



October 2018
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Issue 2

Pole Green Elementary School
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POLE GREEN PRESS

President's Message

Happy November parents, students and staff!

Thank you to all who participated in our October events! We had a blast at Donuts with Dad and our Movie Night. And an extra thank you to the volunteers who continue to make these events possible.

I'd also like to extend a big thank you to everyone who participated in our Great American Fundraiser. Funds raised go towards events like Movie Night and having Theatre IV perform Sleeping Beauty, and much more. Fundraiser orders will be available for pick up Thursday, November 1st in the school cafeteria from 2:30-6:00pm.

My final thank you goes out to all the students who entered into the Reflections contest. We are excited to have such a creative bunch of students this year! Winners will be announced at our Reflections Awards Ceremony November 15th and all entries will be on display at this time.

We are currently in the process of planning out Annual Holiday Open House to be held Thursday December 13th. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this free event! We will have vendors for holiday shopping, games for the kids, Santa, and more! Of course there will also be a spaghetti dinner for those who wish to purchase tickets and a bake sale for dessert.

This year we are shaking up how the Holiday Open House auction is run. Instead of asking each class to create a themed basket we are relying more on local donations. If you or someone you know is interested in donating items for auction please reach out to me at president@pgespta.org. Please keep a look out as we will have more information on the Holiday Open House and donations in Tuesday Folders.

Finally, don't forget you can take a break from cooking November 26th and eat at Marty's for our Spirit Day. Thank you all for your support to the PTA. I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Sam Hudgins
president@pgespta.org

Administrator's Corner

Ms. Rhonda Voorhees, Principal

November begins the time of year when we show our "thanks" for those who are appreciated at PGES. A GREAT Gator thank you to every parent who has assisted the school, teacher, class, PTA, participated in the fundraiser, sent in donation items, or attended a school spirit night for dinner. Everything you do benefits ALL students at PGES, so thank you! Our students certainly gain from your volunteer work and dedication to improving our school. Of course, a GREAT Gator thank you also goes out to the students for their hard work so far. Our first reports cards will come home on Friday, November 11 and they show your hard work. GREAT job! Last, but definitely not least, is a thank you to the teachers and staff at PGES who spend countless hours planning, preparing and implementing lessons for our students. You are a GREAT Team! Together, we are all GREAT Gators! Thank you!

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For absences please call
the ATTENDANCE LINE
365-4714

Administrator's Corner (Continued)

PGES SOL Scores for Spring 2018

I am also very proud to share with you the SOL results for PGES Spring 2018. These scores represent the average for each grade and subject area.

Rhonda Voorhees, Principal

Reading Total School 88%

Math Total School 91%

Science Total School 94%

Social Studies School Total 90%

Counselor's Corner

Happy November! We have done A LOT of things in the past two months of school. Students learned a lot of important information about bullying during the month of October. There were morning announcements made every week, as well as classroom guidance lessons in grades 3, 4, and 5, regarding the topic of bullying. The Great Gators enjoyed a spirit-filled spirit week to remind them of how we can come together as a school and put an end to bullying behaviors.

We have been meeting with as many students as we can, but there is only one counselor at PGES every day! In order to promote self-advocacy and responsibility, we have "counseling slips" accessible in all classrooms, 1st-5th. We have been talking with students a lot about leadership and self-advocacy. We have talked about how it is absolutely okay when you do not understand something, or when you make a mistake. It is then your responsibility to ask your teacher for help or reach out to another adult when you are having a hard time. It has been amazing to see how many counseling slips have been filled out in such a short period of time!

Below is a graph of how many students have filled out slips to come and chat thus far from September to November. There is a list of reasons which students may check regarding the purpose of his or her visit. Some reasons included are: school work, family, friends, myself, my class, or something private. There is also space for students to write details and/or reasons that may not be listed. 1st grade has their own counseling slip that includes feeling words and matching faces. Students are asked to circle the way they are feeling before they turn in to the counselor. Kindergarteners do not have counseling slips, but can ask to see Miss Ellis or Mrs. Broaddus if they need to. We love how the data shows so many students taking advantage of this resource!

