



Pelham Press

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Dates to Remember:

- 3/8/17- Kindergarten Registration Begins
- 3/22/17- PTO Meeting
- 3/22/17- ARMS Sixth Grade Orientation
- 3/29/17- Early Release- 1:20
- 4/1/17- Family Fun Night- More to come!



Dear Pelham Families,

Second and third grade students have been working collaboratively in a combined special Language Arts unit reading “Just Add Water”, based on the autobiography of Salva Dut who lived in Sudan, and his experiences during the civil war in his country. Salva eventually came to the United States and developed an organization called *Water for South Sudan, Inc.* Our students have been inspired to support this cause and are running a school wide fundraiser to help build a well for a village in Sudan. Every village that gets a well must also build a school for the boys and girls of the village, so the fundraiser will not only help to provide healthy clean water for the village, but also brings an amazing opportunity to build a school! I was able to observe our students in second and third grade enthusiastically making posters today to for their visits to classrooms throughout the school to share out the project. Each student will get a letter sent home on Wednesday explaining the fundraiser, and there is chart near the main office that will keep track of the contributions. I am so proud of our students and teachers for their willingness to make a difference in these villagers’ lives. Please consider supporting this worthy cause!

Students in grades 3-6 attended “Ellis, Island of Dreams” last Friday at the UMass Fine Arts Center. The themes promoted during the performance focused on escaping persecution and hunger, and desire for more fulfilling work through the story of one family’s trials, heartbreaks, and triumphs. This timely performance served to reinforce how we are all truly a nation of immigrants. Staff and students gave the event high ratings, and we’d like to extend our appreciation to the Pelham Cultural Arts Grants Council for funding this via a cultural arts grant.



Dr. Pat Romney from Romney and associates has been working with the Pelham staff throughout this school year. Her work with the teaching staff is focused on cultural intelligence and equity. During one of our staff meetings we completed a Culture Walk through the school to examine visible aspects of the school environment and identify what cultures are represented. The outcome of this activity was to notice what cultures are represented visually and what cultures may be absent and underrepresented. Other topics addressed during other staff meetings were focusing on removing bias from the curriculum, microaggressions & microaffirmations, white privilege, and bridging individual & cultural understanding in working with parents. Dr. Romney’s work has supported us in our focus on equity and school climate this year.

We had a great turnout for the annual Lasagna Dinner Fundraiser last Friday evening. The sixth grade class was able to raise close to \$700 for their Nature's Classroom end of year trip. A huge thank you to all of the parents who cooked and supported the event. The students were quite attentive as they eagerly waited on their friends and families, and it was a great opportunity to connect with friends and family after the end of a long week.

The Pelham School will begin kindergarten registration for the 2017-2018 school year on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. Registration will take place during the day from 9:30-11:30 a.m. & 2:00-3:30 p.m. in the school office. There will be one evening registration opportunity for those that are unable to come during the day on Thursday, March 9, 2017- 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the ARMS district office as the side entrance of the building.

Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2017 are eligible to enroll in kindergarten for the fall. There are no exceptions to this requirement. An original birth certificate, proof of immunization, proof of residency in the district, and a current immunization record should be brought to registration. A physical examination can be performed up to the start of school and forms for a physician to fill out will be available at registration. If parents/guardians have questions concerning student eligibility, they are requested to direct their questions to the building principal.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Lisa Desjarlais



Kindergarten
Registration

Meg Gallagher

We have been having a wonderful experience working with the second grade as we read *Just Add Water*. The children have been having such thoughtful conversations, and they are very inspired by Salva Dut's spirit and determination to survive, learn, and make the world a better place for others. We are going to work together to try to help out the Water for South Sudan project. We will be sending more information home about this.

We missed our field trip to the Amherst Cinema for our SEE HEAR FEEL FILM program, but it is being rescheduled. We will also be traveling to Beneski Museum at Amherst College on March 21st as a culmination of our Variation and Adaptation Unit. Permission slips will be coming home soon.

Students have been writing some amazing poetry. Everyone wrote a piece about themselves, and then picked a topic of their own choosing to incorporate the elements of poetry we have been studying, such as alliteration, rhyme, simile, metaphor, repetition, and onomatopoeia.

