

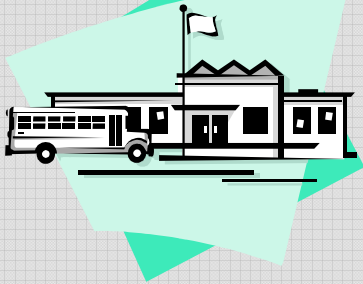


# Tiger Tales

March 2009  
Issue 7

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Pleasant Lea Elementary  
700 W Persels Road  
Lee's Summit, MO 64081  
(816) 986-1230  
[ple.leesummit.k12.mo.us](http://ple.leesummit.k12.mo.us)

Newsletter Contact:  
LJBoehm@aol.com

## *Principally Speaking*

*By Patricia Alexander & Nick Gooch*

Each month Pleasant Lea students will be encouraged to practice a Caring Character Trait. Parents can help by practicing the traits with their children. "Tiger Tales" will include a definition for each month's trait and some ideas parents can use to reinforce student learning.

### March Character, Honesty

Honesty: To be truthful to oneself and others in both words and actions.

- Expect your child to keep his/her promises. Help your child understand the feelings of others when promises are broken and the long-term effects broken promises can have on a friendship.
- Model honesty for your child. Encourage your child to be honest even when it is tempting not to be (for example; return money if a clerk gives back incorrect change).
- Recognize and reward (with positive feedback) behaviors that demonstrate honesty or dependability.
- Help your child admit mistakes.

*Nicole Gilbert & Thana Lankford*

### Help PLE win a Laptop Computer!

The Missouri State PTA is sponsoring a contest to give away a laptop to the school that has the highest % increase in membership in the spring. **If you or any of your family members are not yet members of the PTA, please consider joining now.** A \$5 basic membership will give you a free school directory and the satisfaction of supporting the PTA and all it does for PLE.

If we can get 100 new members this spring we might also win a new laptop for the school – not a bad investment for only \$5. Send a check to the school office made out to the PLE PTA. Thank you for your support!

**For more details about PLE memberships, visit [www.PLEPTA.com](http://www.PLEPTA.com).**

## Calendar of Events

March 2009

Thursday, Mar 2-6

**Reading Week**

Friday, Mar 6

**PTA Fundraiser Kick-off**

Saturday, Mar 7

**PLE Math Club Competition**

Tuesday, Mar 10

**7:00 pm PTA Mtg,  
Strings & Choir Perform**

Wednesday, Mar 11

**Spring Pictures**

Thursday, Mar 12

**PLE Pizza Night at  
Minsky's Pizza**

Friday, Mar 13

**Early Release Day-  
AM & PM Kindergarten attend AM  
6-9 PM PTA CARNIVAL**



MARCH 16-20

**SPRING BREAK  
NO SCHOOL**

Monday, Mar 23

**PTA Fundraiser Ends**

Mar 24-27

**Student Led Conferences;  
Grades 4,5,6**

Friday, Mar 27

**Human Growth & Development  
Films, Grades 4,5,6**

Monday, Mar 30

**PTA Skate night at Landmark**

## Library Lines

By Jackie Krinke  
Library Media Specialist

Two more intermediate students finishing reading and reporting on all the Mark Twain Award nominees the past month: Abby Gast and Bridgett Neff, both in Mr. Hochsprung's class. Congratulations, Abby and Bridgett!

Third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students who qualify will be voting in early March for their favorite KC3 nominee, Mark Twain nominee, or Truman Readers nominee this year. Even though the voting will be completed soon, students are encouraged to continue reading and reporting on these reading program nominees to qualify for attendance at the end-of-year KC3 Celebration (scheduled for May 4) and Mark Twain/Truman Readers pizza party (scheduled for May 11).

