

Pulaski Heights Elementary
Thursday Express
June 4, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

What a busy and exciting time of the school year. Thank you for attending the end of the year awards ceremony last week for our K-5 students. Mr. Craig O'Neill of Today's THV was our special guest for the 5th grade students.

Make plans to attend the **Staff vs. Students Basketball Game Friday, June 5, 2015** at Pulaski Heights Middle School. This event is **sponsored by the PTA** and the cost is **\$1.00**.

Students that ordered Yearbooks will bring them home today. If you did not order one, there are a few extras, and the cost is 20.00. You can stop by the school office.

We have done an excellent job loaning lunch money to students this school year; the majority of you send it back the next day, or by the end of the week, and for that we are grateful. However, some of you never send the loaned money back. Unfortunately, the school office will not loan any lunch money this school year. If your child forgets his/her lunch money, we will call you to bring lunch to the school.

Please be reminded that the school will no longer accept personal checks. This is a LRSD policy. If you are paying for a lost library book, please send cash.

Thank you to Coach Roark, Mr. Schallenburg, Mrs. Yates and everyone that volunteered for our annual Field Day. The students had a wonderful time with all of the activities; face painting and tug of war was another big hit. Some of the students told me that this was the best Field Day ever.

Make plans to attend the Garden Party, Saturday, June 6 from 3:00-5:00. This is an event you will not want to miss; come out and enjoy some freshly grown vegetables that the students planted. Our awesome gardener, Mr. Wills will be on site and there will be student guided tours. It's going to be a great evening of fun, food, tours and much more, so bring your lawn chair, blankets and see what's in store for you.

A copy of the 2015-16 School Supply List is attached to this newsletter.

PARENTS' CORNER: "Your child should be reading daily this summer! Have him/her carry a book to the park, to camp, in the car, to the beach—wherever. Think about starting a reading partnership or book club with your child in which you take turns reading and talking about what you have read. You can also show your child that reading can be both engaging and relaxing. It's important for children to have a balanced reading diet, so encourage your child to read from a variety of genres, like fiction and nonfiction, poetry, mysteries, biographies, and fantasy. Looking ahead to the coming school year, 3rd grade students build up their reading stamina to about 35-40 minutes. Have your child take the Summer Reading Challenge and build up to that amount of sustained reading. You can start the summer by having your child read independently for 20 minutes, then increase time every few weeks. Your child will learn a lot in 3rd grade about applying comprehension strategies to different types of books, and you can help him/her get a jumpstart on these strategies. When your child is reading, prompt him/her to think about what is happening:

- Can you tell me what's happened so far? (Retell the important events.)
- What are you thinking? (Developing ideas about what they've read.)
- What do you think is going to happen? (Predict)
- Can you say why you think that? Let's keep reading and see...
- Wait. There are so many details here. Let's reread this part. (Rereading.)
- Let's stop and try to picture it. (Envisioning.)
- I'm confused here...that last part didn't make sense to me. Can we go back and reread a bit? (Monitoring for sense)
- This reminds me of...(Connecting to an experience, another text, or something in the world.)

If your child is having trouble figuring out a difficult word, you can ask:

- What would make sense here? Could it be...? Try it (Have them use the sentence to figure out the word.)
- Are there chunks of the word that look familiar to you?
- What's the first part? Have you read all the way across the word?

This is a great way to engage families and to help prepare your 2nd grader for the 3rd grade instructional program."

Who is the student artist of week? Go to www.lrsd.org, click on schools, scroll down and click on Pulaski Heights Elementary.

Need to see a list of reading books on audio? Follow the same procedure and click on library.

Respectfully,

Lillie Carter, Principal