

Are Your Parents Smarter Than a 5th Grader?

by Hannah Fuller and Anna Hemm, 5th Grade



On January 17, fifth grade academic teams played a special game against their parents. Over a dozen parents attended the evening game in the media center. The game lasted about an hour and the participants played four rounds of twenty questions each. Questions covered a variety of topics, including math, social studies, and language arts. Each team consisted of four players.

"It was fun to see who knew the most," said Mason LaPointe.

The academic team decided to host this friendly competition because they wanted to show what they've learned this year through practice.

"It was fun because we got to play against our parents who have taught us so much," said Jackson Yeats.

At the end of the game, the score was Parents 55, Students 29. It turns out that fifth grade parents are smarter than fifth graders.

Chess Club Competes

By Jordan Taylor, 4th Grade



Andersen will be hosting a chess tournament on February 6. Third through fifth grade Peters Chess Club members will compete against students from Andersen. Players will be randomly assigned to a bracket for each grade level prior to

the tournament. The tournament will be double elimination. First and second place will get trophies to honor their school. So far 52 people have signed up to compete in the tournament.

"I am very excited about the tournament," said fourth grader Riley Black.

Fifth grader Simon Eddins said he has been practicing for the tournament. "I think I have a good chance of winning," he said.

Last month, Peters held a school tournament for Chess Club. Jackson Yates won first place, and Evan Brown won second place.

"The reason we are having a tournament is because we want kids to feel encouraged to play chess," said Chess Club sponsor Chris Yeats.

Let's Go, U.S.A.

by Grayson Tempest, 3rd Grade



The Winter Olympics are back! The opening ceremonies are on February 7 and events continue through February 23. We have the Olympics because it's a world tradition and brings people from all across the globe together. The first Olympics were held in Athens, Greece.

The modern Olympics were revived in 1896. It was thought that reviving the ancient Greek tradition would bring about an improvement in the society through sports. However, at first women were not allowed to be in the Olympics. Married women weren't even allowed to watch. Women first participated in the Olympics in Paris in 1900.

Members of the International Olympic Committee choose where the next Olympics will be held. The very first Winter Olympics were in Chamonix, France. This year's Winter Olympics are in Sochi, Russia.

The Olympic rings are blue, yellow, black, green, and red. These rings symbolize the world's continents.

Before the Olympics all of the competitors have to say the Olympic oath: "In the name of all competitors, I promise that we shall take part in the Olympic games, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, committing ourselves to a sport without doping and without drugs, in the true spirit of sportsmanship for the glory of sport and the honor of our dreams."

On February 7, Peters will have an assembly to celebrate the beginning of the 2014 Winter Olympics.



Safety in the Cold

by Braxton Tempest, 5th Grade
Paw Prints Editor

Snow and ice can be fun, but they can also be a hazard. These last few weeks we have had some frigid temperatures. Many people have gotten injured. There are several ways to stay safe and have fun outside in the freezing temperatures.

Many people have gotten injured because they have been exposed to the cold for too long. Two conditions caused by prolonged exposure to cold are hypothermia and frostbite. Hypothermia is when your body gets too cold and your body no longer produces heat. Over 800 peo-



ple in the world die each year from hypothermia. Most of these people are fishermen. Frostbite is different from hypothermia. Frostbite is when parts of your body get too cold and freeze. If not treated, frostbite can result in the loss of the frozen part of your body. Don't worry, these ailments can be prevented.

These problems can be prevented by wearing warm clothes. Jackets, gloves, hats, boots, scarves and other warm clothes act like armor and they keep the warmth inside your body. The best thing to wear is a hat because most of your body heat escapes through your head and a hat keeps the heat inside. Try not to go outside when it is very cold, and when you do play outside, try not to stay outside all day. Go inside and get warm then you can go back outside again.

Many people enjoy outdoor winter activities like sledding, building snowmen, and playing in the snow, but it is a lot more fun when you stay warm and safe.

