

“Dare to be Remarkable...”

PLEASANT GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:

Within our four strong walls at PGE, we strive together as companions... to nurture excellence, celebrate the worth of each person, foster respect for one another, and promote never-ending learning.

MARCH DATES:

Feb. 28 – Mar. 9 Book Fair
Mar. 2 Kids Marathon
Mar. 5 8:00 LAST Star Runners; 3:30-5:00 Good News Club; 4:30 Book Club
Mar. 6 FSA Writing 4th & 5th gr.; 10:00-2:00 3rd gr. field trip-Wallace Brooks Park
Mar. 7 8:15 Chorus; **FSA make up**
Mar. 9 9:30-4:00 2nd gr. field trip-Florida Aquarium
Mar. 12 3:30-5:00 Good News Club; 4:00-6:00 Media Monthly
Mar. 13 & 14 10:00-3:00 4th gr. Student Led Conferences
Mar. 14 8:15 Chorus; 9:15 -2:30 Kg. field trip-Uncle Donald's Farm
Mar. 15 12:25 **Early Dismissal**
Mar. 16 12:25 **Early Dismissal**; End of reporting
Mar. 19-21 & 23 9:20-1:30 Treece / Paul YMCA Learn To Swim
Mar. 19 Last Good News Club for this year
Mar. 21 6:45 4th gr field trip- St. Augustine; 8:15 Chorus; 9:30 Upward Bound;
March 22 Spring Pictures
March 23 9:30-4:30 1st Gr. field trip to Lowry Park Zoo; 1:30-2:30 PreK Easter Egg hunt; **Report cards go home**
March 26-30 Spring Break / Fair week
April 3-6 9:20-1:30 Davis / Voege YMCA Learn to Swim; YMCA after school enrichment
Apr. 4 8:15 Chorus
Apr. 6 2:00 Honor Roll Celebration; 5:30-7:00 PTA Movie Night / Ice Cream Social

Volunteer/Mentor Info: PGE is always in need of volunteers and mentors. You must first take a training class provided by the CCSB. If you are interested, please call 726-1931 ext. 2233 to register.

Skyward Family Portal gives you access to your child's grades and lesson plans. Contact the front office for a Skyward Family Access form.

Dear PGE Families,

It feels as if it was just yesterday that we were welcoming our PGE Shooting Stars to the 2017-2018 school year. As we enter March, we find ourselves already closing out the 3rd quarter of the school year. Students continue to work hard to master grade level standards to prepare for the upcoming grade.

Many of our grade-levels recently held student-led conferences to help students and families understand exactly where their child is performing academically. This close communication between families and the school help to keep everyone working together to build a remarkable partnership. Thank you for the support that you provide to your child and his/her teacher each day.

Next Tuesday, March 6, fourth and fifth graders will take the FSA Writing assessment. Students will show what they know as they read multiple texts and respond to the text in a multiple-paragraph essay. The writing score from this FSA assessment will be combined with students' FSA reading to give an overall ELA score.



Please mark your calendars for 3rd grade FSA Reading April 10 and 11. Starting April 16, fourth and fifth graders will be taking FSA reading and math on the computer. Third grade math quickly follows, starting April 30th. FCAT science will be given to fifth graders on April 30th and May 1st. Specific days and times will be sent home in the April newsletter.

You can help prepare your child for these assessments by making sure they have enough sleep, keep routines, and show them encouragement.

I also want to take a moment to review our drop off and dismissal procedures. When arriving in the morning, please go through the parent drop off line. Students should not be let out of the car until staff members are outside to greet them.

In the afternoon, please stay in your car and proceed through the parent pick up loop.

Parents/those who are picking a child up, should have their pick

up tag visible every day to assist in safely getting students to their vehicles in an efficient manner. Although we recognize many of you and your cars, the tag should still be visible. Parents are unable to enter the school between 3:15 and 3:45 to allow us to safely dismiss students. If you need your child early, please arrive prior to 3:15 to sign your child out.

When coming to PGE, please wait to be buzzed in at the front door before entering the building. Additionally, although it is our natural instinct to be kind and hold the door for the person behind us, we ask that you close the door to allow us to buzz each person in separately to help ensure the safety of our students and staff.

Remarkably grateful for our shooting stars community,

Mrs. Julie Jones
Assistant Principal

March Character Trait: Honesty

There seems to be a perception in the world today that honesty is overrated. However, honesty affords peace of mind, strengthens relationships, and builds trust. Dishonest habits become roadblocks to success in our personal and professional /school lives. Honesty is a cornerstone of happy and healthy living.

An important way of teaching honesty is to be honest ourselves. We shouldn't lie to our children because we are supposed to be the ones setting an example. When we lie to our children, they'll think that it's okay to lie. But, on the other hand, when our children lie to us, we get mad!

In your home, you can try some of these ways to foster honesty in your child:

- Institute "Family Game Night." When playing games, talk about the importance of honesty and the negative effects of cheating.
- Talk about examples of dishonesty in current events, television programs, and commercials. Discuss consequences of dishonesty.
- If a child is dishonest, use the event as a teaching moment. Talk with the child about what happened and how the situation could have been different if they had been honest.

How else can you demonstrate and practice this trait at home?

The 2017-18 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey will be open from February 1 to May 31, 2018. Each parent of an ESE student will be receiving an envelope containing a survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. When you receive this survey, please complete and return it prior to May 31. The online version of the survey is also available to all parents at www.esesurvey.com.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PGE!

Your fundraising dollars are designated to help our school in two ways.

-School Improvement: PTA, BoxTops, Corporate Donations, Read-a-thons, and Walk-a-thons

-Student and Staff Recognition: Pictures, McTeacher's Night, Target

Check us out on Facebook:



PGE@Facebook



ADOPT-A-CLASS:

As we continue the 2017-2018 school year, we are again looking for businesses or individuals who would like to help provide needed materials to a classroom.