Our unit 5 math unit has gone on a bit long because of snow days and vacation. We will post test on Monday and get started on a new unit soon. It will cover different approaches to solving the same problem, more multiplication fact work, multistep number stories with one or more equations, and students will be introduced to the order of operations and learn how parentheses function as grouping symbols that affect the order of operations. We will continue to review subtraction strategies as well. Spending some time each week helping your child learn their math facts for the Friday tests is always beneficial. Thank you for your support!

The students have been working hard on some very challenging material in math, going in depth with fractions and decimals. It is great to see all they are capable of doing. We are using mixed numbers in more complex line plot graphs, measuring our head circumferences to the nearest half-centimeter, plotting class data and drawing conclusions based on the shape of the data. They are learning to move fluently through fraction and decimal work, converting numbers and even adding and subtracting mixed numbers. As a side note, we continue to practice double-digit multiplication using the standard algorithm. Feel free to give your child one or two to see how they are doing.

Students are starting to consider opinion writing. The basic form requires understanding different perspectives. It will be important for students to see the pros and cons of different solutions to topical issues. Once they entertain arguments for and against, they choose a position and defend it with a developed explanation. We started with "Should students have assigned seats?" It was interesting to see they could see both sides and some in-between positions as well. Now they are choosing a position and developing topic sentences that generally describe the ideas they will develop in the main body.

We are reading about Sojourner Truth and Thurgood Marshall for our African-American biographies unit. Students are learning the basic structures of biographies, ranging from important childhood experiences to major accomplishments, and will soon be ready to make some choices about next people to study. As usual, they are capable of processing challenging work and making very interesting observations about what they have read. I am looking forward to helping them with some visual projects that share what they have learned.

Mr. Shaw

Community Notes

Box Top Competition Winner!

The 4th grade class is the winner of a movie and popcorn with a total of 1,137 Box Tops!

This month long collection earned the school \$367!!



March Dates:

March 10 – Tuition for the month of April is due. This bill includes the last payment for Gap Care.

March 29: Gap care is provided for early dismissal from 1:20 – 3:00.

March Notes:

With spring right around the corner, I am hoping to enlist the help of all parents during the busy playground hours after school is dismissed. Please be aware that the afterschool students are asked to follow certain rules, and guidelines of behavior, and that it is in the best interest of the community if all students are held to the same standards. Please be aware that:

- The field needs to recover so that the grass can grow. Students should avoid the muddy sections and should not dig any holes there.
- It is fun to build forts in the woods, but those spaces should be shared, and any sticks need to stay in the woods.
- Slides are a lot of fun to run up – but the school safety rule is go down only.
- It is nice to share snacks with your friends – but please do not share with the students in After School. We provide our own snacks.
- All adults should be on the look out for safety issues. Please let a counselor know if one of our kids is not being safe. We will do the same for you!

February Highlights:

We started the next play! This play, which takes place overnight in a library, is made up of students in grades 3 - 6, with one performance by a 2nd grader. The performance date has not yet been determined – but the students are busy memorizing their lines.

We have a new volunteer! Her name is Nicole Black and she is a student at UMass and also the mother of 4 boys under the age of 10. I think she will be quite up for the job!

And...

Last call to send in those small boxes! Any small box (band aid, tea, candy, cream cheese, bouillon cubes, individual pies, etc.) is desired.

Amherst Youth Lacrosse registration is now open!

To all kids in grades 3 to 6... if you are a returning player, welcome back! If you are interested in playing lacrosse, welcome! New players are strongly encouraged to give the "fastest sport in two feet" a try. Every child will be able to play in games, regardless of prior experience. Our season runs from late April to early June and will include a combination of practices, home games, away games, tournaments and/or jamborees.

Registration for the Girls and Boys lacrosse teams are capped when a limit is reached. Please register early in order to ensure that your son/daughter has a spot on the team.

Check our website for registration information for Minimites (Kindergarten through Grade 2 boys and girls) later this winter.

Learn more, and register at www.amherstyouthlacrosse.org

If you need more time to pay the registration fee please complete the on-line registration but hold off on the final registration payment. (You will be required to pay the \$30 US Lacrosse membership fee). Equipment is available to rent for a modest fee so that equipment costs are not a barrier for participation. AYL prides itself with making the sport accessible for families. Please email president@amherstyouthlacrosse.org if you need some flexibility in this area.