Let it Snow!

by Caris Fore, 3rd Grade

Do you enjoy snow days? If so, this article will take you behind the scenes to explore the reasons why we have snow days. Snow days are days when school is canceled because the weather is really cold and snowy. If we did not have these days, bus riders might go out to the bus stop and wait because of bus delays. Some kids do not have good winter clothes and are walkers. They would have to walk in the cold, and could also slip on the ice.

There are six snow days built into the school calendar. We have used four snow days, so as of right now school will end on May 30. This could change if we use more snow days.

Gooooooooaaaaallll!!!!

by Cameron Brashear, 3rd Grade

On August 1, we got brand new soccer nets because our school had the most kids participating in the Tulsa Run last year. We won \$600 because of this. Mr. Ritter used the money to buy the soccer nets. He purchased the soccer nets at Academy Sports and Outdoors. Mrs. Argo set the soccer nets up on the soccer field. The reason we got new soccer nets is because the old nets were torn and the ball kept getting stuck in them.

"I like that the ball stays in the net and we don't have to go get it like the old ones. I also like that it's clean and not dirty, and I also like that it isn't fragile." said third grader Riley Trickett, when asked what he liked about the new nets.

Letters to the Editor

Teachers Deserve More

by Brennan Stout, 3rd Grade

In my opinion teachers should get paid more. Why, you may ask? Because they teach us kids and they don't have to do that for us. They choose to because they have really kind hearts. Even though they don't get paid much, they buy supplies and put a lot of effort into teaching us. If we can't do something, they encourage us, and help us so we can be smart, get good jobs, and so we can get better at things. I think that is why teachers should get paid more.

Morning Announcements

by Maddi LaPointe, 4th Grade

Each morning we are told to say The Pledge of Allegiance, Oklahoma Salute, and Paws Pledge. Most people in my class mumble or do not even say the words. Not saying the Pledge of Allegiance is disrespectful to America and to those students who have parents fighting for our country. Not saying the Oklahoma Salute is disrespectful to Oklahoma. Not saying the Paw Pledge is disrespectful to our school. That is saying that you are not going to work hard, be prompt, act responsibly and show respect at school. Each morning you should say the Pledge of Allegiance, Oklahoma Salute and Paws Pledge.

Coming Home

by Daphne Crawford, 4th Grade

Have you ever said the Pledge of Allegiance? When you do, you are not only honoring the men and women who have served in the military, you are also thanking the military families, which have waited for their loved ones to come home.

On December 20, 2013, my stepdad, Robert Bridgewater, came home from Afghanistan. The coming home ceremony started at 2:30 p.m. We waited about 3 hours before we could see him. Finally the

soldiers walked in! They all stood in formation. I thought that we would be able to go to our soldiers right away, but instead we had to wait for a whole bunch of people to say a whole bunch of really long speeches. Then they dismissed the soldiers. I ran and gave him a hug. He hugged me back. In fact I almost could not breathe. I was so glad he was back. The room was full of joy! There were marriage proposals and great big hugs!



Meet the Duty Assistants

by Hannah Fuller
and Sara Castle, 5th Grade

Have you ever wondered why there are duty assistants? They help kids line up to go to their classrooms, help students get their food in an orderly fashion, and watch the kids until their teachers return to the classroom from lunch. They also help clean and maintain the cafeteria. So, the next time you see a duty assistant, make sure to thank them for all the hard work they do to make Peters a better place.



Ms. Alexia is also a duty assistant. She says that her favorite part of the job is getting to see the kids and interact with them. The hardest part of her job is “cleaning up messes and getting the kids to understand what we want them to do.”



Ms. Saba is another duty assistant. She moved here from Pakistan. She has been a duty assistant for about four years. Ms. Saba’s favorite thing about being a duty assistant is “spending time in the classroom with the kids.” She stayed home before she was a duty assistant.



Ms. Isabel is one of the duty assistants. She moved here from Portugal. She has worked here for six years. She says that her favorite part of the job is “to be able to help the kids everyday.” Ms. Isabel became an official American citizen last year. Before she became a duty assistant she stayed home with her son, Miguel.



