

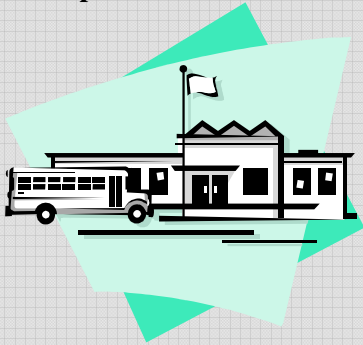


Tiger Tales

September 2009
Issue 1

Inside this Issue

- 1 Principal's Message
- 2 Calendar of Events
Media Center Msg
- 3 PTA News
Principal (cont'd)
- 4 Media Center (cont'd)
PTA (cont'd)
- 5 A Special Thank You



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

Newsletter Contact:
LJBoehm@aol.com

Principally Speaking By Patricia Alexander & Nick Gooch

It is exciting to drive up Hilton Road each morning, see the Tiger Paw prints on the road and feel a surge of Tiger Pride! Thank you to Larry Antey and our PTA families for taking an idea and making it a reality! This was accomplished in part due to a generous donation from Kissick Construction Company, which covered the cost of the supplies.

When you come to Spotlight night on September 8th, we hope that you will walk through the courtyard and see how wonderful the courtyard looks after hours were spent one weekend to not only beautify the front but to also clean-up the courtyard. Mr. Fauss, Mr. & Mrs. Rooney, Sue Jacobi and Mrs. Omenski, one of our custodians, spent hours making this a special place for students to enjoy reading, working math problems or spelling words on the sidewalks with sidewalk chalk. It also makes for a relaxing place to eat lunch.

Special thanks also goes out to all the parents who volunteered to assist with our All School Enrollment the end of July and Meet Your Teacher in August. Because of your willingness to assist, parents were able to take care of many back to school items, such as school supplies, order spirit wear, had someone available to explain various committees and their responsibilities when signing up to help and could join PTA. A parent new to PLE said, "Wow, this is really nice that you have all these things available!" In addition former 5th grade students, who are now 6th grade students, offered new students and their family's tours of the school. It is amazing what we can accomplish when we all work together.

It is always wonderful to see the big smiles on student's faces as they come down to the office to greet their parents and escort them to lunch. We welcome your visits and request that you let the classroom teacher or office know a day or two in advance that you are coming so that an adequate amount of food is prepared and space is available, with the addition of all day kindergarten and a slight increase in our enrollment we have limited seating for guest.

Principal Cont'd on page 3

Calendar of Events

September 2009

Sep 3

Papa John's Pizza Night

Sep 7

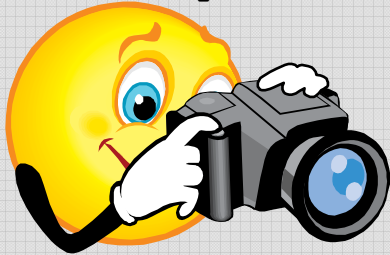
No School –Labor Day

Sep 8

Spotlight Night

Sep 9

Picture Day



Sep 10-16

Book Fair



Sep 15

PLE Family Picnic 6-8 pm

Sep 17

PLE Night at Paradise Park

Sep 22

PTA Planning Mtg –LMC 6:30pm

Sep 24

**PLE Skate Night at Landmark
6:30-8:30 PM**

Sep 25

**Early Release Day-
All Students dimiss at 12:00 pm**

MEDIA CENTER MESSAGE

The beginning-of-the-year student **instructional** activities are in progress. All 1st-6th-grade classes have been through the orientation process, and are ready to checkout library materials. Kindergarten students will begin coming to the library the last week of August and begin checking out books the third week in September. All 3rd-6th grade students are currently being introduced to their respective reading program(s). Third grade students participate in the KC3 Award reading program. Fourth, fifth and sixth grade students participate in the Mark Twain Award reading program. Sixth grade students also participate in the new Truman Readers Award reading program. First and second grade students will soon begin their Show Me Readers Award reading program by listening to ten different books read to them by the librarian, and then voting on their favorite of these ten books. Library curriculum and reading conventions are also taught simultaneously with the books. Third grade students will have the Show Me Readers books read aloud to them by their teachers. Kindergarten students will begin the Building Blocks Award reading program by listening to ten different books read to them by the librarian and then voting on their favorite of these books.

