

PAW PRINTS

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The Student Newspaper of Peters Elementary

January, 2012

Stay Away, Flu!

by Nadesh Vaithianathan and Trinity McMahon, 5th Grade



Have you noticed a lot of missing kids and teachers this past month? Many have been out because of the flu.

The flu is a virus and it can make you very sick. If you get a flu shot it will help your body fight off the flu. Plenty of rest, exercise and healthy food will also help you stay flu free.

Symptoms of the flu include fever, aches, tiredness and chills. You should stay home if you have the flu. Take your medicine, drink lots of water and eat chicken soup to help. If you have the flu, wash your hands and cover your cough. Get plenty of rest and don't come back to school until you have been fever free for twenty four hours.

Flu season is usually in the fall and winter. The type of flu currently going around the world is H1N1. It is widespread throughout the United States right now. Flu can be dangerous for the very old, like retired people, or the very young.

It's Nukem Time!

by Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

Nukem is one of the most favored sports Peters Elementary lets their students play. We started Nukem in 2004, a long time ago, huh? We play Nukem instead of volleyball because it is a lead-up game. That means that you use it to learn how to play volleyball. Mr. Ritter got my attention when he pointed out that more people like Nukem than anything else that we do in P.E.

In P.E., Mr. Ritter helps prepare students for Nukem. He does so by letting the students throw a ball against the wall and catch. Also they have practice scrimmaging!

The kids try to be number one in the tournament. They count on their captain, who is assigned by Mr. Ritter, to lead them into victory.

At the end of the tournament, all the teams go against the teachers. No one has beaten the teachers except once when a fifth grade team beat the teachers. Mr. Bowen was one of the fifth grade teachers. He says they let them win. So, they had a rematch and guess who won? The teachers! Kids say just stick to teaching. All I have to say is good luck and keep your head in the game.



You're a Grand Old Flag!

by Amelia Kannon, 5th Grade

Have you noticed the flag being raised and lowered every day? People have noticed that Peters was leaving the American flag up all night without a light! It is proper flag etiquette to lower the flag, fold it, and store it correctly or to leave it flying with a light shining on it overnight.

When Student Council mentioned the issue to Mrs. Eva, our school custodian, she said that she could talk to the safety patrol and teach them how to take care of the flag. Now every morning and afternoon the safety patrol raises and lowers the flag so we show respect for this symbol of our country.

Valentine's Parties

by Ashley Fisher, 5th Grade

It's almost time for Valentine's parties! Here are the times for each grade's party:

Kindergarten and 1st grade - February 14 from 12:45 to 1:25 p.m.

Pre-K, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th grades - February 14 from 1:30 to 2:10 p.m.

Fifth Grade Learns About Sixth Grade Music

by Jared Crawford, 5th Grade



On the 15th of January, fifth grade went on a field trip to see if they wanted to get involved in music.

We got to see and learn a lot of interesting things. For example, there are only 4 instruments in the sixth grade orchestra. The orchestra includes the string bass, the violin, the viola and the cello.

We also got to see the choir. The choir is a music group that sings instead of playing an instrument. There are two types of choir in the 6th grade, competitive and rookie. Competitive choir is for people who are serious about singing. The rookie choir is for people who just like singing for the fun of it.

The last thing we saw was the 6th grade band. The band was a very large group, probably because there is a lot of instruments in the band, including the flute, clarinet, trumpet, etc.

You don't even have to do music, you can do something else. With this many choices it's hard to decide what to choose. Whatever we end up doing, let's hope it's something we like.

Peters Jumps for Heart

by Natasha Fredrick, 5th Grade



Jump Rope for Heart is being held on February 1. Come join us in the gym during specialties for this wonderful event! Everyone is invited from kindergarten to fifth grade.

The reason we do Jump Rope for Heart is to raise money for The American Heart Association for heart research. We visit with our family and friends to ask if they are interesting in making a donation to this cause. It's also a fun and interactive way to exercise. Mr. Ritter says that jumping rope is good for your heart.