Ms. Jeana is also a duty assistant. Her favorite part of the job is spending time with the kids. She has been a duty assistant for about one year.



Ms. Heather’s favorite part of the job is talking to the kids. She has worked here for two months.

Editor’s Note: Mr. Robert is also a duty assistant, but was featured in an earlier edition.

Meat Hands

Editorial
by Meghana Venkatesha, 4th Grade

Have you ever noticed the students that never get a tray lunch? Well, some people don’t eat meat because of their religion. When meat free options are offered the lunch ladies have to touch all of the food and not just the non-meat choices. The lunch ladies that serve the food touch the vegetarian food in the same hand they touch the meat food. For example, when we have Cici’s Pizza, they touch the cheese pizza in the same hand they touch the pepperoni. EW!! That is what I say to this action. We need to change this.

Maybe we should have one lunch lady that serves one dish and another lunch lady that serves the vegetarian dish.

Editor’s Note: The following is a response from Ms. Marla, Peters Child Nutrition Manager.

Thanks for your concern, Meghana. This is an important issue for you and others at Peters. Please know that all of the Child Nutrition Workers at Union are trained in and are very careful to observe proper food handling practices, to ensure that the food we serve is safe. There are various reasons why a student may choose not to eat certain kinds

of meats. In order to accommodate you and other students who may be vegetarian or who may not eat certain kinds of meat, we ask that you simply state to the server that you are a vegetarian or do not eat certain meats. The server will then change their gloves before serving your entrée. We care about all aspects of your health and nutrition, and by speaking up respectfully you can help us do what’s best for you.



Panther Volunteer

by Braxton Tempest, 5th Grade



If you have been to the library you might have seen Mrs. Schoenhals. Mrs. Schoenhals has volunteered at Peters every Tuesday and Thursday for the last 3 years. Before that she worked at Peters full time as a library aide for 5 years. At Peters, Mrs. Schoenhals helps at the circulation desk. Circulation is a library term for checking books in and checking books out.

Both of Mrs. Schoenhals kids went to Peters, so this job means a lot to her.

“My favorite part of my job here at Peters is that I get to see all of you kids,” said Mrs. Schoenhals.

Mrs. Schoenhals enjoys reading and she also volunteers for a political campaign. Her favorite book is *Half Magic* by Edward Eager. Mrs. Schoenhals’ hero is Hillary Clinton. She describes herself as inquisitive, happy, and informed.

Next time you see Mrs. Schoenhals, make sure to say hello.

January Citizens of the Month



Pictured from left to right: Ian Dollins, Seth Dollins, Sydney Hudson, Sara Castle, Braxton Tempest, Riley Black, Nathan Brummet

Looking Ahead

by Anna Hemm
and Hannah Fuller, 5th Grade



On Wednesday, January 22, fifth grade went to Union High School’s Performing Arts Center. All 13 Union elementary schools attended.

Fifth graders saw a skit performed by the sixth grade drama department on how to behave at a musical presentation.

The sixth grade orchestra also performed. They played a few songs and the director introduced the instruments in the orchestra.

The sixth grade choir director told fifth graders about the choir and how to enroll for next year.

The sixth grade band performed as well. The band director told about the various instruments that students can play. The band played songs like “We Will Rock You” and “Mozart’s Melody.”

All in all, most of the fifth graders learned something they did not know before and had a good time.

Behind The Scenes With Ms. Nita

by Warisha Choudhary, 5th Grade



Ms. Nita is the school secretary. Her job is to check the computer every morning to see if any teachers are absent and if they have a substi-

tute. She puts new student information in the computer and takes the student information out when they leave the school. She also handles the purchasing for the school.

It is her fourth year working at Peters, but she has been working in the Union district for 25 years. She has worked previously at Darnaby, Cedar Ridge, Roy Clark, and Briar Glen.

She meets with Mrs. Gray each month and works closely with her on any office tasks that need to be accomplished. Her favorite thing about being secretary is she likes helping people.

Ms. Nita is very busy and she likes it that way. “I would rather be busy than sit,” she said.

