



Pelham Press

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<http://pe.arps.org>



December Dates to Remember:

December 24-January 1- Holiday Recess-NO SCHOOL-School Reopens Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2013

January 2- School Reopens

January 3- School Council Meeting 7:30 a.m.

January 3- School Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.



Dear Pelham School Families,

Even in the wake of tragedy, schools continue to be one of the safest places for children to be on a daily basis. As many other school administrators throughout the nation are most likely doing in the interest of home-school transparency, I am sharing the safety structures and student supports that we have in place to keep your children and our staff members safe each and every day:

- Scheduled fire drills in accordance with the state regulations
- Anti-Bullying Awareness training for all staff annually and as needed
- Scheduled reviews of School Safety Plan with all staff
- Scheduled bus evacuation drills in accordance with state regulations
- Site-based Safety Crisis response team; district-based Safety Crisis response team
- Safety Walks to identify and remediate safety issues within/outside the building with Principal, Director of Facilities and Maintenance, Pelham Police Chief and Safety Director.
- Safety Flip Chart in every room and every setting for immediate crisis planning response
- School building locked throughout the school day; unlocked doors in a.m arrival time are continually monitored.
- School visitors must ring main office doorbell in order to gain access; visitors are required to sign in and wear a visitor’s sticker pass.
- All staff that work with students undergo periodic CORI checks; all adults who volunteer must be CORI checked as well
- Designated extreme weather shelter stations within the school
- School partnership and ongoing communication with local fire and police chief
- Staff monitoring of unfamiliar adults within the building
- Main office door camera monitoring system
- Staff on playground required to have walkie talkie during recess times
- School medical safety bag maintained throughout the year
- First aid kits/ student emergency information provided during field trips
- Student and employee emergency information updated annually and as needed

- Mandatory staff trainings in Epi Pen, Universal Precautions, and de-escalation techniques, and Mandatory Reporting
- District Table Top- Exercise with school safety teams and emergency responders to practice safety protocols and emergency management
- On-going monitoring and supervision of students in/outside the building throughout the school day
- Traffic flow safety plan for front parking lot
- Safe supportive school environment that provides school-wide behavioral expectations with positive interventions and supports (PAWS)
- Teaching of social skills/anti-bullying curriculum to promote positive behavior, development of social skills, and strategies to deal with bullying behavior

These list is by no means comprehensive, and we continue to review our school safety policies and procedures to ensure that emerging school safety issues are adequately addressed in our current school crisis safety plan and emergency response procedures. As partners in your child's educational experience, parents also play a role in promoting school safety by following procedures and reporting unusual or concerning individuals and behavior. We strive to maintain a balance between sufficient school security and providing students a healthy, nurturing, and normal school environment.

Thank you to all of you who have reached out to share your appreciation in the work that our staff does daily, and for sharing your suggestions and concerns. It is through your feedback and support that we can improve upon our school.

Have a restful, safe, and enjoyable holiday season!

Sincerely,

Lisa Desjarlais

A huge thank you to all of the families who sent in funds to support Pelham Families during the holiday season!

Community News

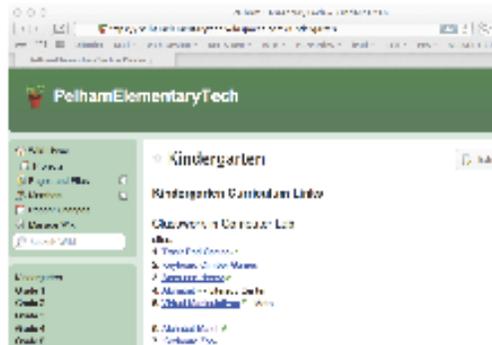
Join us for the annual Pelham Library Holiday Tea this Saturday, Dec.22. Visit with Santa from 10-11, then stay for tea, cider, treats, and a performance by That Long Tall Sword at noon! They will entertain us with music, mummery, an antler dance and of course a sword dance! This event is free and open to the public. Bring your friends and meet your neighbors.

This event is co-sponsored by the Pelham Historical Society.



December 2012

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<https://pelhamelementarytech.wikispaces.com>

National Educational Technology K-12 Standards for Students

1. Creativity and Innovation
2. Communication and Collaboration
3. Research and Information Fluency
4. Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, & Decision Making
5. Digital Citizenship
6. Technology Operations and Concepts



Students in the Kindergarten are working on recognition of upper and lower case letters in preparation for keyboarding. They loved the learning games on the Sesame Street website. The sites students are using are linked from our wiki.

<https://pelhamelementarytech.wikispaces.com>



Students in Grade 1 continue to work on keyboarding. We will start more formal word processing and formatting skills after the break. The sites students are using are linked from our wiki. <https://pelhamelementarytech.wikispaces.com>



Students in Grades 2 are working hard on keyboarding with a focus on correct fingering. The goal at this age is for students to keyboard faster than they can write. This is approximately 15 words per minute. The sites students are using are linked from our wiki. <https://pelhamelementarytech.wikispaces.com> We will review some formatting in Word after the break.