Books and magazines are checked out to students for **one week**. If a student has overdue library materials, he/she will not be allowed to check out additional materials until the overdue items are returned. If an item becomes lost or damaged, it will need to be paid for before checking out. Students are asked to leave magazines at school. Students in grades 3-6 may check out audio books to listen to at home. Students will be checking out the following materials when they visit the library:

Kindergarten students -- 2 books

1st grade students -- 3 books

2nd grade students -- 3 books

3rd grade students -- 2 books & 1 magazine

4th grade students -- 2 books & 1 magazine

5th grade students -- 3 books & 1 magazine

6th grade students -- 3 books & 1 magazine

The PLE media center's web page is a good source of information to consult about the library's operations, programs, promotions, and resources, and can be accessed at:

<<http://ple.leesummit.k12.mo.us/lmcp/le/default.htm/>>.

Media Center Cont'd on page 4

September PTA News

Dear PLE Parents and Staff,

Welcome to a new school year! It is difficult to believe that another summer has raced by!! On behalf of the PTA, we would like to extend a warm welcome to those who have recently joined our PLE community and welcome back our returning families. We hope that as you arrived the first day, you enjoyed the Tiger Paws. What a great way to show our PLE school spirit to the community. We believe it is necessary to thank all of those involved in making it happen. Thank you to the **Antey, Lenhardt, Pycior, Alexander, Hoffman, Livingston, Combs families** and of course, **Sue Jacobi!**

Thank you to everyone who has joined the PTA and volunteered their help for this school year. A special thanks to **Todd and Kim Rooney** and **Adam and Amy Fauss** for all of their help in making the courtyard and the front of our school look so beautiful again this year. Thank you to Dawnelle Easley for designing our new spirit wear and for preparing orders. Also, thank you to **Debie Pugsley** and **Bridgette Silvers** for providing a wonderful back to school luncheon for the staff. And finally we want to thank **all** of the volunteers who helped make all school enrollment and meet your teacher a huge succe

September is a very exciting month at PLE. Our PTA volunteers are busy planning upcoming events. PTA will be hosting our Back to School Picnic and Book Fair on September 15 from 6pm-8pm. We are still in need of volunteers to help with the Book Fair. Look for future e-mails with more information or contact us at the e-mails below.

Our Fundraising Chairs, **Terri Harmon** and **Staci Elkins** are working so hard to provide opportunities for our school community to raise funds to purchase new technology for our students. Our Sally Foster Fundraiser kicked off on August 27th and will conclude on September 18th. Please consider participating. The Zoo Animals are fun prizes that the kids will LOVE!

Our first Skate Night will be on September 24th and our first Culvers night will be October 1st. Look for information about additional upcoming events in Thursday packets. We would also encourage you to use our website, www.PLEPTA.com, to find information about PTA.

A fun and easy way to raise money for our school is to save your HyVee receipts and General Mills box tops. We are currently collecting HyVee receipts for the months of June, July, August and September. You can put your receipts in the basket by the office. **PTA**-Cont'd on page 4

Principal (cont'd from page 1)

When you turn on the news or open up the newspaper one of the topics that we are receiving many updates on is the H1N1 flu virus. You will find up-to-date information about seasonal flu, H1N1 on the R-7 website. Along with health and governmental organizations across the nation, the Lee's Summit R-7 School District is preparing for both the regular seasonal flu as well as the possibility of pandemic flu. Located at <http://www.leesummit.k12.mo.us/parents&students/preparingfortheflu.htm>, the R-7 web page includes information about school district preparations, helpful hints about avoiding spread of the flu, the difference between the flu and a common cold and a link to the Centers for Disease Control website. It is important to remember that the H1N1 strain of influenza appears to be no more serious than the regular seasonal flu. Within the R-7 School District, parents have reported some students with influenza-like symptoms. Schools are monitoring these reports, which are not above what would be considered normal for our district.

