

Peters Says Goodbye to Mrs. Randall and Ms. Mary Jo
by Grayson Tempest, 2nd Grade



On May 9, Mrs. Leslie, Mrs. Harding, student council and others put on an assembly for Ms. Mary Jo (our reception-ist) and Mrs. Randall (our principal) because they are retiring. We wanted them to feel really special, so we got some of the drummers from the Union High School marching band. All of the classes went out of the pre-k doors holding banners that said things like, “We Love You Ms. Mary Jo and Ms. Randall” and “Oh the Places You’ll Go.” After the parade, we went inside and had the real assembly. Student council was performing and some fifth graders were sing-ing songs about friendship. They said really nice things about those two ladies. Ms. Mary Jo got a crown for her love of pigs and Mrs. Randall got one for her beauty, inside and out! There were other retired people there, like Ms. Fran. The very last thing that happened was that we got to meet Mrs. Gray, Peters’ new principal.

A Fun and Fit Super Kids Day
by Morgan Kline, 5th Grade



On May 10 during specialties, stu-dents in kindergarten through fifth grades participated in Super Kids Day. Everyone paired up and compet-ed in 12 events. The most popular events were tug-o-war, shoe kick, and scooters.

Third grader Mackenzie Shelton said that her favorite part was when Mrs. Beam challenged students to hit her car with their shoe kick. “It was kind of hard but fun,” she said.

“We do this to have fun and exercise,” said Mr. Ritter. He said Peters has had Super Kids Day for the past 10 years.

At the end, classes competed in a tug-o-war tournament. Winning clas-ses were:

- ♦ Mrs. Hillhouse - Kindergarten
- ♦ Mrs. Nelson - 1st Grade
- ♦ Mrs. Waller - 2nd Grade
- ♦ Mrs. Griffin - 3rd Grade
- ♦ Mrs. Dirks - 4th Grade
- ♦ Mrs. Gold - 5th Grade

**Peters Welcomes
New Principal**

*by Meghana Venkatesha
and Xitlali Moreno, 3rd Grade*



Mrs. Chasity Gray is going to be our new prin-cipal next year. She has taught at McWhorter Ele-mentary in Dal-las, Texas and at Ogle Elementary in Frisco, Texas. She also has been an assistant prin-cipal at Union for four years. She attend-ed OSU, North Texas, and North South University.

Mrs. Gray’s favorite color is royal blue, and her favorite food is sushi and Thai food. Her favorite subject to learn is read-ing, and her favorite subject to teach is writing. She likes working with children and watching them learn.

Mrs. Gray thinks it will be hard to fill Mrs. Randall’s shoes. She said it will be difficult to learn everyone’s names the first two weeks of school, but she is thrilled to be principal at Peters.

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Quack, Quack!

by Sophia Severino, 5th Grade



Has anyone seen the big wild ducks in the solarium? They have visited us in the spring for the past several years. Sometimes they lay eggs and hatch babies in the solarium, but this year none have been found in the solarium. Eleven babies were hatched by a hen who sat on her eggs in front of the school. Second grade saw them waddling off to the woods last week. There have been several duck sightings around the neighborhood.

Mrs. Harding has brought baby ducks to her classroom. They came from a farm. Several classes got to ducksit while Mrs. Harding was testing. Students enjoyed feeding them, petting them and playing with them. It was so much fun. They will be living in the solarium till the end of school when they will move to a good home.

Solarium Club

by Hannah Fuller, 4th Grade

On Friday May 3, new members were chosen for Solarium Club. Solarium Club cleans the pond, weeds the solarium, feeds the birds, plants flowers and does any chores that need done in the solarium. Solarium Club is for 4th graders, but there are only ten spots. This year’s Solarium Club read the applications for next year. We didn’t know who the applications were from, because Mrs. Harding only copied the backs for us. There were lots of good applications. We wrote down which applications we liked and why. Mrs. Harding made the final decisions and let everyone know. Next year the solarium will be in good hands.

Solarium Club sponsored a game at the carnival called Dunk a Duck. Members from this year and next worked the booth. Fifth grade earned a free recess because their duck got dunked the most. The funds raised by this game are used for providing necessary materials for the Solarium, like birdseed, water plants and algacide.