Paper Drive Update

by Jared Crawford, 5th Grade



Last month, Student Council decided that they wanted to do something nice for the school. So we are going to fill Mrs. Randall's office with paper! For every twenty reams we collect student council will plant one tree on the school grounds. We are only accepting reams of plain white copy paper. We have only received a few reams so far. We don't even have enough for one tree. So don't forget, bring some reams!

Peters Visits JA BizTown

by Nadesh Vaithianathan, 5th Grade

On December 18, fifth graders went to JA BizTown for a field trip. Through daily lessons, hands on activities and active participation in this simulated community we learned a lot about economics.

We are not old enough to drive, work, vote or to be the boss. But that doesn't stop us from operating banks, managing restaurants, writing checks and voting for mayor at JA BizTown. We had to pay off loans and put money in the bank. There were companies like Linde, Bank of Oklahoma, Schusterman Center, Cancer Treatment Centers of America, and Cox. Students played different roles and worked together to run our businesses.

Fifth grade parents trained to be instructors and helped us figure out how to do our jobs. The mayor, attorney and chief executive officers had to sign contracts and papers for their companies.

It was a great experience and we learned a lot about how to work in a business. We are looking forward having real jobs in the future.

Citizen of the Month

by Brayden Parrish, 5th Grade

You might ask yourself, what is the "Citizen of the Month?" "Citizen of the Month" is a time when good citizens get to have a pizza party with their teachers. To earn this privilege, you have to be nice to everyone, pay attention in class and always have good things to say. Best of all your classmates get to decide who the "Citizen of the Month" is. Good luck students!



The Peters Dream Tree

by Meghana Venkatesha, 3rd Grade



Student Council is doing the “Dream Tree” this month to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. He was born on Jan. 15, 1929 and died on April 4, 1968. Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream and so do we. This month students have been writing their dream on a white piece of paper and cutting it into a cloud shape. Then they have been sticking it on the wall outside Nurse Dean’s office where it says, “The Dream Tree.” So put your cloud on the wall!

Next Month: Kind Heart Tree

by Amelia Kannon, 5th Grade

In February, Peters Elementary will participate in a “Kind Heart Tree” similar to the I Have a Dream and Thankful Tree from earlier this year. Peters’ students will record good deeds and special kindness that others do for them on paper hearts. The Student Council will then collect all the hearts and attach them to the tree by the nurse’s office. Get ready to show your best side and share goodness with your friends.

Club Keeps Solarium Clean

by Braxton Tempest, 4th Grade

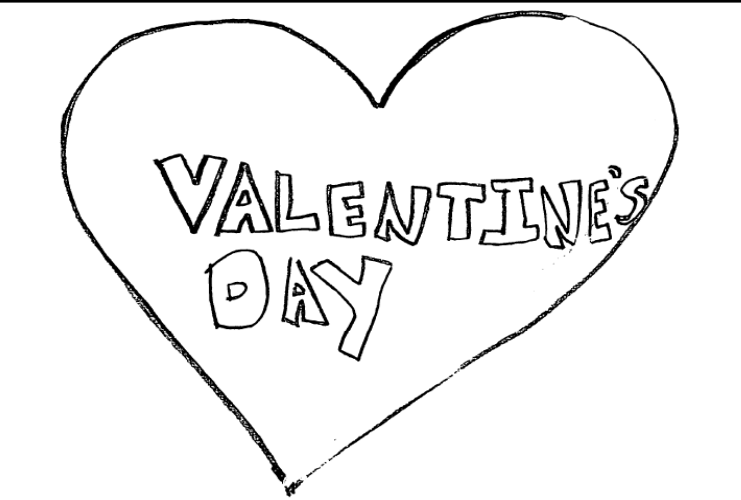
Do you enjoy the solarium at our school and the pond, ducks and flowers that are in it? All of that stuff just doesn’t magically appear. It is grown and put there by solarium club. Solarium club is an after school club where nine 4th graders (including me) get together to make the solarium look nice. We do things like clean the filter which can be a nasty job sometimes. We feed the fish, water the plants, pull weeds and occasionally we do other things.

It is really a fun club and anybody can apply to be in it if you are in the fourth grade starting next year. If you want to be in it you have to write an essay explaining why you should be in the club and you must have a good report card also. The duck game at the carnival helps raise money for us to buy things like more flowers, decorations, and equipment for the pond.