PTA Website

Did you know that Pole Green PTA has a brand new website? Visit us at www.polegreenpta.org.

Here you'll find the calendar of events for the year, current flyers, volunteer needs and more. You can even submit questions through the site as well as read past and present Newsletters. We know you'll find this update useful and hope you take the time to check it out.

Volunteer of the Month!

Congratulations & Thank You!

Join us in a big round of applause for the November Volunteer of the Month, **Brittany Bristow**. We thank you for supporting our school through your volunteer work!



The purpose for the Watch D.O.G.S program is to provide positive male role models for all students, by demonstrating their presence that education is important. As a Watch D.O.G., they will be mentors, enhance school security, and reduce bullying by being an extra set of eyes and ears around the school.

We have created a schedule for Watch DOGS to follow in order to make sure that they have the chance to interact with students of a variety of grade levels. This will ensure that all students can benefit from the positive influence of our Watch DOGS. We know that as fathers, grandfathers, and other father figures that you would like to spend some time with your child.

If you are interested in being a Watch DOG, you can find the daily schedule and sign up with our SignUp genius page
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c49aead2aa3fa7-201819>

Remember that you will also have to have a completed a online volunteer form to participate. It can be found here
<http://bit.ly/HanoverVolunteer>

If you have any questions you may contact our Watch DOGS coordinator, Clark Jennings at CBJennings@gmail.com.



Kindergarten

We began Phonological Awareness and Literacy Screening on October 15th. Based on research, PALS assesses those skills that seem to be the best predictors for future success in reading. This assessment measures rhyme awareness, beginning sound awareness, alphabet recognition, knowledge of letter sounds, concept of word and spelling of simple three letter words. PALS provides direct means of matching literacy instruction to specific literacy needs and strengths. You might want to check out the following website:
<http://pals.virginia.edu/instructional-Resources/ParentCorner.asp>.

Sites that do a good job of reinforcing some of these important skills are <http://readingeggs.com> and <http://www.starfall.com>. The most important thing that you can do to help your child is to spend time reading together. You can also help your child to do his best by making sure he comes to school on time, well rested, and having eaten breakfast.

We had a great time on our Field Trip to Ashland Berry Farm on October 26th. Thank you all the parents that helped chaperone the trip.

We are always happy to meet with parents. Communication between home and school is one of the best ways to ensure that your child's school experience is a successful one. We appreciate having the opportunity to discuss your child's academic strengths, as well as goals that have been set for your child. We hope that many of you will be able to take advantage of our fall conference day, November 6th. Please sign up on the sign up genius link that we sent out for conference dates and times.

Thank you for being our partners in education! We recognize that YOU, as a parent, are the most important role model in your child's life.

Grade Level News(Continued)

1st Grade

With the upcoming celebration of our Thanksgiving holiday, the Pole Green First Grade teachers would like to express their thanks for the privilege to teach and learn with your children every day of the school year.

T is for the talented young boys and girls in our classrooms
H is for the happy faces we see each day
A is for the awesome accomplishments of your children
N is for the nice things your children say to us
K is for the kind hearts that your children share
S is for the special qualities of each child
G is for the gift of love your children share with us
I is for the individual uniqueness of every child
V is for the VERY exciting days in first grade
I is for the involvement of you in your children's education
N is for the natural abilities each of your children possess
G is for the GREATEST kids of all: FIRST GRADERS!

We certainly hope you have a most blessed Thanksgiving with your family and friends. We look forward to sharing the final weeks of 2018 with your children and eagerly anticipate the dawn of new adventures in 2019!

~ the First Grade Team



2nd Grade

It's hard to believe that it's already time to start thinking about turkey and stuffing! Here in second grade, a favorite November activity involves disguising turkeys as a fun at-home project to share at school. It's always great to see the kids' creativity at its finest! Be on the lookout for this project to come home soon.

Our language arts time has us busily focusing on narrative elements and making connections to strengthen our comprehension of fiction stories. We're exploring synonyms and antonyms as a vocabulary extension. As we enjoy non-fiction stories during our shared reading time, we are sure to identify the importance of the table of contents, glossary, and index.

