

Pinellas Central Mustang Round-Up



November 1, 2016

VISION: Professional Community of Educators promoting 100% student success

CORE VALUES: Professional – Passionate – Positive

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of Pinellas Central Elementary is to create a safe and positive learning environment where all individuals feel valued and challenged to reach their highest potential.

Principal's Message,

Greetings Pinellas Central Family Members,

As we begin to think about Thanksgiving, we would be remiss if we did not stop and reflect on our first few months at Pinellas Central Elementary. We are thankful for students who come to school eager to learn every day. We are very thankful for your continued support and involvement with your child's education. Remember, as their first teachers, you set the example for the importance of school and academic achievement. Also, we are so thankful for our teachers and staff who give so many hours of their days to provide our students with the instruction and guidance they need to experience academic success.

On a safety note, you may have noticed cones are placed on 58th street to help keep our children safe and our parents from receiving traffic tickets. Please remember that as posted, no left turns are to be made into the school from 8:00AM-9:00AM and from 1:15PM-3:15PM. This is to ensure the safety of our students.

There are many opportunities for you to become even more engaged in our school. For example, the Great American Teach-in on November 16th, volunteering in our media center or on field trips, and of course, by joining your child for breakfast or lunch. Please make sure you see Jami Carpenter or a front office staff member to complete our volunteer paperwork if you are attending field trips. We look forward to hearing from you, and most importantly, seeing you around campus.

Dr. Cara Walsh

Principal



Mustang Round Up Announcements and Reminders



If your child has been absent and it is currently unexcused, please send a parent note or an appointment note explaining the absence. Please see the Student Code of Conduct for the list of reasons absences are excused and other expectations (Pages 33-36).

** Note: A parent may excuse 5 absences per semester (10 per year) that meet Code of Conduct criteria. Further absences after these would require additional documentation.*

**All your child's school flyers online—
at your fingertips!**

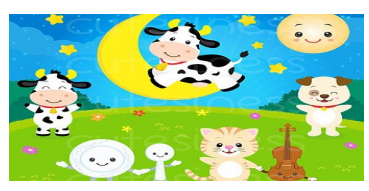


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The annual Hearing and Vision Screening for all children in grades K, 1 and 3 will be held November 9th and 10th. Children new to Pinellas County Schools, regardless of grade, will also be screened. Kindergarten and First Grade will have both a hearing and vision screening, as well as a measure of their Body Mass Index (BMI). Third Grade will have a vision screening and a BMI measure. Children new to the county will have hearing, vision and BMI. If you **DO NOT** want your child to participate in the screening, please notify your child's teacher in writing.



Kindergarten classes will be having their nursery rhyme program on November 10, 2016 at 6:00pm, in the school cafeteria. This will be a wonderful family event to see our kindergarteners act and sing their nursery rhymes. They have put in a lot of practice, so please come celebrate their success.



Adopt-A-Class is a program at Pinellas Central Elementary that encourages local businesses, organizations, or individuals in our community to become an involved and proud supporter of our students - our future leaders, their dedicated teachers, and school by making a \$50 - \$100 tax deductible donation. 100% of your donation goes directly to the class or program of your choice, enhancing the teacher's limited classroom budget enabling the teacher to purchase educational items that will enhance the classroom and the students' education. Our goal is to get every teacher adopted!



- Dogfish Tackle & Marine for adopting Mrs. Georgia's class.
- Debbie Poole for adopting Ms. Sweiss's class.
- Tammy & Jerry Lockwood for adopting Ms. Gasky's class.



We would like to invite parents and families to participate in the annual Duke Energy Great American Teach-In on Wed., November 16th from 9am until 2pm. This nationwide event is designed to bring parents and other community members back to school. You may choose to tell students about your job, career, hobby, or read a story. If you can participate for the day, or even just an hour, please consider taking part in this wonderful activity. For more info, contact Jamie Carpenter, at 547-7853 ext. 2101.



Thank you to all of our members who have joined PTA so far this year! We are so happy to have you! PCE PTA sponsors many programs for Pinellas Central families and students throughout the school year. By joining us you are helping to support those as well as helping us advocate for all of our children. If you would still like to join, stop by the front office for a membership envelope. Your \$5 membership fee comes with a Pinellas Central Elementary car magnet! ☺

Connect 4 Success Laptops

If you would like to borrow a laptop please feel free to contact Ms. Jordan at 547-7853 or jordanchr@pcsb.org.



The Scholastic Book Fair was a great success! Thanks to all of the students, parents and teachers who purchased books! Our next book fair will be in February. Stay tuned for more information.

