

PENNELL IN PRINT

PENNELL ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2012

Happy NEW YEAR and WELCOME BACK Parents!

I hope that everyone enjoyed a relaxing and safe holiday break. Can you believe that it's 2012?! With the holiday season behind us, we are gearing up for the second half of the school year. Right before the winter break, the Pennell/Parkside Choir took home 1st place in the 93.7 WSTW Christmas Caroling Contest! Radio station representatives presented our Choir Director, Mrs. Laura O'Kane and our students with a large trophy and a check for \$500! Way to go!



BIG WINNERS!

What's coming up in January?

- 2nd School resumes
- 11th thru 23rd Winter M.A.P. Testing Window
- 10th PTL Meeting
6:30 pm / Library
- 13th 11:15 am Early Dismissal
- 16th Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
Schools and Offices closed
- 24th Math Night
6:30 – 7:30 pm
Gymnasium
- 25th School Board Meeting
7:30 pm
Service Center
- Interim Progress Reports mailed home
- 26th P.D.S.D. Technology Expo
5:30 – 7:30 pm
S.V.H.S.

We have many exciting things ahead of us, including: assemblies, Field Day, and our Reading Counts celebration just to name a few. Our reading goal for the year is 112 million words, and currently our students have read about 40 million words. We need our students to make a strong effort to reach our goal! Please continue to encourage your child to take their school work and studying very seriously. As we approach our PSSA state testing window in March, we will be working very hard to prepare our students for the assessment. Your **assistance and support** is greatly needed and very much appreciated.

January also brings colder weather conditions and complications with our outdoor recess. Please be sure your child is sent to school with a **winter coat, and a hat and gloves** for the recess yard. Also, our dress code policy precludes students from wearing shoes without a backing (flip flops, slippers, etc.). Please be sure your child is wearing shoes to school that are suitable for recess play and general exercise. Thank you for your support!

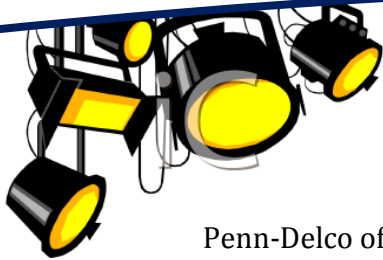


Mr. Shawn Dutkiewicz, Pennell Elementary Principal

PENNELL ELEMENTARY
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SPOTLIGHT ON CURRICULUM



*By ~ Rosemary Fowler, Supervisor of
Elementary Curriculum and Instruction*



Penn-Delco offers a financial literacy curriculum beginning in Kindergarten and following through until 12th grade. The President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy defines personal financial literacy as "the ability to use knowledge and skills to manage financial resources effectively for a lifetime of financial well-being." (2008 Annual Report to the President) At the elementary level, the program has established cross-curricular connections with the mathematics, reading, and social studies programs already in place. Fiction and nonfiction texts are incorporated in the lessons as the elementary students learn about topics such as wants and needs, producers and consumers, the value of currency, the power of advertising, and the importance of earnings and savings.

The district has partnered with Junior Achievement, Wawa, Sun East Credit Union, and the Franklin Mint Credit Union to bring real-life resources into the classroom. Teaching our students about money will help them live successful lives. The goal is to for our students know how to manage their finances as they start earning and saving money on their own. The lessons the children are learning now will guide them to become financially responsible adults. Financial literacy in the elementary grades is about understanding basic money management. In today's economy, it is never too early to learn about money. Those who start saving early will benefit the most!

Home/School Connection ~

- *Encourage your child to set a savings goal for something that is important to them like new bike. Having a savings goal will help your child learn about budgeting and money.*
- *Discuss ads that come up on the television. Talk about the power of advertising and wants versus needs.*

FROM THE GYMNASIUM...

The Phillies Phitness Program is coming to Pennell Elementary!

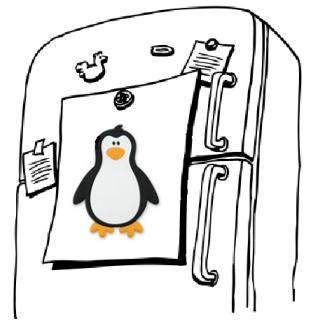
Phys. Ed. teacher Mr. John Clark teamed-up with our 5th grade students to write essays to the Phillies Phitness Program and convince them to come to Pennell! The 5th grade essays must have been well written and convincing because Mr. Clark was notified in December that we were a winning school!



The Phillies Phitness Program will travel to Pennell in mid-January with a team of Nova Care Rehabilitation trainers that work with the real live Phillies players! The trainers will be working with our 5th grade students, leading them through fun warm-up and cool-down drills while playing a game in between. The team's focus is on healthy-living, exercise, and safety!

How cool is that?! Way to go Mr. Clark and the 5th grade students!

WHAT'S ON THE 'FRIG THIS MONTH?



“What’s on the ‘frig this month” is a page dedicated to those things that we want to celebrate here at Pennell... the things that could be deemed, “refrigerator worthy”!