Our staff is looking forward to sharing information about their classroom, your child's schedule here at school and the curriculum they will be learning on Tuesday, September 8th during our Spotlight Night.

Media Center (cont'd from page 2)

The **Friends of the Library (FOL)** program has begun, and an information sheet about this program has been sent home with the youngest child in each family. Your membership in the FOL helps promote excellence in the school library program in several ways. The FOL program will assist in the ongoing funds needed to support an annual author /illustrator visit. In addition, this program will assist with other library activities and the purchase of new materials for the library collection. Your child/family can become a Friend of the Library this school year by making a donation to the library in the amount of your choice (\$10 recommended for each child, \$20 recommended for a family membership). Thank you for supporting this program!

Following is a list of important library **events** for this year.

- August 21 Summer Reading Challenge Pizza Party
- November 4 Author J.B. Cheaney at PLE all day for grades 4-6
- September 15 Lee's Summit Reading Council's Scholastic Book Fair
- January Library Media Center Advisory Team meeting
- February 3-9 Library's Scholastic Book Fair – all profits directly benefit our school!
- March 2 Read Across America (Dr. Seuss's birthday)
- March 1-5 Reading Week & Lee's Summit Reads
- April 11-17 National Library Week
- May 3 KC3 Celebration
- May 10 Mark Twain Challenge & Truman Readers Challenge Pizza Party
- May 10-16 National Children's Book Week

108 PLE students met their summer reading challenge of reading 1,000 pages, or more! This compares with **113** summer readers a year ago. **TOTAL number of pages read—178,104**

Number of Readers	Page Range		
87	1,000		
14	2,000	Read by:	
2	3,000	Mallory Butler	Mallory Hoffman
2	4,000	Amanda Munsell	Brenna Nevels
1	6,000	Alyssa Harmon	
2	8,000	Abby Gast	Katie Cramer

CONGRATULATIONS to all of the summer readers! **THANK YOU, PARENTS**, for supporting this activity with your children **AND FOR RAISING GREAT READERS!**

Sandy Bauer
Library Media Specialist

PTA (cont'd from page 3)

The strength of our PTA is our volunteers! We hope that you will take a moment to sign up for volunteer opportunities at Spotlight Night. We are still looking for parents to serve as Head Room Parents. Our children enjoy all of the special events and **ONLY** with your help will we be able to continue our traditions and make new ones! We would like to invite all of the PTA members to attend our monthly Planning Meetings. Our next meeting will be held on September 22 at 6:30pm in the media center. Your input is valuable to our organization. If you have not yet purchased a PTA membership, please e-mail us. Every member can make a difference!

Please feel free to contact us with questions at any time! We can be reached at maryhoffman@kc.rr.com or krooneypta@yahoo.com. We look forward to a great year!

Mary Hoffman and Kim Rooney 2009-2010 PTA Co-Presidents

A Very Special Thank You

Dear Mary Hoffman, Kim Rooney, and PLE PTA,

Words cannot express how grateful I am for PTA purchasing the round flower tables for the additional kindergarten rooms this year. The district budget allowed for rectangle tables. Developmentally, kindergarteners thrive and grow during social interactions and partner work throughout the day. The round circle tables promote teamwork and learning in the early childhood classroom. I am always proud of the willingness of PTA to support the students here at PLE, but the exceptional generosity you demonstrated in eagerly stepping up to purchase these tables has really touched my heart.

The bright colors add a touch of cheerfulness to our bustling classroom. The round tables allow the students to help each other as they problem solve and help one another. But most importantly, these tables symbolize the generosity of the parents who support PTA. A big thanks to all the parents who support the school fundraisers. It is because of their support that PTA was in a position to buy these tables. The tables (and the parents who made it possible) are one of the biggest assets to the success the children experience each day when they walk into our classroom!

Thanks again to all parents and PTA members!

Jeanie Cook
Kindergarten Teacher