Fishing for Tadpoles

by Jared Crawford, 5th Grade

On May 14, Mr. Bowen’s fifth grade class went to the solarium to catch tadpoles. The reason they had to catch tadpoles was because there were too many. If they didn’t take them, they would eventually die for lack of food in the solarium.

Fishing for tadpoles was fun. When we started they were easy to catch. There were tons of tadpoles. We caught over 500 and there were still some left. Some of the fishing was hard though because some tadpoles were smart and swam to the middle where we couldn’t reach them. While we were fishing the ducks watched. We had to be careful not to step on them or scare them.

Fifth grade decided to sell the tadpoles for 10 cents each to raise money for taking care of the solarium. In all, fifth graders filled 117 orders, totally 717 tadpoles.

No Tardies = Party!

by Amelia Kannon, 5th Grade



The no tardy party for April was free time outside with music, We had basketballs, soccer balls, hula hoops and jump ropes. You could play on the playground, or just talk. I think the most popular activity was hula hoops. Our last no tardy party was May 21 for people who hadn’t been tardy since Valentine’s Day. Those students got to watch movies in the library and eat popcorn.

Fifth Grade Participates in Youth Arts

by Nadesh Vaithianathan, 5th Grade



On April 29, a group of 21 fifth graders went to Youth Arts at the UMAC. We met students from all of the 13 elementary schools and practiced the songs that we were going to sing. These included, “Thank You For Being a Friend”, “You’ve Got a Friend in Me”, “Stand By Me”, “Forever Friends”, “Sail Away”, and “Water is Wide”. While we were singing there was a chart on the floor that said “best performers.” Our school teachers chose students to sign the chart that will stay in the UMAC.

That night, we performed the songs for our families. We were introduced by the Fine Arts director, Mr. Ed Tackett. The parents and music teachers were proud. It was a wonderful time for all the students who participated. Thank you Mrs. Beam for helping us and training us for Youth Arts.

Special Olympics

by Abigail McMahon and Daphne Crawford, 3rd Grade



Hooray for the Special Olympics! Four kids from our school attended this year. Juan, Elvis, Jay and Karen traveled to Stillwater for three days. Third grade ARC planned a special send off for our Peters Olympians. They were given goodie bags with healthy snacks and toys. Our Olympians played the game bocce in the Special Olympics. Bocce is an Italian game. The goal of the game is to roll the bocce ball closest to a target called a pallina. Next to golf and soccer, bocce is the third most played sport in the world.

The Special Olympians had a wonderful time when they were gone. Elvis, Karen, Juan and Jay all the loved the dormitory where they slept in their own rooms. They did several things while they were there. Jay’s favorite

thing was going to the movies and that was also Elvis’ favorite thing. Juan’s favorite thing was going to the carnival in Stillwater, and Karen’s favorite thing was going to the duck pond. They all got a medal. Elvis won a bronze medal and so did Jay. Juan won a silver medal and Karen won two bronze medals and a gold medal. Congratulations!

Juan

by Cassie Cussen, 3rd Grade

Juan was excited because this was his first trip that he has taken all by himself. How did he get prepared for the Special Olympics you may ask? “We practiced every day at recess,” said Juan. Juan felt confident about the bocce ball tournament. He is happy that he gets a time to shine. He wasn’t nervous because this was special to him and he was with his friends!



Elvis

by Abigail McMahon, 3rd Grade

I interviewed Elvis about the Special Olympics. I found out he is 11 years old and in the fourth grade. He also told me that his favorite color is blue. He was very excited to play bocce ball at the Special Olympics but said he would miss his parents. Good luck Elvis!

Karen

by Hannah Main and Mason Lapointe, 4th Grade

Karen is in fourth grade. Her favorite snack is popcorn. Her favorite food for lunch or dinner is pizza. Yum Yum! Karen’s favorite color is pink — it makes her happy. Her hero is her big sister, Brinda. She was happy but nervous about going to the Special Olympics. She loves to have fun out of school.