Mustang Round Up News



Pinellas Central Elementary Canned Food Drive

**Sponsored by the students in
PMAC**



(Principal's Multicultural Advisory Committee)

Please help us collect nonperishable food items for the St. Giles Emergency Food Pantry. The food bank serves many families in need within our community. We will be collecting the nonperishable food items from October 24th-November 18th. Please check expiration dates. Students are to drop donations off in their classroom. The classroom with the most items collected will get a special prize!

Items needed include: canned vegetables and fruits, peanut butter and jelly, cereal, rice, beans, pasta, soups and juice.

Congratulations!

November Patrols of the Month

Aiden Minnick- He is staying on top of his classwork and shows great persistence with his work in class and on his school bus.

Javier Ocasio- Mrs. Wahl really enjoyed having Javier help with checking in buses and Mrs. Gross has also expressed how helpful Javier has been in her Kindergarten classroom!

Nicholas Kennedy- He is being recognized by Mrs. Wade. She noticed that he was extremely polite and patient with students in the hallway. He always offered friendly reminders to keep students safe.

Way to go Patrols! Keep up the great work!

TITLE I CENTER PRESENTS...



**You are cordially
invited to the TIC for
a family fun reading
night and dinner!**

**Come visit our TI Family Resource
Library! Learn about Family
Engagement strategies! Create
an at-home-reading toolkit!**



November 17th from 5pm – 7pm
2499 25th Street South, St. Petersburg

RSVP by Nov 10th to 727-893-2988 or Danielsbr@pcsb.org

Hope to see you there!

pcsb.org/titleone

Attendance Awareness 2016

Attendance matters as early as Kindergarten. Studies show many children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years. Your children can suffer academically if they miss 10 percent of school days or about 18 days in a school year. As of October 1st 2016 there have been 37 days of school. Missing 4 days puts a student over 10% missed instruction.

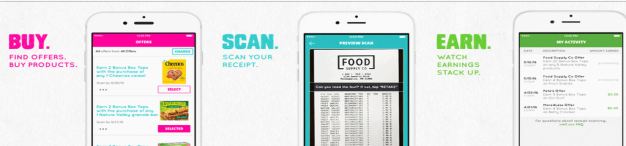
What you can do to help:

- * Attend every day, on time..
- * Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up.
- * Don't let your child stay home unless he or she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- * Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.
- * Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- * Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- * Ask for support! Contact your Child's Teacher or your Student Services Team here at Pinellas Central Elementary School.



NEW BOX TOPS BONUS APP

Earn even more cash to help your school get what it needs through the Box Tops for Education® Bonus App. Turn your everyday receipts into cash for your school. It's free and as easy as 1-2-3. Here's how it works:



You can earn Bonus Box Tops in the Box Tops Bonus App in combination with the on-pack Box Tops clip and any other coupon, discount, store program or promotion.

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY!

Mustang Round Up Department News

Dr. Linda's Corner



Attendance, just how important is it? You're probably thinking that it's just elementary school. How far behind can my child get? Well, according to recent research significantly. If students have excellent attendance in kindergarten and 1st grade, their Language Arts scores in 3rd grade are 50 points higher than children who miss 18 days or more per year. While many of us may think missing kindergarten or 1st grade doesn't count, it seems to be very important. Now let's look at Math scores in 3rd grade for students who had excellent attendance. Those students scored 76 points better than the students who miss more than 18 days of school per year in kindergarten and 1st grade. When you think about it, it makes sense. Each year is a building block for the next year and it can be hard to catch up with spotty attendance, including tardy days.

Although the specifics may change from one research study to another, the trend is the same. Attendance is important even for the very early years of school and can affect later performance. We have to watch closely because sometimes we don't realize just how much instructional time children are missing with absent and tardy days. How can we as parents help our children be successful in school? Excellent attendance.

PE News

In the month of November we will continue our lessons in team sports. We will be teaching skills in basketball, soccer, hockey, and football to all of our students. The week of November 7th we have a bowling program coming to the school. We are really trying to increase student's physical activity levels at home. The goal is for students to get a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity outside of the school day. Listed below are some suggestions to increase core strength.

Planks, curl ups, leg lifts, toe touches, and bottom balance.

Mr. Tuttle

Mr. Brindley

Mr. Wilson



Visual Arts News



Our school is a member of Artsonia.com, an online student art museum. Artsonia manages school art galleries in a safe and educational manner, developing students' pride and self-esteem and involving parents and relatives in student arts education. Visit Our School's Art Gallery by going to www.artsonia.com <<http://www.artsonia.com>> and searching for our school by name. Or you can follow the link below: <http://www.artsonia.com/schools/school.asp?id=77360>

Mrs. Woodward

Counselor's Corral



Citizenship is the Character Word for November!

