

# PAW PRINTS

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The Student Newspaper of Peters Elementary

September, 2013

## Peters Welcomes Students Back To School

by Grayson Tempest, 3rd grade, James Huffman and Meghana Venkatesha, 4th Grade



Thursday, August 15, was Meet the Teacher day for all elementary grades. At 4:00 PM, there was a long line starting from the gym door all the way to the bus loop.

Some students were really anxious to find out which teacher they would get and to see who was in their class. Fourth-grader Annie Moreno said that that was her favorite part.

When students walked through the gym door there were sheets of paper on the wall that said the teacher's name at the top, and students looked for their name in the list below.

In the gym PTA sold Union clothing. In the cafeteria, the EDP teachers gave information about EDP and how to sign up. Mrs. Beam, Mrs. Salinas, and Mr. Ritter gave out car numbers.

Then students could go to their assigned classroom. In some classrooms, students got to pick their desks, while in others they were assigned desks. Some teachers had papers that parents had to fill out.

The staff also was excited for Meet the Teacher. Mrs. Griffin said that she likes to see all the smiling faces of her new students and her former students.

Mrs. Coday, the new receptionist, said she is looking forward to a new year. Her favorite thing about Meet the Teacher was seeing how all the kids were excited for back to school.

Families also got to meet Peters' new principal, Mrs. Gray. She said she feels overjoyed at being the new principal. Her favorite thing about meet the teacher was "meeting new families, seeing familiar faces and welcoming students back to school."

## Curriculum Night Brings Parents Back To School

by Hannah Fuller, 5th Grade



Curriculum Night was on Tuesday, September 10, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Parents went to their child's classroom and watched a video about specialties, the principal, and the library. The teacher explained what new things and concepts their child would learn this year. They also established rules and standards they expected of the kids. Parents got to ask ques-

tions and tour the classroom.

PTA put on a movie in the gym for the kids to watch if their parents brought them.

## Put Your Best Paw Forward

by Braxton Tempest, 5th Grade  
Paw Prints Editor

A teacher's job is to teach, is it not? A teacher strives to do their best teaching their students. They try to teach their students as much as they can before the year is over. One way you can learn the most from your teacher is to "put your best paw forward."



P stands for be Prompt. That means to be on time with your homework and with everything. Doing this helps get graded papers back to you sooner and you can start your day fast and smooth when you get to school on time.

A stands for Act Responsibly. Acting responsibly means your teacher can trust you. Such as when your teacher asks you to get something from your teachers mail box she expects you to get it and come back quickly and not goof off in the halls.

W stands for Work Hard. When you work hard you and your teacher can see it. I know when I work hard I'm proud of what I accomplish and am very pleased. You also learn more when you work hard.

S stands for Show Respect. Showing respect means to look and listen when your teacher is talking. Showing respect also means to take care of the books and supplies your teacher has given you. After all, you don't own them.

I recommend you do all of these things so you and your teacher can have a great school year.



# Peters Elects New Student Council

by Hannah Fuller, 5th Grade



In September Peters elected a new student council. Student Council is a group of third, fourth and fifth graders who come up with ideas on how to make Peters better.

Seventeen fifth grade students ran for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian. The candidates made posters to hang in the halls, wrote speeches, and presented them to third through fifth grades on September 18. The election was on September 19. Grades third through fifth voted for who they thought would do the best job

The President is in charge at meetings and will cast the deciding vote if needed. The Vice President helps the President, is in charge if the President is absent, and runs a suggestion box. The Secretary records the minutes of the meeting and reports minutes from previous meetings. The Treasurer handles the funds and reports on money matters. The Historian takes pictures of school events and runs the student council bulletin board.

The officers selected by our Peters students are: President, Braxton Tempest; Vice President, Alaina Reich; Secretary, Erica Coday; Historian, Jackson Yeats; Treasurer, Breanna Bailey.