Jay

by Meghana Venkatesha and Xitlali Moreno, 3rd Grade

Jay said he was very excited to be going to the Special Olympics. He is 11 years old and is in fourth grade. His favorite subject is reading. This is his first time going to the Special Olympics. He is staying in a cabin for three days without his family.

Mrs. Randall

by Gabi Ponio, 5th Grade

As you know, our principal, Mrs. Randall, is retiring. She has been such a blessing to Peters. Mrs. Randall has loved Peters the full 19 years she has been here. Before she came to Peters, Mrs. Randall taught 3rd grade at Clark Elementary and Jarman Elementary and was an assistant principal at Anderson Elementary. When she retires, she will spend her time with her family a lot more than she does now. But she will also keep in touch with Peters staff, which she calls part of her family. All of us at Peters will absolutely never forget Mrs. Randall. We will miss her dearly when she leaves. WE LOVE YOU MRS. RANDALL!!

- “She loves us” - Hunter Dye
- “You treated the school how you wanted to be treated” - Dariuz Black
- “She always knows what to say and she always listens to you” - Lily Lamb
- “She really cares” - Tyler Wall
- “She always has a positive attitude and is always nice and friendly” - Warisha Choudhary
- “I will miss when she gives hugs” - Andrew Bush
- “She always cared about our problems” - Kyra Stone
- “Our school will miss her” - Marisol Sandoval

Ms. Mary Jo

by Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

Ms. Mary Jo is retiring at the end of this school year after 20 years of hard work and dedication at Peters. Ms. Mary Jo is the one who greets everyone at the front door and is the face of Peters. She is always nice, caring, and honest.

“I worked with the best of the best staff, parents, students, and teachers,” she said. She will miss Peters because she loves the students’ friendly glow.

We will always remember Ms. Mary Jo’s love for pigs, OU, and Peters. We love you and will miss you!

- “She greets everyone with a smile” - Kaylie Metsch
- “She always pays attention when you talk to her so you know she cares” - Erica Coday
- “I wish I could hug her until the world ends” - Jana Pitts
- “She always cares about us no matter who we are” - Alaina Reich
- “She is very nice and says thank you all the time” - Isabel Orrison
- “She knows everybody’s name and is so kind” - Eric Thompson
- “You made the school a better place” - Dariuz Black
- “She always says, ‘Have a great day’” - Reilly Logan

Mrs. Huff

by Nadesh Vaithianathan, 5th Grade

This will be Mrs. Huff’s last year at Peters. She has been working at Peters as an art teacher for 20 years. She said she has really enjoyed doing art with kids at Peters. “The more creative you are, the better artist you are going to be,” she said. She recommends students learn and read about famous artists so they can think of more ideas for their art.

Every year Mrs. Huff chooses some extraordinary pieces of art from Peters students to put in the Youth Arts exhibition. One of her former students has artwork of Oklahoma’s state flower on display at the National Botanical Gardens in Washington, D.C.

- “You are a super teacher” - Andrew Matthieson
- “She made me a good artist” - Salam Alchammat
- “I will miss most of all her loving, caring smile” - Peyton Kunkel
- “Mrs. Huff, you are the ART!” - Matt Gort
- “The thing I will miss most about Mrs. Huff is her passion for art - Connor Thornburgh, 4th Grade
- “She lets us do cool projects” - Evan Mann
- “She is nice. She teaches us how to draw stuff. I will miss her.” - Rayan Choudhary
- “She cares for us and gives advice about 6th grade” - Hunter Dye

Mrs. Gold

by Amelia Kannon and Trinity McMahon, 5th Grade

Mrs. Colleen Gold has been teaching students at Peters Elementary for over 15 years. She started out at Peters as a computer tech. She taught third grade for sixth years, then went to fourth grade for seven years, and is currently a fifth grade teacher. Mrs. Gold has her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from the University of Tulsa. In 2001, she was honored as Peters Teacher of the Year.

“I love the classroom environment where every day brings a new surprise and the desire to learn is constant,” said Mrs. Gold. Mrs. Gold will be retiring at the end of this school year and will be missed. Show Mrs. Gold your Panther spirit as this year draws to an end by giving her your hugs and smiles!

