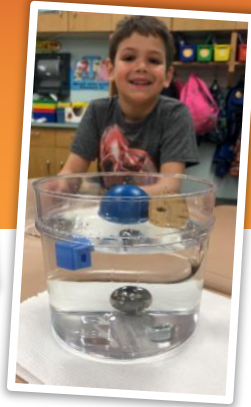


Northside Newsletter

May 2019



Northside News

April was quite a busy month for Northside! PSSA preparation has been happening since the first day of school, so it feels very nice to have the ELA, Math, and Science PSSA tests behind us as we begin the month of May!

If I may brag for a moment: I spent a great deal of time with students in the extended time room for PSSA testing. I couldn't help but have a tremendous sense of pride as I monitored students! I saw students genuinely working their best - and that's exactly what we ask them to do. All of that work is thanks to the efforts of our teachers as they spend 7+ hours per days with these kids we care about so much. At Northside, we are setting high expectations for academics and character. I feel very fortunate to work alongside these individuals.

This Friday, we'll celebrate our April Monthly Reward and PSSA Incentive Celebration! This is an opportunity to reward positive behavior in our school and recognize the efforts of faculty and students on the PSSAs. Staff and students will participate in outdoor field games like wiffleball, soccer, basketball, 4-Square, and sidewalk chalk. Our local Rainbow Snow will be making a special appearance at Northside!

-Mr. Applequist



3rd grade student, Alexander Zazanis, having a staring contest with a primate on their April Field Trip to Keystone Oaks!

Important May Dates:

May 2 - NS Art Show @ 7:00 p.m.

May 15 - Elementary Band Concert @ 7:00 p.m.

May 20 - 2nd Grade Field Trip

May 24 - FIELD DAY!

May 28 - Field Day Rain Make-Up Date

May 6 - Orchestra Concert @ 7:00 p.m.

May 16 - 5th Grade Field Trip

May 23 - NS Chorus Concert @ 2:00 p.m.

May 27 - NO SCHOOL!

Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Pascale, School Counselor

What is Cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is repeated, electronic-based bullying via computers, tablets, or cell phones. Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else in order to cause embarrassment or isolation

Tips for Parents:

- Monitor your child's activity on the Internet. Remember that many social media sites have age limits to join their site and most elementary students do not meet those age limits.
 - Remind your child that anything they post on the Internet is not private. Never share personal information.
 - Set-up rules and boundaries with your child regarding Internet use. Make sure that your child is never accepting a friend request or communicating with someone they do not know.
 - Make sure that your child understands that you expect upstanding behavior at all times – both online and offline. "If you can't say it aloud to someone's face, then you can't message or e-mail it." Use the acronym "THINK"-- Is it True, Helpful, Inspiring, Nice and Kind?
 - If your child is a victim of cyberbullying remind them NOT to delete the messages and show you right away. Block the person from sending any further messages. If it's spilling over into school, notify the school.
 - As with most things, prevention is easier than reaction! Just talking about these issues will help your child.
- (Adapted from Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center)



Teacher Highlight - 4th Grade

Mrs. Bruce and Mrs. Cruise, Fourth Grade Teachers

Science/STEM: The 4th graders are completing their unit on electricity and are in the midst of a fun model house project. Working in groups, the students are constructing "houses" from cardboard boxes and installing working lights using their knowledge of circuits! After the lights are installed, students decorate their houses with doll house furniture and some even make their own wallpaper.



Literacy Connections

Mrs. Brier & Mrs. Walters, Reading Specialists

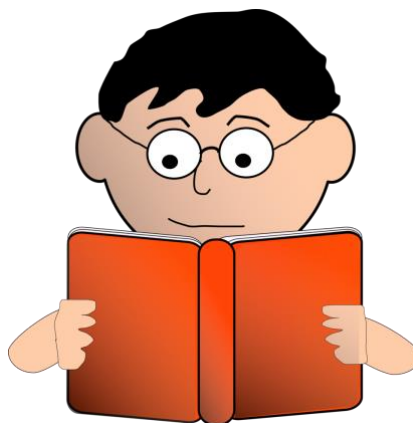
Avoid the Summer Slide with Pat's C.U.B.'s

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the average student loses one to three months of learning over summer. One recommendation to preventing summer slide is for students to participate in enriching activities. As your child's summer schedule begins to fill up, please consider leaving room for the Palmyra Area School District's Cougars Upward Bound program (C.U.B.).

Pat's C.U.B.'s named in honor of the former principal at Pine Street Elementary, Mrs. Pat Bachman, takes place on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the weeks of July 8, 18, 22, and 29. The camp runs from 9:00 am - 11:15 am.

The program is designed for students who can benefit from instruction in the summer months to maintain or increase skills. CUB is a four-week summer camp focused on literacy. Students in the program receive small group reading instruction daily. They also receive large group instruction in math, review of content through technology integration, and a recreational activity that focuses on fine-tuning social skills. In addition to these daily small group activities, the students receive free breakfast and lunch.

Please contact the Northside Office for a Pat's C.U.B.S registration form. Parents can also download the brochure [here](#).





It's no secret that kids read less during summer than they do during the school year. In fact, the average child reads just 6 hours over summer vacation!

This decline in reading is, unfortunately, often due to a lack of access to “just right” and engaging books. Students who lack access to books to enjoy during the summer can fall months behind their peers. Fortunately, research points to summer reading as a powerful solution for preventing summer slide and closing the reading achievement gap once and for all.

To encourage students to read, PASD is excited to again offer our Summer Reading Book Exchange. The Book Exchange is for students completing grades (K-5) and will be held at Lingle Avenue Elementary. On Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30, during the months of June and July, students can stop by and select “just right” books to enjoy.

How does summer reading support reading achievement?

- Access to books is critical. When children select reading materials themselves and read for enjoyment, they receive the most gains in reading achievement, including better reading comprehension, writing style, vocabulary, spelling, and grammatical development. Also, the longer that this free voluntary reading is practiced, the more consistent and positive the results. Thus summer programs that allow and encourage children to choose what they read are likely to be most successful.
- Children that feel that reading is fun tend to read more often, so summer programs that help make reading enjoyable and social are most successful. Make attending the Book Exchange a “play date” or plan to meet classmates.
- Reading just 4 to 6 books over the summer has the potential to prevent a decline in reading achievement scores from the spring to the fall, so even small steps are very beneficial.
- Preventing the summer slide is most effective when school programs encourage kids to read, make reading fun, and reach out to families about the importance of reading over the summer. PASD reading specialists, who can help students select books and answer any questions, staff the Book Exchange.

In addition to the Book Exchange, students can sign up for the Bingo Card Summer Challenge. The Bingo Card Challenge encourages students to read over the summer - different types of books, in different places, etc. Students can return the bingo card at the start of the school year and receive raffle tickets (for prizes) for every square completed. **Registration forms for the Book Exchange and Summer Bingo Card will be sent home this month.**