# EDP Forms Recycling Club

by Meghana Venkatesha, 4th Grade



Fourth grade EDP does recycling club. Last year Mrs. Gold’s class was in charge of recycling. Now that Mrs. Gold has resigned, she left Mrs. Harding in charge of it. Mrs. Harding and fourth grade ARC have teamed up with Miss Mary and fourth grade EDP students to form a recycling club.

Recycling club comes around every Friday and picks up the recycling boxes and dumps the paper into the big recycling bin outside our school. A company takes the paper and turns it into pulp. Then they turn the pulp into products so that people can use it again.

On some Fridays recycling club weighs the boxes from each class. The box which weighed the most this month was Mrs. Hillhouse’s class. The class that collects the most will get a special treat from Mrs. Harding. If you recycle, Peters will get money. Come on Peters, let’s recycle!

# Peters Starts Academic Team

by Braxton Tempest and Hannah Fuller, 5th Grade




This year our school has an academic team. An academic team is where kids compete against each other and answer questions really fast. They buzz in, the teacher calls on them and they answer the question. If the student gets it right then they get a point for their team.

Fourth and fifth grades are the ones participating. Each fourth grade ARC class is a team; fifth grade had open try-outs. All of fifth grade took a test. If they did well on the first test then they were eligible to take a second test. If they did well on the second test then they were chosen to go to buzzer tryouts. Buzzer tryouts were during lunch on September 5 and 6. Only three people were chosen the first day and the remainder of the spots were filled the second day. There were 12 students that made the academic team in fifth grade and 24 students that are on the team in fourth grade.

The academic team will have one competition in the fall and one competition in the spring. In the fall Peters competes against Jarman and Anderson at Anderson. In the spring Peters will compete against Anderson and Jarman. The location for this meet is still undecided.

## Class Librarian Coupon



This coupon may be used one time for the job of Librarian for your class. To use this coupon you may not have ANY overdue books for the first 9 weeks of school. Be sure to check with Mrs. Leslie about overdue books and scheduling your session. You must present this coupon at the time of your scheduled session.





# PTA Paints Faces to Raise Money for School Programs

by Warisha Choudhary, 5th Grade



On September 6, Peters had its first face painting day.

PTA President Jean Jones said they usually make \$300 per year and they paint about 20 faces per grade. Mrs. Jones said that this year the face painting money

will go to the fifth grade for a web-based virtual tour of Colonial Williamsburg. Money will also go to first, second, and third grades for Scholastic News.

If students would like to get their faces painted they should bring 50 cents on October 4, October 11, October 25, and November 8. Students can choose a Union U or a paw print.

# Family Fun Night

by Sara Castle, 5th Grade

On Friday, September 6, students, teachers, family, and friends gathered for Family Fun Night. This event included a movie, popcorn, refreshments and more. At first this event took place in the gym but because of technical difficulties students had to move to the art room.

The event lasted about 2 hours and students watched the movie *Wreck It Ralph*. Between 75 and 100 people attended. PTA sponsored this event to raise money for Peters.

# Assessments Galore

by Anna Hemm and Sara Castle, 5th Grade

Have you ever wondered why students have a bunch of tests at the beginning of the year? Students take a reading test to find out their independent reading level. Students also take a writing test to find out their independent writing level. Then, students take a spelling test to find out their independent spelling level. And for math this year, third and fourth grade took a math assessment on the computer. Also, fourth grade does a grade 3 review in their skills link book.

Mrs. Griffin said to read, Read, READ to keep our reading levels up. Miss Story also suggested to read with our teacher, friends, and family.

So, the reason students take a bunch of tests at the beginning of the year is so your teacher knows where you are and how to help you.

# Peters Gets New Parking Lot

by Cameron Brashear, 3rd Grade

During the summer, construction crews built a new parking lot and some new sidewalks at Peters.

Miss Eva said the reason we had to have a new parking lot is because people were tripping over the road. Another reason we needed a new parking lot is to improve the drainage. She said that the construction work wasn't that loud when you were inside the school.

