

**Pleasant Hill Intermediate School  
1204 E. 163rd Street  
Pleasant Hill, MO 64080  
816-540-3156  
November 2022**

**Important Dates**

**11/6/22 - Daylight Savings  
Time Ends**

**11/9/22 - 2 Hour Late Start**

**11/23-25/22 - No  
School-Thanksgiving Break**

**11/28/22 - No School -  
Staff Development**

**5C TEAM NEWSLETTER**



The Pleasant Hill PTO would like to let our parents know that they have been added to the AmazonSmile network of organizations that you as an Amazon shopper can support. Please consider adding AmazonSmile to your account as a way to support the Pleasant Hill PTO at no cost to you. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the Pleasant Hill Parent-Teachers Organization. AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app as well.

**Beginning of the Year Handouts will be linked below.  
Click on the labeled link.**

[!\[\]\(cf531ed27e91483460120fcc057b3901\_img.jpg\) Classroom Economy Letter](#)

## Standards Based Reporting:

Dear Parents,





The PHIS would like to send you some information regarding Standards Based Reporting for your child's grading system this year.

Will percentages be utilized?

Elementary teachers will not report proficiency via percentages at any grade level. Pure mathematical averages do not accurately report a child's true level of proficiency with a standard. In fact, percentages can actually penalize a child for what he/she did not already know at the start of a unit of study. A variety of learning evidence over time, in conjunction with teacher professional judgment, and a child's performance on the summative assessment more strongly correlates to an accurate depiction of student learning. Teachers at our intermediate level, particularly sixth grade, will work with students to help them understand the range of Academic Indicators and how those will relate to the percentage grading system found in our middle school. The transition to Standards Based Reporting is often most appropriate at the elementary level first where a foundation of learning is being built which requires measurement of self to learning targets without the need to translate that data to grade point averages, class ranks, etc.

3	Consistently Meets Expectations	Student consistently demonstrates an understanding of concepts, skills, and processes of the grade level standards. (Independently/Without Support)
2	Approaching Expectations	Student demonstrates understanding of vocabulary and basic skills of the standard, but are not yet consistent in all of the concepts, skills, and processes at the grade level standard.
1	Not Yet Meeting Expectations	Student does not demonstrate understanding or has a partial understanding of concepts, skills and processes of the grade level standard.

Note: The goal is for all students to reach Level 3 (Consistently Meets Expectations) by the end of the year. Level 4 is not available in math this year.

Student Goal: To Ride the Bike Themselves!		
	4	<b>Exceeding the Standard</b> The student can not only ride the bike independently, but also perform stunts!
	3	<b>Meeting the Standard</b> The student is successfully riding the bike themselves!
	2	<b>Progressing Toward the Standard</b> The student is pedaling well and staying upright as long as someone is assisting.
	1	<b>Not Meeting the Standard</b> The student is riding the bike, but only with the use of training wheels.

### Health Room Reminders:

We have stock Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Tums, and Cough Drops in the Health Room for those who have signed permission for us to give. ***Please do not send any medication to school with your child as this is a safety concern due to having loose medication floating around the school.*** If children are on antibiotics or any other medication that needs to be given at school, please check them in with the nurse. Thank you!

We are easy to communicate with via email or phone. Below you will find a list of emails and phone numbers for each of the teachers:

Mrs. DeMoure-Umscheid [ddemoureumscheid@phr3.org](mailto:ddemoureumscheid@phr3.org) ext. 3502

Mrs. Aley [kaley@phr3.org](mailto:kaley@phr3.org) ext. 3501

### Communication Arts--Mrs. DeMoure-Umscheid--

We have finished our reading unit about narrative fiction, and we are now working on becoming authors ourselves of our own narrative fiction. We have been practicing quick writes using the various author's craft techniques and getting into the practice of taking the reader along with us in our stories. I am very excited to learn more about my students through their writing and to watch them grow as authors as well as readers!

## **Social Studies-**

We are working our way along a timeline of our history starting with ancient Rome and the foundations of our government. We will be looking at the various forms of government that lead to our founding fathers choosing the republic we have today. We will learn about Vikings, the feudal system, the crusades and the Silk Road and many other interesting and important events that lead to the colonization of America. Please encourage your kids to study Quizlet every night - this is so important to getting the academic vocabulary they need and teaching them how to study.

### **Quizlet Homework**

One of the most important tools I am introducing to my students is Quizlet. I consider this so important because it is teaching Study Skills that the student will take with them for the rest of their academic life. I assign them 5 - 10 minutes of study time every night to encourage them to study as we go instead of cramming the night before. Good study habits are vital to success in the classroom.

This class is graded as pass/fail just as it was in Elementary School. This is a change from last year in 5th grade. You will see the scores in the SIS gradebook as I enter them, so you can see how your child is doing, but the grading is pass/fail on the grade card.

## **Math-Mrs. Aley-**

We are in the middle of our unit on adding and subtracting fractions. Some students are still struggling with finding common denominators, so a little extra practice on multiplication facts would be an awesome at-home activity. There is a quizlet on their Math Google Classroom that has all of the math facts if they would like to use that to practice. Our Topic C quiz is this coming Friday (Nov 4) and our End of Module test will be on November 11th. I will send home a study guide like last time on Monday, November 7th. We will go over the study guide at tutoring and during class on the day before the test. It will need to be turned in

before we take the test. Our next unit will be multiplication and division of fractions.

**Tutoring has changed to being offered on Thursday mornings at 7:25 AM.**

### **Science-Mrs. Aley-**

We are finishing our unit on Earth's Water and Interconnected Systems. There is a Quizlet on the Google Classroom to study for the upcoming test. It is a good idea to start studying a few minutes each night to prepare. I am not entirely sure of the date, but it looks like it will be the week of November 7th. I will update the daily document to let you know for sure after we meet as a fifth grade team to decide. Our next unit is called the Flow of Matter and Energy. We will get to learn more about food webs, and food chains. We will play some fun games to see the process in action as well.

### **Other news**

All students need to have at least two dry erase markers. Most students have been really great about keeping track of theirs, however, we have a few kiddos who say they do not have them. We use these every day in math, and it would be terrific if they could be replaced if they are missing or damaged. Please ask your child to see if they need more markers or pencils.

We really appreciate all of your support and love teaching your children!