Citizenship Awards – First Trimester

Room 100

Ben Winiarski

Room 101

Olivia Hoy and Patrick McAndrew

Room 107

Alex Kenvin and Molly Gasiorowski

Room 108

Lindsay Nearey and Kyle Ott

Room 109

Julia Lancellotti and Genevieve Lilly

Room 210

Xavier Slaughter and Riley Whitby

Room 211

Kelsey Celestino and Darren Panusky

Room 212

Nicole Buscaglia and Katelyn Maiorine

Room 206

Kristine Guenther and Tyler Smith

Room 208

Aaron Hanavin and Abigail Fisher

Room 209

Brenden Howley and Katie Fallon

Room 102

Frankie Wingender

Room 203

Randy Marker and Shannon Purfield

Room 204

Jacqueline Oldham and Ryley Marker

Room 205

Colin Bradley and Emma Polsky

Room 200

Madison Koons and Camren Johnston

Room 201

Francis Alfaro and Nina Shicatano

Room 202

Hannah Nearey and Alex Siekierski



5th grade student, Chris Bielicki was chosen to participate in a P.D.S.D. Channel 11 interview about our Core Essentials Program with Superintendent Dr. Steinhoff, Principal, Mr. Dutkiewicz, and Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Im.



Our Student Council collected over 100 toys for our “Toys for Tots” Drive!



Please “LIKE” the Pennell Elementary Facebook page

CORE ESSENTIALS: VALUE OF THE MONTH

Each month, Pennell focuses on a core value/essential that we hope students will practice and apply in their daily lives. We recognize students who exemplify our core essentials by giving them “team tickets”. Team tickets are awarded to students and then displayed in our lobby. At the end of the month, students who received a team ticket are chosen randomly to have lunch with the Principal, Mr. Dutkiewicz.

JANUARY’S MONTHLY VALUE: Self-Control

“Choosing to do what you should do, not what you want to do”.

Car Time –

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/album/count-to-ten/id366318808?i=366319032>

Open Wide – JUST FOR FUN: If you could have any animal for a pet, which animal would you choose? Why?

DISCUSSION STARTER:

Have you ever seen a horse race? The powerful racehorses seem to pace themselves to save energy for the final dash to the finish line. But despite what you might think, they aren’t showing self-control. A thoroughbred is actually jockey-controlled. The rider uses reins to hold the horse back, to urge it forward or to turn it to the left or right. On its own the horse might spend all its speed too early in the race or balk and refuse to run at all. With its ability, power and training, the racehorse is capable of doing what it should, but it still needs to be controlled by another to win the race.

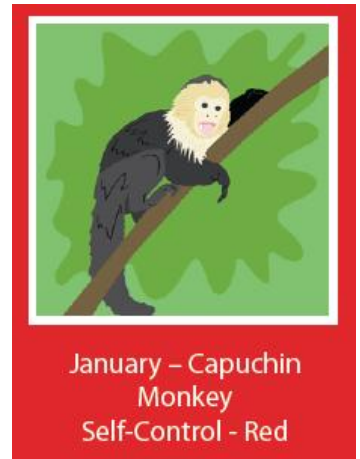
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Are you usually self-controlled, or does a parent or teacher have to control you?
- Give an example of a time someone had to make you do what you should.
- Did you know and understand what you should do in that situation?
- What might have helped you choose to show self-control?

Rest –

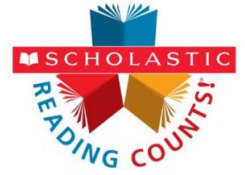
- K-2: *Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig* by: Kate DiCamillo; Mercy the pig is in danger after eating her neighbor's flowers. With the animal control officer looking for Mercy, her days at the Watson home could be numbered.
- 3-5: Emotional Impact Series by: Adolph Moser; This emotional impact series helps kids look at common opportunities to lose control and instead educates them with humor and reality on how to handle them instead with self-control.

Experience – Sometimes it is hard to do what you should do when there are so many fun things around that you would rather do. For instance, it’s hard to do your homework when your favorite TV program is on. Or it’s hard to practice piano when your Nintendo DS is in your line of vision. This week, challenge each family member answer the question: what is the thing or activity that usually keeps you from doing what you should do? Then decide to help each other give that one thing up for an entire week. At the end of the week, evaluate. Were you able to show self-control? Was it easier to choose what you should do instead of what you wanted to do?



READING COUNTS

With *Scholastic Reading Counts* your child participates in an independent reading program that tracks their success on the books they read, in and out of school. This technology-based program creates a personalized and engaging learning environment that ensures independent reading accountability.



This year, our school-wide *Reading Counts* goal is 112,000,000!