Construction work was wrapped up about three days before school started. Everyone got to come back to school to a brand new parking lot and some brand new sidewalks.

# Broken Windows

by Grayson Tempest, 3rd Grade



There were four windows broken at Peters at the start of the school year — the window by the art room, the window by the solarium, one by Mrs. Paschall's room, and one by Mr. Harris' room. The solarium window started out with a little crack, which grew and ended with a big crack. The windows by Mr. Harris' room and Mrs. Paschall's room were broken by rocks. The art window broke from kids running into it. On Friday, September 13, workers replaced the solarium window and art window. Miss Eva said that in a typical year, Peters has around four broken windows.

# Hispanic Heritage Month

by Marisol Sandoval, 5th Grade

September is Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage Month is an independence celebration for people of Hispanic decent. It started in 1968 by President Lyndon Johnson and it was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1998.

There are many ways that Hispanic people can celebrate. One way is to have parties where you can dance to Hispanic music and eat different Hispanic foods. At night some people also shoot fireworks.

There are 51 boys and girls at Peters who are Hispanic.



# New Places, New Faces

## Mrs. Gray, Principal

by Braxton Tempest 5th Grade and Meghana Venkatesha 4th Grade



This year Peters has a new principal, Mrs. Gray. Last year, Mrs. Randall, Peters' former principal, retired.

Before she came to Peters, Mrs. Gray was the assistant principal at Briarglen. She also has been an assistant principal at Rosa Parks and Grove and has taught first, second, and fifth grades.

She said she loves how Peters is a safe, family-friendly school. She also likes how fourth and fifth grades celebrate Citizen of the Month and have Pride Club.

Mrs. Gray said that Peters is already a fantastic school so she doesn't anticipate many changes.

## Mrs. Brown, 4th Grade

by James Huffman, 4th Grade



grade.

"What I like about Peters is working with the staff and teaching students new things to help them be successful," she said.

When she's not teaching she likes to read, cook, and watch designing and cooking shows.

"It can be exciting and challenging teaching fourth grade but I have a great team of teachers to help me," she said.

## Mrs. Cole, 1st Grade

by Caeleb Burch, 3rd Grade



Mrs. Cole is the new first grade teacher at Peters. The last school she worked at was Briarglen Elementary, where she also taught first grade.

Mrs. Cole is married and has two kids, Isaac and Carter. She has been teaching for five years. Mrs. Cole is from Wakita, Oklahoma. Mrs. Cole said she is happy to work at Peters.

Here are some things that kids in her class had to say about her: Alyssa Viets said she likes when Mrs. Cole gives them second chances. Dharan Moorthy likes Mrs. Cole because she teaches them. Autumn Jones likes Mrs. Cole because she is nice.

## Mrs. Coday, Receptionist

by Anna Hemm, 5th Grade



Have you met Mrs. Coday, the new receptionist? Before she came to Peters she worked at the service center.

"I love Peters!" she said. "Everyone here is friendly and there are great kids."

Mrs. Coday said the first day of school was really busy. "It was extremely busy having to get organized and a lot of kids were late for school."

The most common thing kids say to her on a typical day is, "Hi!" "They are excited to see me," she said.

Mrs. Coday said that nothing unexpected has happened to her since she began working at Peters. "Miss Mary Jo trained me before I came, so I was prepared."

She said it will be hard replace Miss Mary Jo. "She was one of a kind and I could never fill her shoes."

## Mrs. Salinas, Art Teacher

by Grayson Tempest, 3rd Grade



Mrs. Salinas is the new art teacher at Peters. She took Mrs. Huff's place when she retired last year.

Last year Mrs. Salinas taught kindergarten. She said spent a lot of time over the summer looking at other teacher's blogs to learn how to teach art.

