) lessons for fifth grade. This frequent and focused practice leads to mastery and retention of the skills practiced. The skills that are covered are punctuation, grammar, comprehension, vocabulary/word study, reference skills, and capitalization.

Students will continue to practice words within a specific prefix/suffix group during word work (spelling). The goal is for students to understand word part meanings and to infer the meaning of new words with the same word part. Students will also practice a "Word of the Week" and a homophone pair weekly.

We are also learning and practicing writing according to the Six Traits Model. This program teaches the writing traits across the stages of the writing process and across the curriculum.

Science Students will begin a new Environments Unit. The Environments Module has four investigations that focus on the concepts that organisms need energy and matter to live and grow, and living organisms depend on one another and on their environments for their survival and the survival of populations.

Social Studies Students continue to study American history. Upon completion of chapter 9 (Revolutionary War) students will explore chapter 10 which introduces students to topics surrounding the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Sacagawea, the Trail of Tears, and much more. Students will also create a three dimensional map on the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



UPCOMING DATES



- March 1...February Reading Calendar Due
- March 1...History Night Materials Renewal Date
(Poyette Public Library)
- March 2...Swimming in Phy-Ed (10:00-10:45am)
- March 2...2nd Trimester Ends
- March 2...Early Release @ 12:30 (P/T Conferences)
- March 2... P/T Conferences (1:30-8:00 pm)
- March 3...Regular School Day for Students
(inclement weather make-up day)
- March 3...Kindness Celebration & Valentine Exchange
(1:00-1:55pm)
- March 6-10...Blake's V.I.P. of the Week
- March 7...Swimming in Phy-Ed (10:00-10:45am)
- March 7...1st Draft of History Night Paper
- March 9...Swimming in Phy-Ed (10:00-10:45am)
- March 9...P/T Conferences (4:00-7:30 pm)
- March 13-17...Cayvery's V.I.P. of the Week
- March 21...Final Copy of History Night Paper Due
- March 27-31...Dylan's V.I.P. of the Week
- April 4 & 5...Clothing Drive (5:00-6:00 pm)
- April 4...History Night 2017 (6-7:00 pm in the ES/MS Library)
- April 7...5th Grade Field Trip
(UW-Madison Engineering Expo)
- April 10-14...No School/Spring Break