STUCO

by Emily Langdon, Student Council President

Why is Student Council important? I will tell you what we do and what you can do. Most of the time we talk about all the fun things we plan for the school. Then we debate, change and agree. If you have any suggestions for Student Council you should tell your representatives or an officer. Representatives are as important as officers. They help come up with ideas. Don’t forget to try to be in Student Council when you get older.



Poem and Drawing by Braxton Tempest, 4th Grade

Very kind
All about giving
Loving
Everyone caring
No hating
Teach others
I love you cards
Not selfish
Eager to give
Sweet as a sucker

Letters to the Editor

About Bullying

by Cassie Cussen, 3rd Grade

What I think about bullying is what most people think. People shouldn’t tease people about how they look or the clothes they wear because that isn’t right. Sometimes you need to just walk away from the person who is bullying and leave them alone. Sometimes when you walk away or say, “Stop,” the bullies don’t stop. They follow you around and call you names, hurt you or just annoy you. It won’t help to yell at them or try to punch or kick them. That will get you in the same amount of trouble. So don’t stand there and try to fight that person or let him pick on you. Talk to someone that can help you make it better.

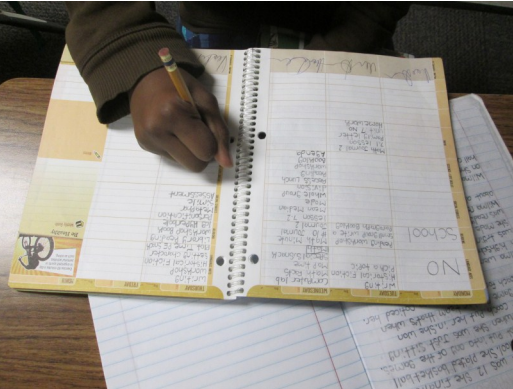
Think Before You Speak

by Annie Moreno, 3rd Grade

I think before I speak. You should not say anything that is not nice to people. It hurts their feelings. If you do not have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all.

Why an Agenda?

Editorial by Braxton Tempest, 4th Grade



The agenda is a daily schedule that fourth and fifth graders have to fill out every day in school. They fill it out with everything they do in school that day plus you have to bring it home every day and have a guardian sign it. If you bring it back not signed there will be consequences. For example: In my class if you do not get your agenda signed then you will get your pride card taken away. In some of the other classes you don't get to have recess if your agenda is not signed.

I get really mad when I don't have mine signed. I say to myself, "Why is it my responsibility to get it signed when my mom or dad signs it?" But now I've learned that it IS MY responsibility because I have to ask my mom to sign it. She doesn't do it on her own. I am still not a fan of the agenda but at least I know that I learn responsibility from it.

Gab's Grammar Patrol

by Gabi Ponio, 5th Grade



Some of you may ask, "What is a double negative?" Well I can answer your question. A double negative is when you have two words that mean "not" in one sentence.

For example, in the sentence, "I don't have no friends," I used "not" and "no" in the same sentence. I'm trying to say that I don't have any friends, but the sentence actually means that I do have friends. I don't have "no friends," so I have friends.

So, don't never use double negatives again!

Ask The Panther

by Camden Barker, Skylar Davis, and Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

When I first came here in first grade people made fun of my last name. I say, "Please stop that. It hurts my feelings. " Please Panther, can you give me some advice? I really need some advice. Thank you so much Panther.
--Bullied

Dear Bullied,
Sometimes kids tease you because they like you and want to get your attention. Maybe they were just being silly. But if you tell them it bothers you and it keeps happening, tell an adult or teacher that you trust about what is happening. Hopefully that will work. I hope things get better.
--The Panther

Dear Panther,
I have two friends. We are friends, but I don't feel they want me as a friend. I feel like they are using me because they always hide secrets from me. I don't feel like their friend at all. What should I do?
--Sad and Lost

Dear Sad and Lost,
You should stay strong and tell them how you feel. Play with other people who don't behave that way. Talk to a parent or teacher.
--The Panther

Dear Panther,
I don't know my dad, and people keep reminding me of it. I don't know how to avoid getting sad.
--Confused

