

PRM School Rocker

Issue 7, Volume 1 March, 2020



Principal Simpson's Message

Greetings PRM Families,

Spring is in the air! As the flowers begin to bloom and the grass begins to grow, our students are preparing to show what they know and how much they have grown academically this year. Our state testing period will begin the week of April 6, 2020. We will share the testing calendar in the April Newsletter.

We have been preparing the students to do their best and show how much they have learned this school year. Our focus has been on data-driven decision making. Teachers have been working with data coaches and administration to analyze assessment data and make instructional action plans to address needs and enhance the learning experience for all students. This year all students in grades K-6 have been taking the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Assessments in ELA and Math provided by our school district to check the progress of students prior to the actual Ohio State Test. We have been using this information to provide intervention support and to strengthen areas that need more reinforcement.

The support of parents is critical to the success of students in school. Please communicate with your child's teacher frequently about academic progress. We often have discussions about behavior; but behavior has a direct impact on academic growth and progress. If we keep the focus on meeting the academic needs of students, behavior will change.

We value the partnership between parents and the school. We hope to see as many parents as possible in attendance at our 3rd quarter conferences on Thursday, February 27th from 4pm-7pm.

Thank you for making our school the best place to learn and grow! We hope to see you soon!

Ms. Amber C. Simpson, Principal

Upcoming Events

Yearbook Club--Mondays 2:30-3:30pm

Brain Bowl--Thursdays @ 2:45pm

Coffee Cup--Thursdays 7am-8am

PRM Cheer Practice--Tuesday & Thursday @ 6pm
Webby Dance--Tuesday & Thursday
Girls to Women--Wednesday & Friday
M.O.R.E.--Tuesday & Thursday
Spanish Class--Tuesdays
Art Club--Tuesdays
Candy Chemistry--Tuesdays @2:30pm
Music Club--Thursdays
ExistKids Mindfulness Yoga Monday (Ages 8-12) & Thursday (Ages 5-7)
Cub Scouts 2nd and 4th Thursday @6pm
Daisy Kindergarten Troop and Brownie 2nd Grade Troop 1st and 3rd Tuesday @6pm
3rd Grade Girl Scout Troop 44525 1st and 3rd Monday @6pm
Junior 4th/5th Grade Cadette Troop 2nd and 4th Tuesday @5:30pm
Junior 3rd Grade Girl Scout Troop 2nd and 4th Tuesday @6pm
Super Saturday Tutoring--Every Saturday in February 9am-11:30am
3rd Quarter Conference Night--February 27th 4pm-7pm
Spring Picture Day--February 28th
Read Across America Day--March 2nd
Jump Rope for Heart Begins--March 3rd
Hoxworth Blood Drive--March 13th

R.O.C.K.S!

Our Character Program centers around:

Respect, Ownership, Compassion, Kindness and Safety, Safety, Safety!

Below are the three school-wide expectations that we expect students to follow throughout all parts of our learning community. Please support us by reinforcing these at home.

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be a Problem Solver

Wednesday Folders

Communication Folders will be sent home weekly on Wednesdays with pertinent classroom and school information. Please look for these folders, as all student work, newsletters, etc... will be sent home in these folders. Once you've looked through the folders, please send them back before Friday so that we may get ready for the following week:).



3-6 News

3-6 News Many 3-6 classrooms are continuing to learn about the continents. Some classrooms are making fish print pillows as they learn about parts of a fish. Some are going to a yoga class. In February all the classes celebrated Valentines day and got to see the Bi-Okoto African Dance assembly.



6-9 News

6-9 News The 6-9 teams went to Green Acres in February and learn how real syrup is made and taste the syrup! They also got to take part in the Bi-Okoto African Dance assembly. Some classes are focusing on incorporating practical life skills like sewing and making quilts. All classes celebrated Valentines day. They went to the Aronoff to see Rosie Revere Engineer and Friends and look forward to another trip to the Aronoff in March for Dragons love Tacos!



9-12 News

9-12 News The 9-12 teams went to the Xavier Basketball game and they will be going to Camp Kern in March! Men of More went to the Freedom Center. The 9-12 teams are using the items they received from the silent auction and are greatly appreciative.



PRM Community in Action:

February was African American history month! So many great things were done to celebrate and to learn about African American History. On Febraury 7th, students were invited to dress up as their favorite African American Hero. All classes worked to decorate their door celebrating the rich history of African Americans, as well as participate in a school-wide assembly.



Blood Drive in Support of Beth VanWassenhove

PRM Family,

We are blessed to have such an amazing community, and such dedicated staff and parents within it. As many of you know, two weeks ago one of our parents, Beth VanWassenhove, who also serves as a 6-9 Parent Rep on LSDMC, was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and admitted to the Hospital to immediately start Chemotherapy. Her son Henry is a student here, and Beth is a treasured Montessori educator in Cincinnati. The attached flyer provides details for a Blood Drive to be held here at PRM on Friday, March 13th from 12p-6p. Come roll up your sleeve and support Beth and Henry through this fight. It is important to make an appointment to ensure you will be able to donate!