During our writing workshop time, we are using all of the wonderful ideas we accumulated back in September to learn to write small moment narrative stories. We use the watermelon and seed analogy to learn to narrow our topics and elaborate with more details. Students will also be spending some time learning to revise their stories, paying close attention to capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

We are turning our attention to subtraction strategies, fact families, and missing addends during math to build a strong number sense and computation foundation. We spend a great deal of time on this unit to be sure the children have a firm understanding of the concepts and skills and learn to use a variety of strategies during their problem-solving. Our next unit of study will be place value which is crucial to so many mathematical topics that we will explore later in the year and that they will need to understand in their mathematical future as well.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their study of air and weather and are looking forward to shifting gears to social studies in November. We will spend most of the month learning all about Native Americans, specifically three tribes from three different regions of the United States. This unit involves many hands-on activities, lots of fun songs, and a focus on respecting other cultures. It works out well that we culminate this unit of study right at Thanksgiving time. We second grade teachers want you to know that we are thankful for your children and for all of your support and encouragement at home. Happy Thanksgiving!

Grade Level News(Continued)

3rd Grade

This month third grade will be taking a trip to see Mr. Popper's Penguins! We are very excited. In math, we will be studying graphing and also revisiting adding and subtracting large numbers. We will also be working on our economics unit in order to prepare for our economic store in December! We will be continuing with daily interactive read alouds to enhance our reading instruction! Turkey Babies will make their debut this month- your child will have a special (pinecone) friend to take care of soon! We are looking forward to a wonderful, festive month!

5th Grade

November will be action-packed for our 5th graders. Noteworthy events include our field trip to the NASA Langley Visitor Center in Hampton, VA, our first math benchmark test, and our Thanksgiving holiday. In other news, our second rotation of science instruction is in full swing, so each class is being instructed in a different unit with a different instructor. Stay tuned to your child's homework agenda for test dates and project due dates.



4th Grade

The 4th grade team is excited to announce our annual trip to Colonial Williamsburg on Friday, November 14th. This visit allows the students to experience life in Colonial Virginia. The students will have an opportunity to see how the government was run in the 1700's, explore the role tobacco played in the colonies and maybe even meet an important person from this time period.

For the month of November, our math students will focus on Graphing and Geometry. Students can visit Study Island to help master these skills. Although we will be taking a break for multiplication, please continue to have your child practice their multiplication tables so that they will be ready in December when we move on to more challenging problems.

As we welcome the month of November and a holiday filled with family, food and fun we asked several 4th graders what they are THANKFUL for and here are some of the wonderful responses...

I am thankful for:

- The soccer nets and such a nice teacher. – Griffin
- My family, puppies and Mrs. Miller. – Hannah
- All the new friends I made this year. – Jackson
- For having Mrs. Cario for my teacher, and for all I am learning. – Adelaide
- For my friends and family. – Elleana
- For my puppy and my mom because they both love me. – Annie
- All that I have. I love my family and my friends. – Lizzie
- To learn new things. – Chase
- My teachers and my friends in my class. – Campbell
- My family, because they are the most important thing in the world. – Kayleigh
- For a great year and making new friends. – Aiden
- For everything I have. – Ivy
- To have a house that is warm when it is cold outside. – Ryler
- For the new classmates. – Brenden
- For being in school and teachers so we can learn. – Stuart

Thank you,
The 4th Grade Team

What is happening this month

November 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1 Fundraiser Pick Up 2:30pm – 6pm	2 Early Release	3
4	5	6 No School- Parent-Teacher Conference	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Reflections Award Ceremony 6:30pm	16	17
18	19	20	21 No School Happy Thanksgiving	22 No School Happy Thanksgiving	23 No School Happy Thanksgiving	24
25	26 Martyrs Spirit Day	27	28	29	30 Babysitting Night	1

Remember to any submissions to the newsletter are due on the 20th of each month.
 Maurice Aufderheide— Editor
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