The library's recent Scholastic Book Fair was a big success again this year; the total sales were \$6,884.30, compared with \$7,245.22 a year ago. The library receives 25% in cash profit (\$1721.08) and 10% in book profit (\$688.43 worth of free books from the book fair warehouse). The cash profit earned from the book fair is mainly used to fund a yearly author/illustrator visit, as well as purchase some materials and supplies for the library. Library clerk Donna Stinson and I want to thank the following individuals for helping with the book fair this year: Linda Rehwaldt, Gina Gast, Geri Barker, Lisa Mehrer, Mary Hoffman, Kim Rooney, Mary Ann Neff, Teri Calovich, Sara Sanders, Teresa Ross, Amy Cramer, Dawnelle Easley, Linda Lintz, Tammie Livingston, Lynne Utter, Anne Boehm, Lisa Lounsbury, and Heather Hedges. Also, a big thank-you to all the PLE families and staff for supporting the library's book fair so generously!

## Spring Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Our Spring Fundraiser to help us purchase technology upgrades for PLE is almost here. Cookie dough will be sold from March 6 – 23 to help support PLE!

40% of all sales are kept by PLE to purchase new computers, smart boards, CPS systems for the school.

Watch for your sales catalogs and order forms coming home on March 6<sup>th</sup>!

**Thank you for your support of our school!**

## MARCH PTA UPDATE

What an exciting time for PLE PTA. Our fabulous volunteers are putting in countless hours planning many events for our children! Thank you so much to all of the Head Room parents for planning our Valentine's parties. If you were in the building that day, you already know that all of the kids had a great time. Thank you also to all of the parent volunteers for sending items to the parties and thank you to all of the parents for attending the party and working so hard to make it fun!! It couldn't have been done without all of you!

Kelly Davis, Carnival Committee Chair, Janet McKee, Amy Wald, Lisa Hood and Dawnelle Easley are busy planning a fantastic carnival that will be held on Friday, March 13th. If you have been in the school lately you will notice all of the boxes filling with donations from our generous parents for the Silent Auction. We still need your help! Please consider volunteering for an hour during the carnival. It is because of our parent volunteers that we are able to have such a successful event.

The General Mills Boxtop contest was a huge success. Because of your help, we raised \$914 for our PTA. The winners of the contest were Mrs. Boone's first grade class and Mrs. Hubbach's fourth grade class. They will be rewarded with an ice cream party on Friday, February 27. Thank you to Suzy Fiegenger and Deb Pycior for organizing the contest and the party!

Our Kindergarten performance was fantastic! Please join us on March 10th at 7pm in the PLE gym for a Tiger Choir and Strings performance.

As always, we would like to invite anyone who is interested in getting involved in PLE PTA to please join us at our next monthly Planning Meeting, Tuesday, March 24th at 6:30 pm in PLE's media center. We are always looking for new ideas and your input is valuable to us. The PLE PTA calendar and any additional information can be found on our website, [www.plepta.com](http://www.plepta.com).

Mary Hoffman and Kim Rooney  
2008-2009 PTA Co-Presidents  
[maryhoffman@kc.rr.com](mailto:maryhoffman@kc.rr.com) or [krooneypta@yahoo.com](mailto:krooneypta@yahoo.com)

### News from our First Graders

First graders are working on our fourth unit in reading. It is called "Imagine That". Some of the phonics skills in this unit are: long vowels, digraphs, blends, contractions, plurals, making inferences, categorizing information, plot, sequence, and drawing conclusions. The boys and girls are doing a **great job** with their reading skills. We have also been working on writing for entries to the Young Authors Contest and the Royals Father of the Year Contest. In addition to those incredible writing opportunities, the first graders have participated in a poetry study and have tried their hands at composing their own poems!

In math we are working on place value, fractions, collecting data and graphing, and will begin working on counting money. We will also continue to work on problem solving. After our money unit, we will be telling time to the hour and half hour. The boys and girls are doing well with Fact Fluency. This quarter we are working on addition facts to 10 and subtraction facts from 10.

All first grade classrooms are participating in a Flat Stanley project. The boys and girls have completed a letter writing assignment and have sent a Flat Stanley to a family member or friend living outside the Kansas City area. We will plot his adventures on a map and hopefully learn more about our country and world.

During the next two months we will be studying living systems in science. We will culminate this unit with a visit to Burr Oak Woods Nature Center in Blue Springs.