*** As of December 19th 2011: Congrats to the students who have read at least 300,000 words!**

Students	Total Words Read
Colin Bradley	2,276,583
Emily Egan	1,480,597
Kyra Green	1,121,291
Brooke Lawton	872,217
Mollie McGroarty	714,850
Christian Parker	711,578
Chelsea Hendrix	638,608
Luke Rice	629,321
Arianna DePasquale	607,759
Hannah Nearey	607,759
Christian Hansen	564,751
Randy Marker	558,001
Kelsey Celestino	515,538
Jack Segool	515,064
Dylan Mokshefsky	491,662
Shannon Purfield	481,984
Jason Bandjough	473,790
Shalane Buck	460,045
Sara Chodak	444,439
Nina Shicatano	435,648
Ryley Marker	433,689
Devin Widmaier	417,139
Connor McDermond	416,505
Jenna Ford	387,462
Zach Seddon	381,014
Jamie Simons	376,530
Zach Volturo	335,771
Gabrielle Lobb	330,771
Lindsey Romesburg	325,324
Kassidy Lambert	307,166
Kyri Colson	305,117
Nicole Buscaglia	304,583

THE PENNELL WINTER CONCERT: BAND

Our Winter Concert was a fantastic success! Mr. Raines, Instrumental Music Director, and Mrs. O’Kane, Chorus Director, did an amazing job preparing their students to perform. The students did an extraordinary job and the music and singing was enjoyed by all!

Band Selections:

First Winter’s Sleigh Ride, John O’Reilly

Winter Wonderland, arr. M. Story

Simple Gifts of Christmas, Larry Clark

Jingle Bell Rock, arr. M. Sweeney

The Santa Wrap, B. Hanby, arr. Mr. A

Santa’s Noisy Workshop, Larry Clark



Pennell “A” and “B” Band Members:

Flute	Tenor / Saxophone	Clarinet	Percussion	Trumpet
Cristol Jones Amber Kester Caitlin McShane Sophia Belgiorno	Sarah Lawson Jack Segool Alex Siekierski Francis Alfaro Jared Kosierowski Rachael Patterson Abigail Erickson Kassidy Lambert Luke Rice Devin Widmaier Chelsea Hendrix Emma Polsky	Kyra Green Madison Koons Analisa Jones Karli Kirchdoerfer Kylie Kane Claudia Miller Marissa Calvecchio Jaimee Higgins Victoria Albanese Dominique Delgiorno Jayln Slaughter Hannah Vickers Olivia Nickerson Morgan Shetter Zack Seddon	Rushion benn-Tyson Francis Wingender Brandon Hanavin Dathan Poole Mark McCombs Anthony Ellis Tyler Lubberman Daniel Nearey Zackary Volturo Jason Bandjough Sara Chodak Jenna Ford Michael Schloegel Kayla Boyd Joseph Coble Tyler McAllister Caitlin O’Brien Joseph Onorato Colin Bradley Brianna DiMaio Dominic Marano Destin Pagan Ava Ruggieri Anthony Schellin Nicholas Maiale	David Gunthrie Connor McDermond Mollie McGroarty Christian Parker Lindsey Romesburg Amanda Soscia Justin Cassidy Tara France Sara June Shannon Purfield Jacqueline Oldham Zachary Smith Kiley Boyd Kevin Cassidy Riley McGrath Nicholas Siekierski Jack Wendling
Tuba / Drums	Keyboards			
Emmanuel Otsyina	Nina Shicatano Emily Jones Hannah Nearey Haweh Kwaidah Shalane Buck Emma Robinson Amanda Tiger			

THE PENNELL WINTER CONCERT: CHORUS

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Chorus Selections:

Snow Day, J. Althouse

Shalom, T. Jennings

Don't Eat a Poinsettia, T. Jennings

There's a Candle, arr. L.O. Strid

Gonna Catch that Santa, A. Beck

Must Be Santa, Moore & Fredricks



4th Grade Chorus

Sophia Belgiorno	Dominque DelGiorno	Julianna Icenhour	Emma Robinson
Shalane Buck	Abigail Erickson	Branna Kalb	Ava Ruggieri
Byrant Budiono	Tara France	Amber Kester	Nick Siekierski
Lavar Butler	Jessica Hastings	Kassidy Lambert	Jalyn Slaughter
Marissa Calvecchio	Chelsea Hendrix	Olivia Nickerson	Amanda Tiger
Makaila Carter	Jaimee Higgins	Emmanuel Otsyina	Hannah Vickers
Sara Chodak	Hunter Howe	Rachael Patterson	Jack Wendling

5th Grade Chorus

Francis Alfaro	Kyra Green	Lindsey Romesburg	Dathan Poole
Jason Bandjough	Brandon Hanavin	Nina Shicatano	Alex Siekierski
Racheal Bonacquisti	Grace Howley	Mollie McGroarty	Jamie Simonds
Natalie Chambers	Kylie Kane	Cassidy McGugan	Victoria Voghel
Brandon Ciafre	Isaac Kennon	Claudia Miller	Jared Volturo
Kyri Colson	Madison Koons	Emily Moon	Zack Volturo
Arianna DePasquale	Haweh Kwaidah	Hannah Nearey	Frankie Wingender
Johnna Diehl	Sarah Lawson	Kayla O'Connor	Jada Wood
Emily Egan	Madison Liss		