This is not a school sponsored event.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION
FOR 6th GRADE
PARENTS/GUARDIANS HAS BEEN
SCHEDULED:**

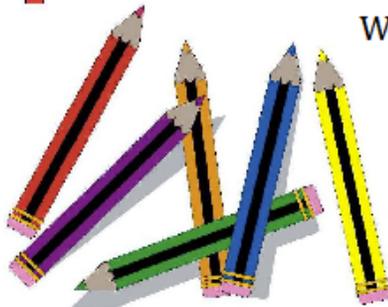
**At Amherst Regional Middle School
On Wednesday, March 22, 2017**
(Snow Date –

The evening will include an introduction to the Middle School and information about electives and course offerings.

This evening is for parents/guardians. Sixth grade students will have an orientation at the elementary schools the end of February and they will visit the middle school after the April Vacation Week.

We look forward to seeing you.

*Patty Bode
Principal*



Welcome to our Lunch Cafe



Amherst/Pelham Elementary Schools

March 2017

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday



Produce of the Month
Spinach



We proudly source our meat, eggs, and produce from local and sustainable agriculture.

<p>6 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Corn Pineapple Cup Fresh Apple</p>	<p>7 Pancakes and Turkey Sausage Baked Tater Tots Orange Pre Cupped Applesauce</p>	<p>8 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Pineapple Cup Fresh Orange</p>	<p>9 Loaded Beef Nachos Brown Rice Black Beans Mild Salsa Diced Pears Empire Apple</p>	<p>10 Cheese Pizza Broccoli Florets Celery Sticks Mixed Fruit Fresh Green Grapes</p>
National School Breakfast Week				
<p>13 Mozzarella Sticks Golden Baked Potato Wedges Carrot Sticks Spinach & Tomato Salad Fresh Orange WW Dinner Roll</p>	<p>14 Pasta with Chicken Meatballs & Sauce Steamed Green Beans Garden Salad Fresh Apple Pineapple Cup Carrot Sticks</p>	<p>15 Mac & Cheese Steamed Carrots Spinach Salad Sweet Red Pepper Strips Strawberry Cup Bartlett Pear</p>	<p>16 Hamburger with Lettuce & Tomato Sweet Potato Puffs Corn Garbanzo Beans Fresh Orange Sliced Peaches</p>	<p>17 Cheese Pizza Broccoli Florets Mixed Fruit Spinach Salad Fresh Green Grapes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ST. PATRICKS DAY! Eat green food!</p>
<p>20 Popcorn Chicken Oven Baked Fries Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Veggie Dippers Applesauce Banana</p>	<p>21 Chicken Fajita Brown Rice Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Carrot Sticks Black Beans Peach Cup Fresh Orange</p>	<p>22 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Diced Pears Empire Apple Romaine Salad w/ Tomato Carrot Sticks w/ Ranch Dip</p>	<p>23 Loaded Beef Nachos Black Beans Brown Rice Pineapple Cup Bartlett Pear</p>	<p>24 Cheesy Pepperoni Pizza Cheese Pizza Spinach Salad Carrot Sticks w/ Ranch Dip Fresh Green Grapes Sliced Peaches</p>
<p>27 Crispy Chicken Patty Sandwich Oven Baked Fries Steamed Green Beans Strawberry Cup Fresh Apple</p>	<p>28 Oven Roasted Chicken Peas Mashed Potatoes Applesauce Banana</p>	<p>29 Meatball Parmesan Hero Fresh Orange Diced Peaches Corn</p>	<p>30 Mozzarella Sticks Baked Potato Wedges Apple Slices Diced Pears</p>	<p>31 Cheese Pizza Strawberries Fresh Apple Celery Sticks w/ Ranch Dip Carrot Sticks w/ Ranch Dip</p>

Our produce locally sourced produce whenever it's seasonally available, but we also take special care to make sure the rest of our produce is fresh, from within hours of harvesting. Fresh farming means the vitamins and nutrients in our produce is packed with nutritional goodness.

Our partners at Whitcomb use multiple facilities that flash freeze produce right on the farm. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for more.



Available Daily
Whole Grain Bagel w/ 8 oz yogurt and string cheese
Sunbutter and Jelly Sandwich on Whole Wheat Bread
Garden Salad with Cheese (2oz) and Whole Wheat Dinner Rolls (2ea)
Ham & Cheese Sandwich on Whole Wheat Bread
Turkey & Cheese Sandwich on Whole Wheat Bread

All Lunches Include
Vegetable and fruit choice of 1% white milk, fat free white milk, and fat free choc milk.

Full lunch price - \$2.75
Reduced lunch - \$0.40
Choice of milk - \$0.50

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