



Pioneer Pages

PEAK VIEW ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

641 Lawyer Road, Penn Laird, VA 22846

Phone: 540.289.7510



Marcy Williams, Principal, mwilliams@rockingham.k12.va.us; Jackie Schmidt, Assistant Principal, jschmidt@rockingham.k12.va.us

[Cindy Noftsinger, PTA President, 540.438.8586, president@peakviewpta.org](mailto:Cindy.Noftsinger@peakviewpta.org)

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THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER:

Dear Peak View Families:

Hooray! March is here! Hopefully that means warmer weather is on its way so we can bid adieu to the snow and ice that has plagued us this season. Given the second "winter break" our students experienced in February, it is more important than ever to buckle down and focus on academics. The SOL writing assessments begin the first week in March, with the other content areas being tested in May. Daily attendance, including arriving on time, is crucial to school success. We appreciate your adjustment to our new start time of 8:20 am. Please find in this newsletter the additional ways we will be making up lost instructional time.

*We would like to invite everyone to our school council meeting on March 11th. At 7 pm, our superintendent, Dr. Fenn, will be delivering a message about the importance of parent involvement in the education of our students. We hope to see you there! One thing **everyone** can do is read with their kids at home. We are celebrating Reading Month in March so now would be a perfect time to renew the commitment to read with your children!*

Happy Spring!

Jackie Schmidt, Assistant Principal

Snow Make-Up Dates:

March 11, 12, 29, 30, and 31, as well as April 30th are now FULL instructional days.



Upcoming March Events:

"March is Reading Month" events marked in bold.

6th	Regional Spelling Bee on WVPT (Our own Neal Visvalingham competing!)
10th	Civil War Presentation 5th Grade 12:30-1pm, 4th Grade 1-1:30
11th	School Council Meeting – 6pm Speech by Dr. Fenn – 7pm
12th	End of Year Book Sales
15 th - 19 th	Lucky Star Smencil Sale and Contest
15 th - 22 nd	Spring Book Fair 8am – 3:15pm (Open until 6pm on Thursday the 18th)
17 th	Pre K & Kindergarten Registration 9am – 4pm
18 th	Breakfast with Someone Grand
	Pre K & Kindergarten Registration 9am-6pm
	Book Fair Open until 6:30pm
	K/1 st Grade Music Program & PTA Mtg.– 7pm
19 th	Dress-up as favorite non-fictional character
	End of Six Week Marking Period
21 st	Summer Camp Fair @ the Fair Grounds
23 rd	Author, Carolyn Reeder, visits with grades 3-5
	Talent Show Try-outs 3-5pm
	Chic-Fil-A Night (Possible \$500 prize)
24 th	Author, Ginjer Clark, visits with grades K-2
29 th	Report Cards sent home
30 th	Reading Goals are due
31 st	"Read In" during Language Arts Class
	Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Schmidt go to the stockades if we meet our reading goals

Rockingham County School Board Seeks Input

The Rockingham County School Board is soliciting your input regarding a needs assessment for our county schools. The Standards of Quality require all school divisions in the Commonwealth to create a Comprehensive Plan that helps provide direction for the school division. The current plan is on the RCPS web site. However, it has been several years since this plan was developed and the School Board believes now is the time to gather input from the community in order to identify our goals for the future.

Please provide your comments on the BLOG provided regarding those goals you believe should provide direction for Rockingham County Public Schools in the future.

There are seven broad areas that provide a framework for the Comprehensive Plan: Student Achievement, Technology, Diversity, Safe Schools, Parental/Community Involvement, Employees, and Fiscal Responsibility. You may want to direct your comments toward these categories. Below you will also find the mission statement that encompasses the overall beliefs of RCPS and should serve to guide your thinking.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Rockingham County School Board constantly strives to balance the needs of the entire school division in order to improve the educational opportunities for all students, while at the same time supporting and rewarding our employees as they meet their challenges. As good stewards of the taxpayers' money, quality and efficiency are our operational goals while maximizing the benefits to our students, employees, and the community. We must also always be good stewards of the taxpayers money, recognizing that they cannot, indeed will not, be overburdened with excessive tax increases.

2010 CENSUS:

Beginning in March, all school divisions in Virginia will be conducting the 2010 census. Each residence will receive a census form in the mail to complete with the names of all children (1 to 19 years of age) living in your home. Please be on the look-out for this form and return to it as soon as possible.

Pre-K and Kindergarten
Registration: March 17th & 18th
Pre-K and Kindergarten registration for next year will be on March 17th and 18th. The registration process is extremely important for us to help plan teaching assignments. Children five years old on or before September 30, 2010 are eligible to register. Parents must provide an original birth certificate, social security number, immunization record and proof of residency (Electric bill, telephone bill, etc.).

We will also be taking applications for the At-Risk Preschool program. Children four years old on or before September 30, 2010 are eligible to be screened. Screenings will be on the March 17th and 18th as well, and will take about 30 minutes. To schedule a screening appointment, please call 289-7510.

March is Reading Month!