First Semester Recap

by James Huffman, 4th Grade

On August 19, 2013, all of the students at Peters came to school for the very first day. They met their teachers and reunited with their friends. When the Scholastic Book Fair came along, many people bought books. Peters families bought over \$7,000 in books. Mrs. Gray had to dress up like a pharaoh for the whole day. Mr. Bowen was also elected teacher of the year. Fourth grade went to Woolaroc and fifth grade went to Biztown. Most everybody had fun at their winter parties. These are just a few of things that we have done this year and there are still many more things to come.

Reflections Winners



Pictured from left to right: Jeuel Brunson, Monica McMahon, Abigail McMahon, Madelynne Butterfield, Hannah Fuller, Kyra Stone, Meghana Venkatesha. Not Pictured: Braxton Tempest

Romeo Blue

Book Review
by Aubrey Stanley, 5th Grade

Romeo Blue by Phoebe Stone is about Flissy Budwig who lives in Bottle Bay, Maine with her grandma. Her parents, Winnie and Danny, dropped her off in the while they went to fight in World War II. One day Flissy and Derek (who also lives with Flissy’s grandma), went to the hotel to find Derek’s real father. A man got up and left, drop-



ping a letter by the door. When Derek and Flissy opened it, the letter is blank. A couple days later a man claiming to be Derek’s father shows up and tries to talk him into living with him. Can Flissy be sure this man really is Derek’s father? Can she find out what the letter means? Read *Romeo Blue* to find out what happens.

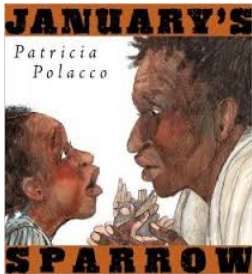


Above: Peters students practice for the February 7 assembly celebrating the beginning of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Check out next month’s Paw Prints and read all about the assembly.

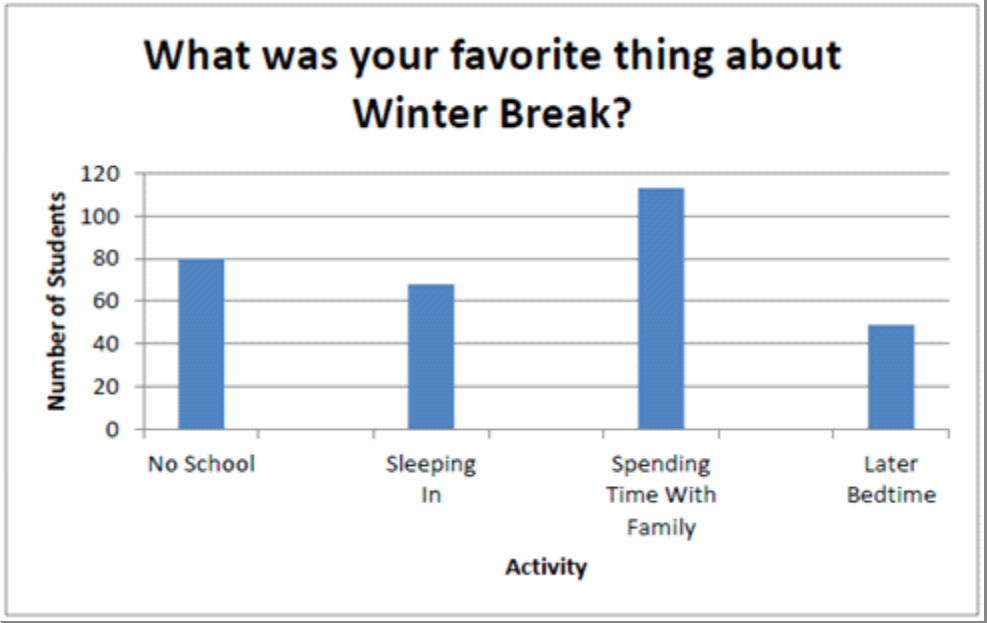
January’s Sparrow

Book Review
by Caris Fore, 3rd Grade

This book is about a family of slaves and how they survive and what sacrifices they made. One day, a little girl named Sadie sees her good friend January captured while trying to run away from his master. Because January was hit so hard, he was near death. January and Sadie are good friends because they have been slaves together for a long time. The next morning Sadie was awakened by her mother shaking her. “Hurry, wake up. Pack all you can. We are running away!” she said. If you would like to see what happens next, you can check out *January’s Sparrow* by Patricia Polacco at the Peters Media Center.