Your child can practice **citizenship** by following rules and being involved in service to our school, community and country. Sometimes we forget how much we all have and that we are very fortunate to live in the United States. We also need to remember that we are a nation of immigrants coming from every corner around the world! At Pinellas Central Elementary, we have 15 different languages represented from around the world. Have a wonderful Fall and help your child learn about and practice good citizenship

Mrs. Rosen

Chorus News!!!



Our December 3 concert for Holiday in the Park at England Brothers Park has been rescheduled for Friday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. Please note this change. More information will be going home soon.

Look for information coming home soon about ordering chorus shirts. If your child was in chorus last year, they will be using the same shirt for concerts this year.

Musically,

Ms. Duffy

Mustang Round Up Department News & Dates to Remember

Occupational & Physical Therapy Corner

Occupational & Physical Therapy Corner: Brain Gym: This month we are going to begin to focus on specific movements in Brain Gym that will help with school work, homework, and play! Today more children than ever before are starting school unprepared for the two-dimensional, bilaterally demanding skills of near-point work and whole body coordination on the playground. It's important that children spend a good amount of time outdoors playing to develop skills that will benefit them not only in PE but in the classroom as well.

Midline Movements will help to develop bilateral movement skills, which supports reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It consists of the Cross Crawl (which was introduced in October), Earth Buttons, The Thinking Cap, and Arm Activation (see illustrations below).

1) Earth Buttons: Clearly delineate the body's vertical midline, around which all rotational movements occur, and provide a physical reference for the visual focus changes necessary for looking up and down. Experiencing the connection between the body's upper and lower halves allows better coordination for increased stability.

Place two fingertips under your lower lip and rest the palm of the other hand over your navel, fingertips pointing down along the midline. Your chin will automatically tuck itself in. Imagine that you're breathing air up the center of your body. Look down, then let your eyes track a vertical line (e.g. floor to ceiling, at a corner, and then down again) Hold these Earth Button points for four to six complete breaths, as you feel your grounded connection to the earth. Change hands and repeat.

2) The Thinking Cap: This is used to help teach learners how to relax tension in the neck and shoulders and bring their attention to the auditory system.

Use your thumbs and index fingers to pull your ears gently back and unroll them. Begin at the top of the ear and massage down and around the curve, ending with the bottom lobe. Repeat three or more times. As you do the Thinking Cap, keep your head upright and chin comfortably level, with your ears aligned with your shoulders.

3) Arm Activation: This is an isometric self-help activity that lengthens the muscles of the upper chest and shoulders, helps balance the muscles of the chest and back, and relaxes the fingers. Muscular control for both gross-motor and fine-motor activities originates in this area.

Sit or stand with your feet parallel and shoulder-width apart. Raise one arm above your head, using the opposite hand to hold it next to your ear. Exhale gently through pursed lips, while activating your muscles isometrically by pushing your raised arm against the other hand. Do this three times, exhaling each time to a count of eight. This activation is done in four directions: toward the head, forward, backward, and away from the head. Then repeat the process on the other side.

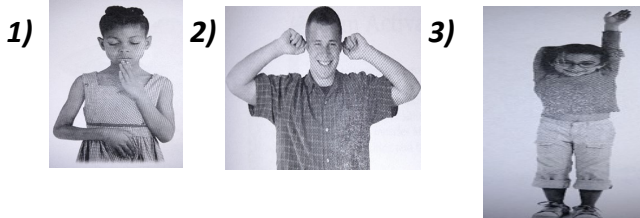
Academic Skills the Activity MAY Enhance:

Earth Buttons: organization skills, keeping place with reading columns for math or spelling, and keeping one's place while reading.

The Thinking Cap: listening comprehension, public speaking, singing, playing a musical instrument, auditory discrimination, and memory skills for spelling.

Arm Activation: penmanship, spelling, swimming, throwing/passing, longer attention span, improved focus and concentration, and increased energy in the hands and fingers.

Taken from Brain Gym by Paul E. Dennison and Gail E. Dennison



11-4 Fall Picture Day

11-7 1st Grade Science Common Assessment

& PTA Meeting 5:30pm

11-11 Midterm Reports go home

11-15 McDonald's Spirit Night & Astro Skate Party 6pm-8pm

11-16 Great American Teach In 9am-2pm

11-17 Parent's Thanksgiving Lunch & Parent University 12:30-2pm

11-21-25 Thanksgiving Break No School