- “The thing I will miss most about Mrs. Gold is that I won’t have her advice about anything” - Skylar Davis
- “I will miss her hugs” - Tasha Lander
- “She is super nice, kind, and respectful” - Ethan Landrum
- “She is very understanding” - Annie Green
- “I will miss seeing her every day, and I will miss her kindness” - Cameron Manuel
- “She is the best teacher ever” - Dallas Metzger
- “She is always there when I need something. And she always puts up with us when we’re CRAZY!” - Gregory Pitts

Stay Safe at Peters

by Morgan Kline, 5th Grade



You may have seen kids with yellow belts in the morning and afternoon. These are Safety Patrols. Safety Patrol is very serious and performs very important work. They make sure every kid in our school stays safe and doing the right thing.

Most Safety Patrols are fifth graders. Close to the end of the year, fourth graders start being trained by fifth grade Safety Patrols.

This year some very responsible fourth graders got to be a part of Safety Patrol.

Some of those students who were Safety Patrols in fourth grade are starting out as captains. A captain helps the Safety Patrol sponsors by keeping attendance records and substitutes for those who are absent.

Remember to follow the Safety Patrol's directions. They have been trained to help you stay safe!

Peters Flags Retired

by Jackson Yeats, 4th Grade

The Cub Scouts from Peters fourth grade were recently asked to dispose of the flags from our school that were worn out. So on a recent Cub Scout family campout we retired the flags. We had a total of six large flags to retire. The pack leader, Mr. McClain, and his assistant, Mr. Bradshaw, explained how to properly retire a U.S. flag and why it was important to do the job correctly. They unfolded one flag, held it over the fire for a moment, and then carefully placed it into the fire. After that flag had been burned, the other flags were put into the fire one at a time by two Cub Scouts. When it was my turn, my partner and I folded the flag in half and gently put it into the fire. We stood there for a short time watching the flag turn to ashes.

When all the flags had been burned, Mr. McClain told us to remember to be respectful of our nation's flag at all times. He also explained that the grommets are the brass rings that are used to hold the flag on the rope when it flies, would be collected from the ashes after they had cooled off. The grommets are either disposed of in a large body of water or they can be given out to people as a way to honor their service or work. Mr. McClain also told us about someone he knows that collects ashes from each flag retirement ceremony. This person adds the ashes to each fire, then collects those ashes when it is cool enough so he can do it again at the next ceremony. This collection of ashes was started nearly 150 years ago and he has kept up that tradition through today.

The retirement ceremony was very special to me. I was proud to be a part of the service and feel even more respectful of our flag and what it stands for.

First Grade Field Trip

by Monica McMahon, 1st Grade



The first grade classes visited the Oklahoma Aquarium for their field trip. They saw the sharks, jellyfish, fed the turtles and even saw the otters dancing in the water. They had a scavenger hunt to learn more facts about animals. They then went to Hunters Park. It was a cold and rainy day so they only got to play for a few minutes. They headed back to Peters to meet their parents for a picnic lunch in the school gym. It was a fun day!

We're Off to See the Wizard!

by Meghana Venkatesha and Xitlali Moreno, 3rd Grade



In May, third grade performed the Wizard of Oz for their families. For 13 years third grade has done the Wizard of Oz. Each class does their own performance. Some of the classes have done different themes. Ms. Morris' class incorporated Oklahoma history. Third grade does this to help the students to read, practice, show confidence and to show off their talent. One of the teachers said her favorite part was the lollipop guild because it made her laugh. Third grade hopes to do this play for many years to come. It is a fun tradition.

Fourth Grade Has Science Fair

by Braxton Tempest, 4th Grade

On April 25, fourth grade had their annual science fair. This counted for a lot of our science grade so everyone in fourth grade had to participate. You had to make a visual aid which had to include your hypothesis, purpose, research, experiment (step by step guide on how you did the experiment), results and the conclusion. The teachers didn't give out awards but everyone did great. There were so many projects such as what substance gets gum out of hair the best and what powers a clock. The science fair was really fun and I hope the third graders enjoy it next year.