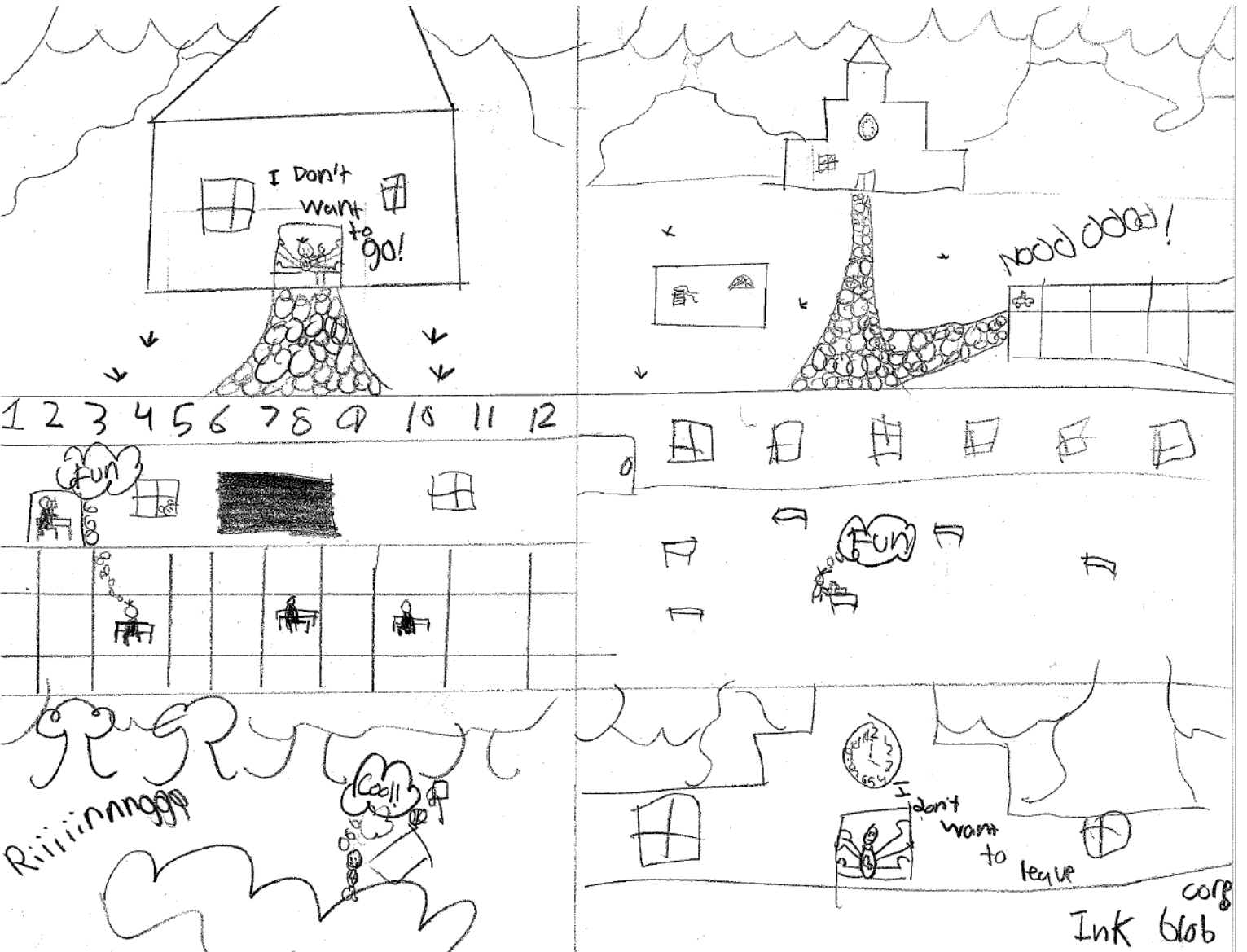
One of the reasons Mrs. Salinas likes teaching art is because it doesn't require as much paperwork. She also said that it is easier than teaching a kindergarten class because art is only 45 minutes and kindergarten is all day.

"I like seeing all of the kids when they come to art," she said.





*by Cameron Brashear, 3rd Grade*



Katie said it wasn't too bad to be sent home because everyone did their best, and she was glad to be with her family again.