Students in Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 completed a learning questionnaire and an infographic to share with teachers and parents. It might be fun for you to take this as well! North Carolina Index of Learning Styles Questionnaire.

<http://www.engr.ncsu.edu/learningstyles/ilsweb.html>

Third Grade News

Meg Gallagher

We complete our Mexico Unit this Friday. As I write this, I look forward to what promises to be a fun filled fiesta on Thursday. Students worked on decorations this week for the fiesta that included a tissue paper flag called a papel picado, a tissue paper flower, and a simulated bark cutout. The room looks festive and colorful. Students will have the opportunity Thursday to try hot chocolate with cinnamon sticks, black beans and salsa, corn tortillas, cheese, and tortilla chips with salsa and/or guacamole. We will also dance to some Mexican music!

I wish to thank the PTO for the generous checks they provided earlier this year to each teacher. I used some of that money for the fiesta's food and materials. I purchased some additional books for our classroom library, and have replenished some supplies that seemed to dwindle quickly this year. Your generosity helps provide a richer educational experience for your children!

We will begin a poetry unit in language arts in January. Students will analyze poems for meaning, as well as fundamental elements such as rhyme, repetition, alliteration, onomatopoeia, similes, metaphors, and personification. We will search for published poems that use these elements, as well as trying our hand at writing some.

As you know we are working on multiplication and division during math. Thank you for checking your child's homework, and going over concepts with them. This double dosing of the material is very beneficial to most students.

Please remember to pack your child's snow/winter gear when needed. At recess, when we get some snow, the kids love to climb across the snow and slide around, but they need to be wearing snow pants, boots, hats, and gloves to do this. Also, children need indoor footwear so they are not tracking in the snow and sand from their boots into the classroom. Thank you.

I wish a wonderful and healthy New Year to everyone. I hope your recent holidays or soon to be celebrated holidays are happy and filled with love. As always, it is a pleasure working with your children.

Fourth Grade Pelham Press

Students have been practicing their math facts using a variety of methods. We have special triangular cards where you cover either a factor or the product. This helps students be more versatile in their thinking. The cards can also be used for division. They have practiced writing fact families using them. Students are also learning to construct number sentences using more than one operation and inserting parenthesis. It is very challenging work. The next step will be to add a variable! Our next unit is decimals.

Students have been constructing literary essays using graphic organizers. We have learned to study prompts carefully and write it in our own words. Next we highlight key information that will help support the response and list it. Students then write notes showing how examples prove their point. Our first paper contrasted two characters from a story called Toys go out.

We have completed our units on early American history and have begun a new non-fiction unit. Now we are focusing on the importance of plant and tree life. We are looking at tree parts and their functions. We are learning to read and analyze text. For each section students figure out the main idea and “sticky-note”it. When they are finished, they write the information in their notebooks using all the non-fiction conventions they wish, including pictures, captions, diagrams, and bullets.

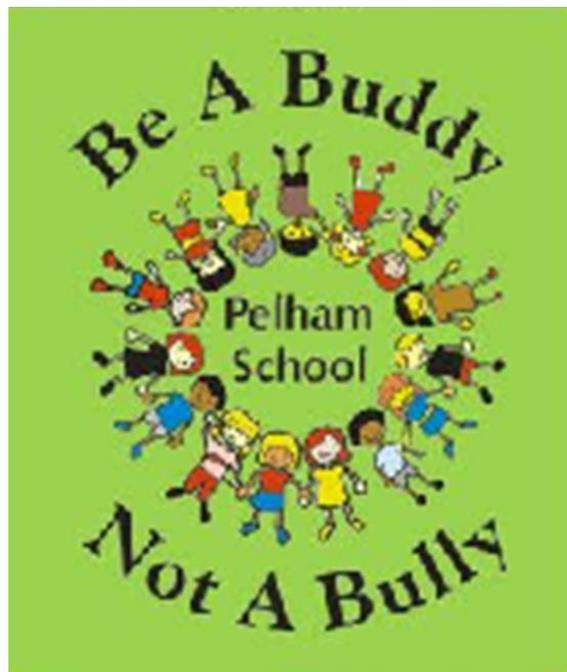
We have kicked off our P.A.W.S. program in style. The students have already reached a first class goal of working well with teachers! Ask your child for more information.

“Be A Buddy” T-Shirt Recycling

The Pelham PTO is facilitating reuse of Pelham Elementary “Be A Buddy” t-shirts. If your child no longer wears their t-shirt or has outgrown it, they can donate it to Pelham Elementary students.

Clean, t-shirts in good condition can be placed in the drop box outside of the school office. At drop-off, your child can take a t-shirt in their size from the box. If their size is not available, they can add their name to the waiting list in the drop box. T-shirts will be passed out to trade-in participants as they become available.