Carnival a Hit

by Braxton Tempest, 4th Grade



Did you go to the carnival of 2013? I sure did. You may have noticed that it was in the parking lot because it was too wet on the grass. Some of the same things were there as last year. These included bungee jumping, Dunk a Duck and the pirate ship.

Peters should definitely thank the PTA, They are the ones who put everything together for the carnival. Can you believe the PTA has been putting on a carnival at Peters for more than 30 years? Peters is very lucky that we have a carnival. Some schools don't get one. We love our carnivals and our PTA. We hope to see you there next year.

TV Crew Brings You Important News

By Gabi Ponio, 5th Grade

Do you listen to the announcements every morning? Everything they have to say is very important. It is important to listen to the announcements every morning because TV crew has many things to say.

It is a privilege to be on TV crew. Any fifth grader who wants to be on TV crew has to have all A's and B's on their report card. Also you have to be prompt to be on TV crew. This means, when it is your morning to work, you have to be there if you aren't sick. If you get more than two absences or tardies, you are dismissed from TV crew. If you know you are going to be tardy or sick, you have to contact Mrs. Leslie, who runs TV crew.

There are many benefits to TV crew, like the pizza lunch and making the end of year video. But you have to be up and ready to go.

Peters Gets Fancy!

by Anna Hemm, 4th grade



On Tuesday May 7, Robin Glasser, the illustrator of the Fancy Nancy series came to talk to first, second, third, and fourth grades in the library. She talked about how she came up with the characters.

"I use real people and draw them on paper." said Robin.

Robin Glasser read her newest book, The Fanciest Doll in the Universe. It was about Fancy Nancy and her little sister. She also told secrets, gave advice and made us all laugh. She even let kids come up on stage and practice good posture by balancing a banana on their head.



Ask The Panther

by Camden Barker, and Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

Dear Panther,
My friends are treating me badly. Can you help me out?
--Disrespected

Dear Disrespected,
If they are being mean to you, don't talk to them. Try to find friends that will treat you better.
--The Panther

Dear Panther,
I have a problem. I love recess. I love to play soccer and sometimes I don't get to play. Like today, we didn't get to go outside because it was "too wet." But when I got to lunch I saw that fifth grade got to go outside and play soccer. I am mad. What should I do?
--Soccer Player

Dear Soccer Player,
I know how you feel. You realize how awesome soccer is, and now you're just wanting to play all the time. When we play soccer at school, we want everyone to be safe and have fun. When it is wet outside, you could tear up the field or slip and fall. I hope you get to play a lot of soccer over the summer!
--The Panther

Letters to the Editor

Saving Seats at Lunch

by E.M. Jack and Gabiclaus, 5th Grade

We don't understand why we can't save seats in the cafeteria. We only have 40 minutes or less to enjoy our social life at school everyday. We like to sit by our friends because those are the people we hang out with. We think that kids who have their Pride card should have a choice of where to sit.

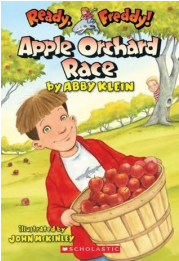
Mrs. Randall and Ms. Mary Jo Always in Our Hearts

by Emily Langdon, 5th Grade

We know it's time for you to move on but in our minds you will never be gone. It's not very hard to say that we will miss you every day. We love you the way you are and you will always be in our hearts.

Ready Freddy: Apple Orchard Race

Book Review
by Harish Vaithianathan, 1st Grade



Freddy’s class went on a field trip to the apple orchard. Like our class teachers, Freddy’s teacher, Mrs. Wushy, gave out instructions before going on the field trip. She told them to put on uniform colored clothing. They went on the bus to reach the apple orchard.

Many interesting things happened with the classmates. Farmer Bob in the barn has arranged for a little treasure hunt. They have to find a wooden apple while they pick the apples for the cider. Everybody wanted to win including the bully, Max. They went on a hay ride to pick the apples with Farmer Bob. Farmer Bob told everyone to stay within eye sight. But Max and Freddy got lost in the apple orchard when they were looking for the wooden apple.