Survey and Bar Graph by Anna Hemm, 5th Grade

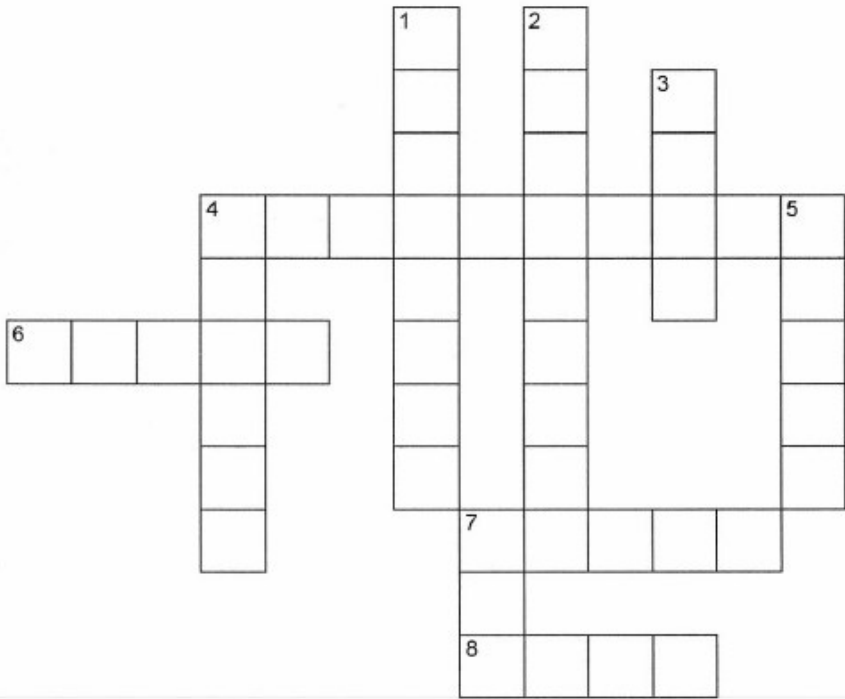


Boxcar Children

Book Review
by Brennan Stout, 3rd Grade

The *Boxcar Children* series is about two boys and two girls whose mother and father died. They lived in a boxcar because they thought their grandfather would come and find them and take them to his home. They thought he was a mean old man. It turns out that he is a nice, rich and handsome man. They have many dangerous and exciting adventures together. There are 130 *Boxcar Children* mysteries. They were created by Gertrude Chandler Warner in 1942.

Crossword Puzzle by Tanvi Kiran, 3rd Grade



ACROSS

- 4. the date of Valentine’s Day
- 6. a Valentine’s Day character
- 7. the shape of friendship
- 8. a present

DOWN

- 1. the 2nd month of the year
- 2. a note that makes someone happy
- 3. a synonym for nice
- 4. someone who is there for you
- 5. the opposite of sad
- 7. a kind gesture to a friend

Ask The Panther

by Meghana Venkatesha, 4th Grade
and Daphne Crawford, 4th Grade

Dear Panther,
I have a friend that is being really mean and keeps telling on me for no reason. What should I do?

— Confused

Dear Confused,
You should go have a discussion with your friend and tell them how you feel. It’s always better to talk to each other than tattling.

— The Panther

Dear Panther,
I’m always being bullied by a boy in my grade. He’s always throwing sand at me at recess. What should I do?

— Mad

Dear Mad,
First, you should tell him firmly to stop. Throwing sand is dangerous and harmful to the eye. If he still does that tell an adult.

— The Panther

Comic by Sara Castle, 5th Grade

