

Pleasant Hill Intermediate School

1204 E. 163rd Street
Pleasant Hill, MO 64080

816-540-3156

March 2023

Important Dates

3/6/23 - 6th Grade Band Concert & Fundraiser @ HS

3/8/23 - 2 HR Late Start

3/10/23 - End of 3rd Quarter

3/12/23 - Daylight Savings Time

3/13-17/23 - No School, Spring Break

3/20/23 - Email Grade Cards

3/22/23 - 6A BSSE Field Trip

3/23/23 - 6B BSSE Field Trip

3/24/23 - 6C BSSE Field Trip

3/27-31/23 - Book Fair

3/28/23 - Student Showcase & Book Fair Night

6th Grade NEWSLETTER



Contact Information

Mrs. Price	ELA	jprice@phr3.org	816-540-3156 Ext 3607
Ms. Murray	Co-Teacher	rmurray@phr3.org	816-540-3156 Ext. 3610
Mrs. Peters	Co-Teacher	lpeters@phr3.org	816-540-3156 Ext. 3503
Mrs. Russell	Math	brussell@phr3.org	816-540-3156

			Ext 3609
Mrs. Kimbrough	ELA/Soc. Studies	khammond@phr3.org	816-540-3156 Ext. 3602
Mr. VanSlyke	Math/Sci.	jvanslyke@phr3.org	816-540-3156 Ext. 3601
Ms. Goforth	ELA/Social Studies	lgoforth@phr3.org	816-540-3156 Ext 3603
Mrs. Sullivan	Math/Science	tsullivan@phr3.org	816-540-3156 Ext 3605

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 on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app as well.

ELA:

Students will be working in book clubs as they study and analyze Nonfiction Chapter books. With this unit, students will be diving deep into the power of nonfiction chapter books as they work towards eventually creating a Ted Talk at the end of the unit.

Students will also be taking their early spring fastbridge test for ELA to reassess their current reading levels based on new interventions set in place last month.

Math:

Students will be finishing Module 4, the study of Expressions and Equations before leaving for Spring Break. The Module 4 Assessment will be March 2. The Math Benchmark will be taken on March 6. After Spring Break, students will begin to think and reason statistically. They

will identify statistical questions and represent data distributions by using dot plots, histograms and box plots. Students will describe the center, spread and shape of data distribution. These activities will allow students to interpret all types of data displays.

Social Studies:

Students will be gaining a basic understanding of economics as we prepare for our annual field trip. They will be studying the difference between the producer, consumer, supply and demand as well as a general idea of running a business. They will be using all of their creativity, math skills and knowledge gained in social studies to complete the tasks required at the School Of Economics.

After finishing our economics unit, students will once again return to the ancient world as we delve into learning all about Ancient Rome.

Science:

Students will be finishing the Ecology Unit before Spring Break. They will be taking the Science Benchmark on March 9. The Transfer of Energy will be the next module of study. Students will learn about States of Matter, Energy and the Periodic Table. The unit will culminate with a hands-on experiment creating a Rube Goldberg machine.

Standards Based Reporting:

As a reminder we are transitioning to a new grading and reporting system in the Pleasant Hill R-3 School District, during the 2019-2020 school year for grades kindergarten through grade six in the subjects of reading, writing and mathematics. At the end of the first quarter your child's learning progress will be reported via a new progress report template for reading, writing, and mathematics. Your child's teacher will be reporting about your scholar's learning as it is associated with curriculum standards identified for each subject at each grade level. Watch an overview of Standards-Based Reporting (also known as Standards-Based Grading) on this video linked here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7m4762pjH8>

We want to continue to communicate our process with this new reporting system, therefore, we will include various facts in the form of weekly news blasts to help keep you informed during the stages of implementation. Be looking for more information on Standards-Based Reporting and Curriculum Information.

ELA and Math 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 scholar learning. Teachers at our intermediate level, particularly sixth grade, will work with scholars 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.

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.

Mrs Peter's Special Education Classroom

I have informed scholars of the importance of practicing reading and math skills at home on days that they do not have me in those subjects. I ask that scholars complete a reading activity for 20 minutes outside of class, through the use of EPIC, Raz-Kids or by reading their own book and logging it in their reader's journal. These activities will be beneficial in allowing them to increase their reading fluency and comprehension skills. These programs allow scholars to read at their individualized reading level and offer many high interest books of various genres. I have shared login and class codes for these programs with your scholars and they should be able to access them on their chromebook.

Scholars should also be logging reading minutes in their intervention reading programs. These programs are called **Power-up** for 6th grade scholars and **Core 5** for 5th grade scholars and both programs are designed by Lexia. scholars can complete these activities both at home or at school. They are designed to enhance scholar learning in all areas of reading that scholars need support in order to advance their overall reading performance. When your scholar logs in there will be the areas and the number of minutes that they need to complete for the week. Thank you for all of your help!

EPIC Login: www.getepic.com	My Class Code: nms8398
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Raz-Kids Login: www.raz-kids.com (click on kids login)	Username: Roosters2020
Splash Math (math skill review) www.splashlearn.com	Username: JQCDSM Password: board48

Feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns or if your scholar is not able to access these programs at home.

lpeters@pleasanthillschools.com

THANK YOU!