Dear Confused,
Maybe a lot of things remind you about not knowing your dad, like television shows and books. Maybe kids don't mean to remind you of this. They probably don't even know. It is sad not to know your dad, but you probably have a mom and other family members that love you. Try to think of the good things in your life.
--The Panther

Dear Panther,
I am having trouble with some of my friends. They are fighting over me for the talent show. I can't stop them. I need advice.
--Talented

Dear Talented,
Try to make an act doing it all together and if that doesn't work, go solo.
--The Panther

Dear Panther,
I have a best friend. We have been fighting. I have done nothing to help because I don't know what I should say because she is my best friend so please can you give me some help. Thank you.
--Helpless

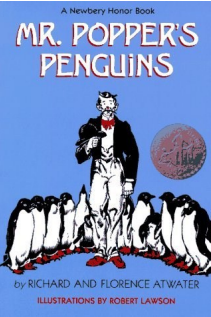
Dear Helpless,
Say your apologies. Don't wait a month for your friend to apologize. Make the first move.
--The Panther

Need Advice?

Send your questions to Ask the Panther by using the Paw Prints drop-box outside of Mrs. Harding's door.

Mr. Popper’s Penguins

Book Review
by Wyatt Hunt, 5th Grade



Mr. Poppers Penguins by Richard and Florence Atwater is about when Mr. and Mrs. Popper are poor. All Mr. Popper does is read about penguins. Then a famous explorer named Admiral Drake gives Mr. Popper a penguin. He named it Captain Cook. Captain Cook became ill and another Penguin named Greta came and helped him. Will Captain Cook get better or will he die? You’ll have to read it to find out.

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

Book Review
by Gabi Ponio, 5th Grade



The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo is about a glass rabbit. At first he is snobby, but then he gets taken away from his precious owner. He gets put into the hands of other owners, but gets taken away from them. He soon finds out something new and unpleasant. You will have to check it out from the library to learn more

Queenie Peavy

Book Review
by Gabi Ponio, 5th Grade



Queenie Peavy by Robert Burch is about a girl who is tough, but learns a lesson. She starts out being this mean girl, then she realizes what is really happening. Queenie’s father is in jail, but when he comes out, she changes. Her father changes her. This is because she feels happy. But her father disobeys the rules he must follow out of prison. Check the book out at the library to see what happens.

Say No to Uniforms

Editorial by Jared Crawford, 5th Grade

Some people say having uniforms can be a good thing. But I think we shouldn't have uniforms because you'd have to wash your uniform every night, people express who they are and how they feel through clothing, and how would we have recess in uniforms? I think we shouldn't have uniforms.

If we had uniforms, we would have to wash them every night. For example, say you forgot to wash your uniform. You'd have to go to school in a filthy uniform or in regular clothes. You may get in trouble all because you forgot to wash your uniform.

People express who they are and how they feel through clothing. For example, when you go to a football game you usually wear the colors of the team you're rooting for. It'd be pretty hard to show who you're cheering for in a uniform.

How would kids have recess in uniforms? It's hard to play soccer and football in uniforms. It'd just be too uncomfortable. That's why there are jerseys and sweatpants. Imagine a kid playing soccer in khakis. If they rip, what would you wear tomorrow? If we just took recess away, kids would be all energetic in class and get in more trouble.

Overall I think it's not a good idea to have uniforms. There are just too many things that could go wrong and get kids in trouble. What if you forgot to wash it or you tear a hole in your pants? That's why I think we shouldn't have uniforms.

Give Uniforms a Chance

Editorial by Emma Jackson, 5th Grade

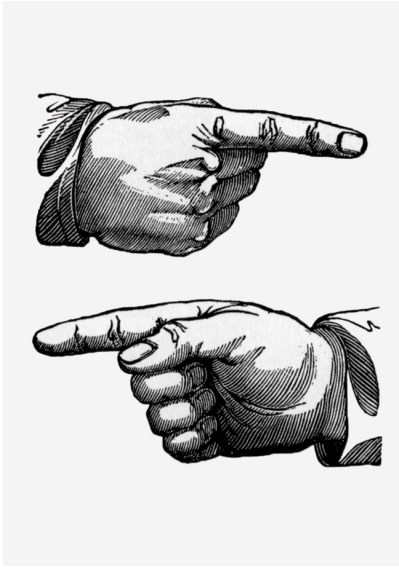
Uniforms aren't so bad. Why? Because you don't waste time on picking out clothes, bullies can't pick on you because of your outfit, and you wouldn't have to worry about the school rules on outfits. If students would just give them a chance, I think uniforms could be good.