Then the story moves to how did they find the group and who won the prize for finding the wooden apple. Read Ready Freddy: Apple Orchard by Abby Klein to find out!

Moving On

Essay by Jared Crawford, 5th Grade

As a fifth grader, this is my last year at Peters. I have lots of memories here since I’ve been here for six years. Some memories are good, others aren’t the best, but they’re all memorable. Next year, I’m going to the sixth and seventh grade center, so it will be hard keeping old friends close there.

One thing I’ll always remember about Peters is Ms. Mary Jo and Mrs. Randall. They were always so nice and I’m glad they waited to retire until I’m leaving. I’ll also remember the plays I was in, and all the field trips I’ve taken. Most of all, I’ll miss my teachers. My teachers have taught me so much, and they allowed us to have fun.

I have mixed feelings about moving to sixth grade. I’m glad that people will start treating me a little more like an adult, but sad because I’m leaving Peters. Leaving will be hard, but I’ll have to find a way through it. It can’t be too hard, can it?

Reasons for Rules

Editorial by Daphne Crawford, 3rd Grade

Dress code enforcement is a problem every year. I have noticed, both on my way to school and in class, girls that are wearing shorts so short that you can see their pockets coming out from under their shorts. Some girls walk around in the halls with skirts and dresses so short they barely cover their underwear. Improper dress is not only a distraction, it is also disrespectful to the wearer and those around them.

While there are a number of ways to address the situation, one seems to be the most reliable. If a child is not following the dress code, simply call the parent and have them pick up their child or bring an appropriate change of clothes.

“A Mother’s Love”
Tanka by Jared Crawford, 5th Grade

A mom’s love is strong
Stronger than the strongest bear
A mom’s love is soft
Softer than a cotton ball
A mother’s love lasts forever

“Love”
Tanka by Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

Cheeks are rosy-red
Heart is racing in my head
Boom! Boom! All I hear
Dreaming about you every night
Ask me out or I will die!

“Time Travel”
by Dylan Selvidge, 5th Grade

There once was a young lady named Bright
whose speed was faster than light
She set out one day
in a relative way
and returned the previous night

“Summer”
Acrostic by Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

Sunshine washes blues away
Under the sun
Makes me happy
Might be time to take a swim
Everlasting fun
Reliving the fun in a good night

“Help!”
Limerick by Gabi Ponio, 5th Grade

She was out and taking a walk
when she stopped and started to talk
She started to skip,
turned her head with a flip
Whoops! There was a rock!

“Crying Won’t Help”
by Gabi Ponio, 5th Grade

The wet strikes my face.
I suddenly realize
that crying won’t help.
My sadness and small cries
in the small puddle of tears.

“Trees”
Haiku by Trinity Tanner, 5th Grade

Trees are now weeping
Vile kids tearing off their bark
New bark won’t grow back

“Save the Trees”
Haiku by Jared Crawford, 5th Grade

Trees have feelings too
Tearing their bark hurts badly
Trees deserve respect

“Trees Have Feelings Too”
Haiku by Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

Tearing off my skin
Inch by inch my bark is gone
I’m dying. Please stop.

Student Council Field Trip

by Braxton Tempest, 4th Grade



On May 6, student council took a field trip to the high school. We got to talk to leadership and the high school student council. We got to tour parts of the high school, such as the broadcasting department and the new Union Collegiate Academy. In the Collegiate Academy, we visited the science department and did experiments. Then we had lunch at the deli, and best of all, we got to play on the field at Tuttle Stadium. We also went shopping at the U-Wear store (one can't have too much Union apparel!) It was really fun and I can't wait until I get to high school.



April Citizens of the Month



4th Grade - Warisha Choudhary, Aubrey Stanley, Sarah Vandebogart
5th Grade - Bryson Wolfe, Henry Le, Morgan Kline, Elias Tiger

May Citizens of the Month



4th Grade - Jacob Carlovich, Drew Porter, Gio Hiner
5th Grade - Evan Mann, Gregory Pitts, Sophia Severino, Ryan Dollins

Have a Great Summer!