Thank you to the following Adopt-A-Class sponsors for supporting our classrooms:

- Bussinger Boutique,
- Dimples & Daisies Photography,
- Joe's Deli,
- CMG-Ryan Waller, C & C Carpet Cleaning,
- Diamond Dance Academy,
- Domino's Pizza,
- Mike Scott Plumbing,
- Dun-Rite Electric Service,
- Dennis & Melinda Wesbecker,
- Jeanne Pickrel / Century 21,
- Tim Stone,
- Dave Cook, The Mini Gym (2),
- Mann-icure Lawn Service (2),
- Glory Nails (2),
- Mike and Brenda Fitzpatrick,
- Kelly Hawkins (2),
- Chuck and Mary Doolittle (3),
- Wayne and Donna Babyak (2),
- Kane's Ace Hardware (2),
- First Baptist Church of Floral City,
- Wrightson Enterprises, inc.,
- Anytime Fitness,
- Inverness, Martone and Associates,
- Lodge #118 Free & Accepted Masons

Please consider supporting their business and sharing your thanks with them!

FSA TESTING dates and times for Grades 3, 4 and 5:

Date	Grade Level	Subject	Test Type	Days of Testing	Minutes per session
March 6th	4th grade 5th grade	ELA Writing	Paper based	1	120 mins
April 10th and 11th	3rd grade	ELA Reading	Paper based	2	80 mins per day
April 16th-19th	4th grade	ELA Reading	Computer based	2	80 mins per day
	5th grade	Math	Computer based	2	80 mins per day
April 23rd-26th	4th grade	Math	Computer based	2	80 mins per day
	5th grade	ELA Reading	Computer based	2	80 mins per day
April 31st-May 3rd	3rd grade	Math	Computer based	2	80 mins per day
April 31st and May 1st	5th grade	Science	Paper based	2	80 mins per day

Register your child today for Spring Break Camp with the YMCA! Camp will be held the week of March 26th-30th at Forest Ridge Elementary, Pleasant Grove Elementary and Crystal River Primary. Students will swim once during the week at the YMCA in Lecanto! They will also engage in sports, arts and crafts and will be able to get a sneak peak of what summer camp will look like! Care will be from 6:30am-6:00pm each day. Each child will need to bring a lunch, two snacks, change of clothes, towel and a water bottle. Cost is \$90 for the week and financial assistance is available to those who qualify. To register, please visit your child's YMCA program at their school or call [352-500-9622](tel:352-500-9622).

Warmer weather is coming! Please make sure your student is following the dress code at school. If you are missing a jacket, please stop by our lost and found to claim it. Here are a few dress code reminders:

- Length of shorts, skirts, and dresses must be mid-thigh or longer when standing
- Dresses, skirts, and shorts that are too tight or too baggy will not be permitted. Items such as leggings, bicycle shorts, aerobic shorts, etc. are not permitted unless under approved clothing.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be hemmed.
- Pants that are too tight, too baggy, or too long will not be permitted.
- Flip flops are not safe for students at school. Please make sure your student wears appropriate shoes for PE.

HEALTH TIDBIT: Anyone can get head lice. It is mainly spread through direct head-to-head contact but also from sharing hats, brushes, and other personal items. Head lice cannot jump or fly. Head lice do not reflect poor hygiene and do not transmit disease. A few steps to help prevent head lice are checking your child(ren) on a regular basis (weekly), shampooing with Head and Shoulders a few days a week (lice seem to not like the smell), blow drying hair (lice do not like fluffy hair shafts), applying products such as mouse and gel (lice like clean hair), and keep long hair pulled up when possible. If you need further information regarding prevention or treatment of lice, please contact your school clinic.

SPECIAL AREA NEWS:

PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURT:

This month, March is Bike Month. We will be learning and demonstrating safe cycling techniques. Our students will be learning the importance of wearing a helmet (Florida law) correctly to ensure their health and safety. We will be reviewing Florida's rules and laws pertaining to being both a cyclist and a pedestrian. Kindergarten and first grade will also learn how to safely ride the school bus.

~Ms. Vernazzaro

ARTFUL UPDATE:

Happy March! March is the month we recognize young artists. The Crystal River Mall will have an area where students from all over the county will have their work displayed. We will be featuring several talented artists from PGE. The works of art will be displayed the entire month of March. If your child's masterpiece is being showcased, you will be notified in advance. If your child would like to enter artwork at the Citrus County Fair, entry dates are Friday, March 23rd, and Saturday, March 24th. It is free to enter and children receive small cash prizes for first, second, and third place. For more information check out Citrus County Fair, Fine Arts Exhibits for Youth. It is lovely for our students to share their artistic talents with the community.

~Mrs. Koelber

MUSIC NOTES:

In music, we are continuing to review many musical terms and are working to build vocabulary. We are playing new and more complicated rhythms through speaking/singing, body percussion, using small percussion instruments, and drumming on tubanos. We are learning to work together in groups to come up with ostinato routines that we share with the rest of the class. We are also working on compositions in Backbeats, Younger grades are exploring small percussion instruments that we hit, shake, and scrape and are doing a fun activity called Percussion Pizza.

~Mrs. Crawford

MEDIA/TECH BYTES:

The 2018 Spring Book Fair is here! Running from February 28th thru March 9th everyone is welcome to come in and shop for treasured books. For your convenience we will be open after school on Monday, March 5th from 4-6 pm during Book Club. Check out the flyer sent home with your child to see some of the books being offered as well as our new eWallet option. We hope to see you there!

~Mrs. Boynton