Thank you PRM Family!



Lost and Found Items Will Be Donated on 2/28/2020

PRM Community,

Our Lost and Found is overflowing. Please take a minute to check for lost items. We will be donating all Lost and Found items on February 28, 2020.

Test Prep Ideas

As we prepare for the Ohio State Tests, below you'll find some tips and ideas that could help you and your child get prepared for the upcoming assessments in April. As we get closer to the testing windows, there will be more information on specific days of testing for each grade-level.

- WRITE, WRITE and WRITE some more!!!! The more you can encourage your students to write, the more stamina they will have and comfortable they will feel when it comes to writing when getting to the OSTs. Writing doesn't have to take the form of "essays"; they can be as simple as journaling about their day, writing their opinion about a specific task or routine at home, or summarizing a TV show segment they watched.
- Review and support with all homework....as the OSTs get closer teachers will begin to provide homework that might mirror the OSTs.
- Read to your children. Even if they are 6th graders, they will still enjoy hearing you read to them...this will support their vocabulary and comprehension development.
- Discuss age appropriate current events along with stories and/or articles that you read.
- Encourage students to use mathematics every day. They can practice by creating a grocery budget, explaining charts and graphs from newspaper and magazine articles, dividing food portions, using rulers to measure objects, measuring a recipe, or adding prices on a shopping trip.
- Play games that involve numbers or computation.
- Encourage students to connect what they are learning in mathematics class to their hobbies, other classes, and everyday life.
- The link below will take you directly to the Ohio Department of Education site that offers a variety of resources including practice assessments and released OST questions from years past.

Zearn Information

Zearn Math is an online program that the school has purchased to provide students with math reinforcement at school and home. The digital lessons are approximately 30 minutes each. In most classes students are expected to complete 4 lessons a week. The amazing component of the Zearn program is that students are provided with a guided lesson by a "Zearn digital teacher", prior to any independent practice. This occurs during each lesson!!!! To sum up students have access to Zearn at home by using the following steps to log in:

1. Go to the Clever site <https://clever.com/>
2. Log in using their Google Usernames and Passwords
3. Click on the yellow Zearn box and they are in.

Most students know their usernames and passwords, however you can ask the teachers for them if they don't remember.

Growth Update

At the LSDMC meeting on February 12th, Superintendent Laura Mitchell and Board Member Mike Morowski were in attendance. Below you'll find the updates from the meeting:

It was clear from the remarks of Laura Mitchell and Mike Moroski today that the district is not likely to change boundaries and instead has shifted to looking at expanding the building at the rear. They are also exploring acquiring adjacent land (she could not provide any details on this) to expand the campus along with the building. It was also clear that the PRM situation has risen to the level of priority for CPS officials, and before departing Supt Mitchell committed to creating a draft community engagement plan by 2/24 (had staff with her, to whom she delegated).

There was consensus by the LSDMC later in the meeting during the New Business discussion, to embark on our own engagement, specifically:

- On Feb 27, from 4-7 during conferences, we'll set up a table in the lobby with a poster and have LSDMC members present to talk about where things stand, answer questions, listen to concerns, and encourage attendance on Mar 4.
- On Mar 4, from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, we'll hold a special LSDMC meeting in the cafeteria at which there will be a 15 minute presentation followed by open time for attendees to respond and ask questions.

CLC Updates

- Imago Spring Semester for Outdoor Education begins Monday March 9th! Students will be learning about consumers, decomposers, and food webs, and preparing for Spring planting. Imago will be working with Pleasant Ridge CRC to grow seedlings for our garden as part of our focus on Community Learning Center Partners partnering with each other.

- YMCA Aftercare recently incorporated Yoga into its program, and is planning on adding additional elements to their curriculum for afterschool.
- Curtains for our MindPeace room - Are you handy with a needle and thread? Our new MindPeace room is asking for a window curtain! Contact Sandra Oprea @ opreasa@cpsboe.k12.oh.us if you would like to donate one, or sew one!

Possip Summary

This past week our Possip survey was responded to with shout-outs to 40 staff members! Ms. Donnelly, Ms. Nancy, and Mr. Walter each received 4 comments, and in general, our staff was given a lot of gratitude. Shout-out spotlights:

"9-12 door decorations are amazing! I appreciate all of their hard work with our oldest students. Ms. Sylvia is an awesome first year teacher who supports her students as individuals. Mr. T is an amazing first year gym teacher and the kids love him. Ms. Maria works extra hard after school with variety show and composers club. Ms. Lori and Ms. Gina are the face of our school and keep on smiling. Nurse Meg is working to help keep us all healthy"

"I checked grades on Power School, which I LOVE!!!!!! Had to ask a few teachers some follow-up questions to make sure our daughter was doing what she was supposed to, and Thornberry and Donnelly replied so quickly and were such a huge help. Love PRM!!"

Teacher's, Paraprofessionals, Office Staff, and volunteers were all lifted up in appreciation by our community - keep up the great work everyone, your dedication and heart are showing!