If we had uniforms, you wouldn't have to waste time in the morning. OK, it's 7 a.m. Got to be at school in 20 minutes and you're trying to find a really cute outfit. Now stop! If you have a uniform you wouldn't be rushed. 7:10 and you're out the door because you don't have to pick an outfit out.

Uniforms can prevent bullying. Imagine a bully comes up to you and says her 7-year-old brother has your pants. Well, if you have a uniform, she can't say that because she is wearing the same thing. Now what would the bully have to say?

Uniforms also prevent you from breaking the school dress code. Picture this: you just got sent home because you were wearing shorts that were WAY too short and now you're grounded because you told your mom it was OK. If you had a uniform it wouldn't matter, would it?

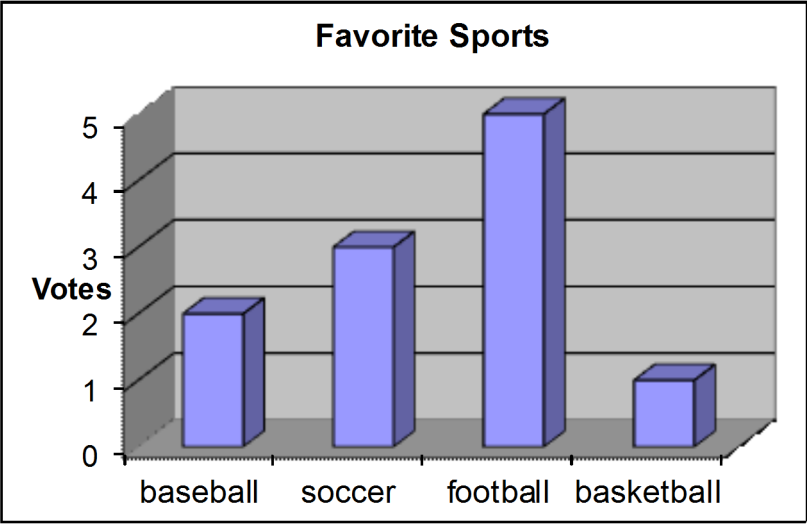
Now I say it wouldn't be bad to try uniforms. Students just need to give them a chance. Broken rules, bullying, and time wasted all could be solved by uniforms.



Teachers' Favorite Sports

Survey by Trinity McMahon, 5th Grade

I recently collected data from the teachers in Pre-K through first grades about their favorite sports. I interviewed 11 teachers in all. Some of them aren't really sports fans, and some had more than one favorite. I tallied their votes and put them in the graph below:



Football won with 5 votes. Soccer came in second with 3 votes. Next came baseball with 2 votes and last but not least is basketball with 1 vote.

Next month I am to interview all the teachers in the school to find out their favorite subject: math, reading, or writing.

January Citizens of the Month

Mason Lapointe - 4th Grade (Borgelt)
Wyatt Bachtell - 4th Grade (Dirks)
Evan Brown - 4th Grade (Lewellen)

Chelsea Horn - 5th Grade (Bowen)
R.J. Forney - 5th Grade (Gold)
Nadesh Vaithianathan - 5th Grade (Harris)
Dylan Hoang - 5th Grade (Lira)

Strawberry Banana Smoothie

Recipe by Trinity McMahon, 5th Grade

- Ingredients:*
- 1 single-serving size of vanilla Greek yogurt
 - 1 medium banana
 - 6-8 strawberries
 - 1 cup of ice
 - splash of orange juice

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in blender and blend until well mixed. Pour into glasses and enjoy! Makes about 3 one-cup servings. Try different types of fruit to create a healthy but tasty snack.

Comic by Hector Ramirez and Evan Mann, 5th Grade

