Volume 2, Issue 1

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 tryouts. 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 overdues 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

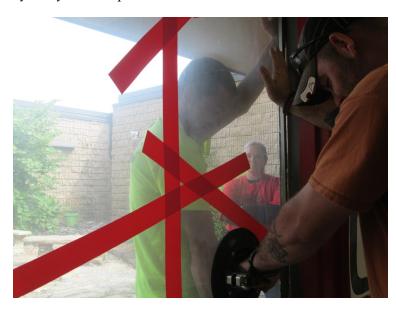
During the summer, construction crews built a new parking lot and some new sidewalks at Peters.

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 Hispan-

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, re-

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



Mrs. Brown is a new fourth grade teacher at Peters. She went to Oklahoma **Baptist** University Northeastern State University to get her teaching degree. She used to teach second grade and was an aide in pre-k. She has a son, Evan, in fifth grade and a daughter, Faith, in eighth

"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.

Heidi Heckelbeck

Book Review by Lauren Hemm, 3rd Grade



I read a great book called Heidi Heck-lebeck Casts a Spell by Wanda Coven. It was about a little girl named Heidi Hecklebeck starting 2nd grade. She was starting school for

the very first time because she was homeschooled with her brother. When she was at school she made a friend and an enemy. There is even a little twist at the end. So, if you're interested you should read this book.

Peter and the Starcatchers

Book Review by Evan Brown, 5th Grade

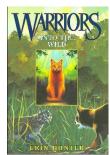


I read the book <u>Peter and the</u>
<u>Starcatchers</u>. It has Peter Pan as one of the characters. It happened before the original Peter Pan. It tells about how things came to be in

the movie. There's a secret society called the Starcatchers. Peter meets a Starcatcher named Molly. They go on an epic quest aboard the ship called Neverland. You find out how Captain Hook (or Black Stash) gets his hand cut off. You find out how Peter flies. You can learn about all these happenings and more by reading the book.

Warriors: Into the Wild

Book Review by Joy Grissen, 5th Grade



Warriors: Into the Wild is a great book written by Erin Hunter. It is about a kittypet named Rusty who goes to join a clan in the wild. Once he joins the clan, his fellow clan don't show him very much

respect. Will he earn any respect? Will he become a warrior? Find out in <u>Warriors:</u> Into the Wild.

The Candymakers

Book Review by James Huffman, 4th Grade



Logan is a young boy whose parents are owners of a candy factory. He and three other kids enter the Life is Sweet contest to make the best candy. Will Logan make his bubbletastic chocorocket

candy a complete success? Read <u>The Candymakers</u> by Wendy Mass to find out!

Hurray For Today!

Book Review by Rayan Choudhary, 2nd Grade

Hurray For Today! by Dr. Seuss is about all the holidays throughout the year. It tells you about how they were made. If you would like to know all about the holidays then you should read this book.

Letters to the Editor

How Would You Feel?

by Miles Givens, 4th Grade

When I am walking down the fifth grade hallway I notice that some kids talk and fifth graders are trying to work. It is not fair to fifth graders. So how would you feel if you were a fifth grader? Would you like it? So let's remember to zip and lock.

Why You Should Walk to School

by Evan Brown, 5th Grade

You should walk to school because you get the healthy benefit of exercise. You also save money on gas and you're helping the environment by not creating more pollution. When you walk to school there's less traffic because you aren't riding in your car. Another benefit of walking to school is that you get fresh air. I mean, everybody needs fresh air!

Ask The Panther

by Meghana Venkatesha and Daphne Crawford, 4th Grade

Dear Panther,

The duty assistants are being kind of mean. Some other kids also agree with me. Like when I'm being quiet, I get a warning.

— Confused

Dear Confused,

The reason the duty assistants are strict is because some students don't give them a choice. The Panther suggests that you get to know the duty assistants and do what they say, so they get a break from being strict in the cafeteria and hallways.

— The Panther

Dear Panther,

I play football and I signed up for wrestling. The practices are both on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 6:00 to 8:00. What should I do?

— Overbooked

Dear Overbooked,

The Panther suggests you should pick either wrestling or football as your favorite. Then go to your favorite, two nights a week and go to the other one time a week. But eventually you will probably have to pick between the two. It sounds as if you can't do a very good job at either one.

— The Panther

Do You Have a Problem?

Do you know what the *Paw* Prints box outside of Mrs. Harding's classroom is for? It's there for anybody who needs advice. You can write your problem on a piece of paper and drop it in the box. The advice columnists will read these and suggest solutions to some problems. When you buy a newspaper you may even see your problem in it!



Mrs. Eva Helps All Over the Building

by Cameron Brashear, 3rd Grade



Miss Eva is our building engineer. Miss Eva is in charge of building maintenance and cleaning. Sometimes you will see her at the cafeteria helping kids dump their food in the trash. You can also see her if your teacher is having a problem in his or her classroom. She might come into your room if the lights are not working, if the toilet overflows or if the temperature is too

hot or cold. She is also the supervisor of the night custodians. Miss Eva said she is going to stay here at Peters for one more year. Next year she hopes to move to Rosa Parks because it is closer to her house.

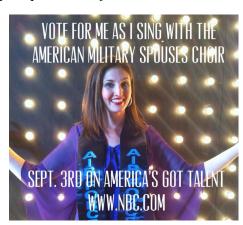
Miss Eva started as a custodian and later became a building engineer. She had to take a lot of building engineer tests to get a building engineer license. She gets to school very early each day — at 6:00 a.m. "My favorite thing about my job is being around kids." she said.

Word Search by Sara Castle, 5th Grade

education school						paws teachers					peters										
J	×	В	E.	Q	Z	E	L	F.	J	0	А	G	D	U	E	Т	Y	D	E.	0	C
R	K	W	×	E	D	C	R	U	D	N	M	L	W	1	F,	B	I.	L	0	E.	E
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Mrs. Beam's Daughter Has Talent!

by Daphne Crawford, 4th Grade



This year Katie Pritz, Mrs. Beam's daughter, performed on the show *America's Got Talent* with the American Military Wives Choir. Katie traveled to Chicago for her first performance in June. She then traveled to New York, where her second and third performances were also successful. But her group was sent home after their fourth performance.

When the newspaper interviewed Katie, she told us that she was once a little kid in elementary school, just like us. "Even if you are small, you can still do big things," she said.

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.