This is a first come, first served effort so the PTO cannot guarantee there will be a larger size shirt for all students.





LUNCH January 2013

Did you know... Our menus represent the most healthy, nutritious, wholesome and flavorful food made from the best ingredients available. We utilize regional, seasonal & sustainable food whenever possible. All of our purchases contain zero trans fats, unless naturally occurring. The majority of the food served by Whitson's contains No HFCS & No Artificial Flavors, Colors or Sweeteners, and we continue to work on this initiative. Our milk and chicken products are free of added hormones and antibiotics at the time of processing. Our meals, condiments and choices are all lean or low fat. Most entrees contain between 500-900 mg of sodium. We also always offer whole grain pastas, rice and bread products. All of our menus meet or exceed the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act Standards.

LUNCH PRICES
 Reimbursable Lunch Price \$2.75
 Reduced Lunch Price \$1.40
 Milk/Chocolate Milk \$.50
 100% Juice \$.50

PREPAID LUNCHES AVAILABLE

| | | | |
|------------|---------|------------|----------|
| 10 Lunches | \$27.50 | 20 Lunches | \$55.00 |
| 30 Lunches | \$82.50 | 40 Lunches | \$110.00 |

LUNCH INCLUDES
 Skim Milk, 1% Milk or Fat Free Chocolate Milk / Vegetable Choice / Fruit Choice

AVAILABLE DAILY
 Whole Grain Bagel w/ Yogurt / Sunflower Butter & Jelly Sandwich / Assorted Meat Sandwiches / Salad

Above Lunches Include:
 Vegetable choice, Fruit choice, Low Fat Milk & Mozzarella Cheese

SENSIBLE SNACKS CONTAIN
 Fat-7g or less Sat Fat-2g or less
 Sodium-360mg or less Sugar-15g or less

WE OFFER BREAKFAST DAILY
 Don't forget to stop by the café for breakfast.

Monday Muffins
 Tuesday French Toast Sticks
 Wednesday Bagel
 Thursday Cereal
 Friday Breakfast Sandwich

Legend:
 V Vegetarian H Healthier P Pork Choice

If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding this menu please contact your food service director, Rebecca, at 413-362-1839.

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| | HAPPY NEW YEAR | Cheesy Nachos w/ Pico de Gallo Corn Black Beans Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dip Applesauce | Meatball Hero Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Baby Carrots & Celery Peach Cup Banana | WG Pizza Wedge Broccoli Tips w/ Ranch Dip Fresh Cucumber Salad Mixed Fruit Orange |
| 1 Chicken Nuggets Oven Baked Fries Three Bean Salad Cucumber Coins Peach Cup | 2 Homemade Mac & Cheese Broccoli Spinach & Tomato Salad Applesauce Banana | 3 Mozzarella Stks. & Sauce Peach Cup Carrots Pear | 3A Whole Grain Fish Sticks Herb Roasted Potato Wedges Peas Dinner Roll Mixed Fruit | 3B WG Pizza Wedge Carrot Sticks w/ Ranch Dip Pineapple Cup Apple |
| 2A Chicken Nuggets Sweet Potato Puffs Apple Cucumber Coins Diced Pears | 2B Beef Burger* Vegetarian Beans Veggie Dippers Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Peach Cup Pear | 3C WG Pasta w/ Meat Sauce* Green Beans Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Cinnamon Applesauce Pear | 3D Crispy Beef Taco Spinach Salad Rice & Beans Orange Strawberry Cup | 3E WG Pizza Wedge Romaine & Chickpea Salad Applesauce Green Grapes |
| 2A | 2C Fish Sandwich Cream of Tomato Soup Diced Pears Cucumber Coins Green Grapes | 2C French Toast Sticks w/ Sausage Hash Browns Mixed Fruit Cup Celery Sticks Orange | 2C Crispy Chicken Sandwich Oven Baked Fries Corn Strawberry Cup Banana | 2C WG Pizza Wedge Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Green Grapes Carrot Sticks Mixed Fruit |
| 2A | MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BIRTHDAY | 2C | 2C | 2C |
| 2K Mozzarella Stks. & Sauce Peach Cobbler Carrot Sticks Apple Slices | 2L Chicken Soft Taco Black Beans Spinach Salad Orange Strawberry Cup | 2L Meatball Hero Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Baby Carrots & Celery Peach Cup Banana | 2L Beef Burger* Vegetarian Beans Veggie Dippers Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Apple Cobbler | |

WE PURCHASE LOCALLY! (Products purchased through regional suppliers when seasonally available)

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A FOOD ALLERGY? Please notify your food service director in advance if your child needs a meal accommodation. We can provide special dietary packages; common allergen meal items; and/or accommodations for your child's meal.

Dietary requirements include: kosher, dairy, gluten, shellfish or egg may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have a skin condition. *Menu changes in advance not to exceed 10 days.