Student Cell Phone Policy

Cell Phone Policy.

Pleasant Ridge Montessori School and staff are not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones.

Consequently, we will not investigate lost or stolen cell phones.

The use of cell phones during school hours is prohibited.

- Cell phones may not be visible during school hours.
- Students must keep cell phones turned off during the entire school day, including lunchtime and during mandatory after-school intervention.
- **Cell phones that are left on will be confiscated, and can be picked up after school by a parent or guardian in the main office.**

PTO & Foundation Hub News

PTO and Foundation News: LSDMC will hold a special meeting on March 4th from 6-7pm! LSDMC members will provide a brief update as to where things stand with our school boundary lines, enrollment growth and the potential solutions discussed by School Superintendent Laura Mitchell and Board Member Mike Moroski. The goal of this meeting is to answer questions, listen to concerns and discuss ways we can collectively advocate for our school community. (A special effort to offer childcare during this meeting is underway. Please contact LSDMC Parent Rep Jen Jarman at jarman.jen@gmail.com if you need childcare during this meeting).

Also, please join us for the **March Summit meeting on Wednesday, March 11th!** Come hear updates from the principal, resource coordinator and representatives from each level! Bring your questions! It's never too late to get involved! Stay for the Foundation meeting immediately following PTO to be a part of fundraising and initiative spending decisions.

The next restaurant of the month is on March 10th at the Rusty Bucket! Look for more information on the **PRMRocks.org** website.

Spring sports are underway or will be shortly, questions, contact Marissa Albright, marissaalbright@gmail.com.

Support Yearbook and enjoy the memories! Buy a PRM yearbook, ybpay.lifetouch.com ID Code: 13668320 by March 23rd!

Look for details on the PRMRocks.org calendar for a Flower Fundraiser with Benken's Farms that will begin March 5th.



Restaurant of the Month--Rusty Bucket in Rookwood

Our Restaurant of the Month will be The Rusty Bucket in Rookwood on March 10th from 5pm-9pm.

Please visit prmrocks.org for the official flyer and other information.

Dismissal

At the end of each school day it is extremely important that students walking go directly home. Please have a conversation with your students about the importance of walking directly home daily without making unauthorized stops along the way.

The safety of our students is of primary importance to us. Thank you for your support!

Early Dismissal: Releasing students from school before the end of the school day at 2:15pm without a valid excuse is prohibited by law. Parents must send a note or email to the teacher in advance of an early dismissal with the date, time, and reason for the early dismissal. Avoiding the car line is not a valid excuse for early dismissal and we must report those missed instructional minutes/hours to the state.

Please support us by adhering to the attendance laws and our school arrival and dismissal procedures. It is our goal to reduce wait time and accessibility during arrival and dismissal. We can only accomplish this goal if everyone respects the procedures and follows them.

Car Pick-Up: Parents picking students up by car at dismissal have two options. **Option 1:** You may park across the street in the Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church parking lot and walk up to the front of the school to pick up your child from their teacher. **Option 2:** Use the dismissal car line that goes through the back of the school/playground area. Arriving before 2pm to the carline is also not permitted. This causes major traffic jams and disruptions because the gate is not opened until 2:10pm.

Car pick up in the top circle during afternoon dismissal is prohibited. The top circle is the pick up area for daycare vans and small transportation buses **ONLY**. Pulling up on Montgomery road and calling for your child to enter your vehicle is also **PROHIBITED** and unsafe. Teachers must make contact with parents during dismissal to ensure students are dismissed to the appropriate person. It is also a severe traffic violation to stop your vehicle on a main thoroughfare where parking or stopping is prohibited.

Ohio Attendance Law

Ohio House Bill 410 has changed the way attendance is to be tracked within school systems. All student attendance is now tracked by the number of hours in attendance as opposed to days. This means late arrivals and early dismissals are counted as hours absent from school and documented in the CPS attendance portal. Our social worker, Nick Balle, will be monitoring all attendance related matters and may be reaching out to families for further clarification.

Winter Weather Policy



Severe-Weather-Info-Parents-Students.pdf

[Download](#)
71.8 KB

School Uniform Policy

Please support us by respecting our school uniform policy. The uniform policy is in place to decrease distractions and to build positive self-esteem.

As the temperature changes classrooms may be cool. Students are not permitted to wear coats or jackets in the classroom. Solid color sweatshirts or PRM sweatshirts are permitted.

Please refer to the attachment below for pictures of what is and is not allowed. You may also refer to the full uniform policy on pgs. 3-6 of the Student Handbook.



Uniform Policy Photos.docx

[Download](#)
123.8 KB

Cincinnati Public Schools Code of Conduct

Please use the link below to access the Code of Conduct for Cincinnati Public Schools. This guide will support you in having conversations with your children about appropriate school behaviors and how they can contribute to a peaceful school environment.



Code_Of_Conduct_2019-20.pdf

[Download](#)
2.0 MB



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pleasantridge.cps-k12.org/about