A kick off was held on Friday, February 26 to get the whole school ready and enthused to "Read for Real!" Information about things happening throughout the month and a calendar of the month's events was sent home the last week of February. Each grade level has a reading goal for the month. As children reach their goal, they will proudly display their name outside the classroom door on a poster and earn a free ice cream cone or sundae from McDonald's! Classes that reach their goal will also earn a "Read In" Day and will be given snacks by the Language Arts Committee. If 80% of our school meet their reading goals, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Schmidt will be sent to the Peak View Pillary (stockades) during lunch on Friday, March 31st.

Spring Book Fair

The spring book fair will be Monday, March 15 through Monday, March 22 from 8am to 3:15 pm daily. On Thursday, the 18th, we will also be open 4:30-6:30pm. The morning of the 18th, we will hold a "Breakfast with Someone Grand Event". Sign up for this will be sent home with weekly messages. Please come, stock up on good books and make sure to "Read for Real" every day!

*Mary Lanoue, School
Librarian*

Results of the Spelling Bee:
Congratulations to our own Neal Visvalingam who was one of the top 9 finishers for the county and goes on to the regional competition at WVPT on Saturday, Mar.6th.

Message From the PTA President:
March is here and I'm sure we are all ready for a Spring thaw! At Peak View, Spring brings lots of fun activities. An upcoming favorite is the Talent Show where we are entertained by our school's finest. It won't be long until we here the buzz about the Spring Scholastic Book Fair and, yes, the ever thrilling Field Day. PTA has a couple of new activities in the works, too. In March, we will be promoting Smencil sales with a St. Patty's Day event. Watch for more information on how you can "Catch A Lucky Star". We are also planning an awesome end of the year social where we can come together and let loose some post-testing stress to celebrate another fantastic year at our school. So, I'm wishing for us all, warm and sunny days and continued opportunities to enjoy one another in our Peak View community. See you at school!

Parenting Committee
"Take Your Family to School Week" ended up being "Keep Your Family at Home Week!" The snow cancelled all of our fun programming for that week, but we are planning to try again when there is no chance for snow. Dr. Fenn was to open the week with a presentation on the importance of parental involvement in education. After the School Council Meeting on March 11th, she will be making this presentation. Please join us.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Ms. Hensley, Mrs. Lanoue, and all of the speakers that were scheduled to come by during that week for their time and dedication to planning this program

*Laura Naftel,
Committee Chair*

Year Book Sales:
Sales are extended until **March 12th**. If you are interested in your child receiving a yearbook the first week in June, please reserve one by purchasing now. The cost is \$14.00, cash or check. Make checks to Peak View, and put your child's name and teacher's name on the envelope.

*Gaye Hensley,
Guidance Counselor*

Box Tops for Education:
Keep sending in those Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Soup Labels. This is a great way for the school to get CASH from Box Tops and be able to select FREE items from Campbell's.

*Christy Null,
Committee Chair*

Family Dinner Night:
COME HELP US EARN \$500 FOR OUR SCHOOL!
Chick-fil-A Spirit Night will be Tuesday, March 23 from 5-7 pm. We will earn 15% of all sales during these hours. In addition, **we will have the chance to win a \$500 bonus** donation. Students, faculty and staff just need to sign in with the school representative at the restaurant. If we are the school with the highest attendance percentage for the Spring, we will win! Come enjoy some chicken, play the spinning wheel, say

hi to the cow, and earn some money for Peak View. We are still in need of some volunteers that evening. Please contact Kathy Ludica if you are able to help out. Call 434-8481 or e-mail kiudica@gmail.com.

Sarah's Ice Cream Day

The first Thursday of each month Sarah's Ice Cream will donate 10% of all sales to Peak View. The next one is April 1st, and they are open from 11am-8pm.

Talent Show:

Our annual talent show is scheduled for April 22nd. The dress rehearsal is April 20th, and try-outs are scheduled for March 23rd from 3-5pm. Watch for the Talent Show Application in your child's backpack.

SUMMER CAMP FAIR!

Presented by the *Rockingham County Council PTA*.

Sunday, March 21st from 2pm - 4pm

YOU WILL BE AMAZED TO SEE WHAT IS OUT THERE FOR OUR KIDS TO EXPERIENCE! Come on out to see the activities that are available for our kids!!!!

Volunteers Needed for the Summer Camp Fair. We could use 3 volunteers to man a table. There's no better way to see what's available then to get involved. Contact Barbara Shafqat to sign up.

Barbara Shafqat, Vice

President, RCCPTA.

Lucky Star Smencil Sales

March 15-19TH. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, we are having a "Lucky Star Smencil Sale". Hidden in the smencils are lucky stars. Find one and win a prize!

International Night thanks

Thank you PTA, families and volunteers who made the International, Art, Math, and Science night so wonderful! A special thank you to the Morgan, Shafqat, Pou, Semaan, Visvalingham, Shell, Lamb, Nelson, and Smith families and teachers who shared their countries. Thank you to Sheetz for their generous donation towards our bookroom and support of our school.

Terri Tucker, ELL

Teacher