




PENN LINCOLN GAZETTE

February - March 2010

Calendar of Events

- February 2 - Group Pictures/
Spring Fever
February 4 - Student vs. Teacher
Basketball Game 6:30 Gym
February 5 - 
In-Service/Snow makeup Day -
NO SCHOOL
February 11 -
Valentine's Day Party at 2:15
February 12-15
NO SCHOOL - HOLIDAY
President's Day
February 22-26
Book Fair

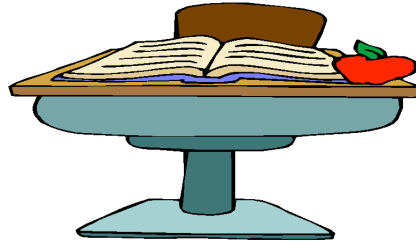
**March 1 -
Kindergarten Registration
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Penn-Lincoln Library**

- March 4 -
All City Concert 7:00 PM at the
AAHS Auditorium
March 5 -
NO SCHOOL - In-Service
March 17 - St. Patrick's Day



March 30 - End of 3rd Marking
Period

April 2 - Report Cards Go Home



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The school year is only half over with so much more learning yet to take place! Please continue to support our school and encourage your children to do their very best every single day. The Penn-Lincoln Staff continues to focus on student achievement and the PSSA tests. (See PSSA schedule contained within). This year students in Grades Three, Four, Five and Six will be tested in Math and Reading. Grade Four will be tested in Science and Grade Five in Writing as well. We are all working hard to prepare our students for these tests and appreciate the cooperation we receive from parents. Continued success is a result of students', parents' and teachers' hard work.

Robert T. Duffett
Principal

KINDERGARTEN/FIRST GRADE REGISTRATION

Monday, March 1
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Penn-Lincoln Library

Parents Must Bring:

- Birth certificate or hospital record
- Shot/immunization record
- Custody papers, if applicable
- Guardianship papers, if applicable

Your child must be 5-years old on or before September 30 to register for kindergarten. To register for first grade, your child must be 6-years old on or before September 30. **(If your child is currently enrolled in kindergarten in the Altoona Area School District, you do not have to reregister for first grade.)** Selection for kindergarten sessions is done randomly. Registration is no longer first come first serve. Parents do not have to bring their child to registration since Mrs. Donley, Mrs. Pheasant and Mrs. Boyles, the Kindergarten Teachers, will not be present during the registration since Kindergarten will be in session.

CLASSROOM NEWS

KINDERGARTEN

In February, kindergarten will be celebrating the 100th day of school. In March, we will be participating in Dr. Seuss activities.



FIRST GRADE

Many exciting things are happening in first grade. We will be having a frozen yogurt sundae Valentine's Sundae Party in our classes. Keep an eye out for information to come. We will also be celebrating the 100th day of school in February.

In March, we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday by reading our favorite Dr. Seuss books and other fun activities.

SECOND GRADE

On Monday, February 8th at 6:00 PM, the second graders and their parents are invited to an activity night called kid's concoctions and contraptions. On Wednesday, March 31st, the students will attend the Mishler Theater to watch the play Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing.

THIRD GRADE

Third grade is working hard to learn multiplication facts and review skills - such as clocks and money. We are reading stories daily to practice comprehension and other reading skills.

FOURTH GRADE

Our fourth graders are hard at work! We are continuing to strengthen our reading skills such as text organization and author's purpose. We are also improving our open-ended question skills to prepare for the PSSAs. In math, we are working on division skills. Please continue to read with your child and practice multiplication skills nightly.

FIFTH GRADE

Fifth Grade will be concentrating on PSSA skills in Reading, Math and Writing. While working on these skills, we will be incorporating technology.

Please continue to read with your child daily as well as ask them what homework they have each night.

SIXTH GRADE

PSSA is right around the corner. Be looking for PSSA practice assignments to be coming home with your students.

Expect slightly more math homework, we will be starting double lessons.

We will be starting practice for 6th grade recognition. Students must actively participate to be included in the program. The date for 6th Grade Recognition is Thursday, May 27th.

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

February is National Children's Dental Health Month. Keeping your child's teeth healthy include:

1. Brushing and flossing at least twice daily. This will help to remove plaque and food particles from the outer and inner tooth surfaces. It also prevents bacteria from lingering around teeth and gums.
2. Visit the dentist at least twice a year for a professional cleaning and examination.
3. Using fluoride helps to strengthen tooth enamel, thereby reducing dental decay.
4. Wearing mouth guards for high contact sports can prevent most sports related tooth and mouth injuries. A mouth guard may even prevent concussions by acting like a shock absorber between upper and lower teeth.
5. Finally, following a well-balanced diet will give your body the full range of vitamins and minerals it needs.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Mrs. M. Kutz's students are continuing to work hard. SRA Reading students are continuing to increase reading fluency and develop better comprehension skills. Math students are continuing to increase addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills. Keep up the good work students. Good job everyone. Thanks to the parents who also help with the practice of these skills at night.

Penn-Lincoln's new activity period for the intermediate classes meet two times per month and is called "KidsKlub". The club I created is named "Reading is Fun Club". Members of my club read books to Kindergarten students during our activity period. The students who read have done an excellent job with the young Kindergarten students. They have shown good reading skills. They have shown kindness and caring, they have been super role models. The Kindergarten students have shown interest, enthusiasm and excitement for reading during our times together. Kindergarten students also get to draw a picture about the story or book that was read to them. They have drawn very interesting and creative pictures. This club has been a very rewarding and enriching experience for me, for the student readers, and for the Kindergarten students. THANKS to every member of my "Reading is Fun Club" and to the Kindergarten students and teachers.

NEW STUDENT TEACHER

Penn-Lincoln would like to welcome Miss Jen Wolski. She will be student teaching with Mrs. Keith.

PENN-LINCOLN NEWSLINE

Call the Penn-Lincoln Newsline for current school information at 505-1470.

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS



STUDENTS VS. TEACHERS BASKETBALL GAME

On February 4, Penn-Lincoln Elementary will hold a Students vs. Teachers Basketball game at Penn-Lincoln Elementary School. Students in Grades 5 and 6 will play teachers in this benefit game to support Penn-Lincoln's PTO. There will be a halftime competition, prizes, and excitement all night. Please join us and come see all of your favorite teachers and especially our Principal, Mr. Duffett, play in this exciting game to support Penn-Lincoln. Adult admission is \$1 and tip off is scheduled at 6:30 PM in the Gym. Hope to see you there.

"GET CAUGHT READING AT PENN-LINCOLN"

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The library has been a busy place! We have added many new titles to our collection like: The World of Skateboarding - Tony Hawk: Skateboarding Champion, Better Homes and Gardens: New Junior Cookbook, My Weird School Daze (7 Book Series), Dirt Boy, Happy Birthday Bad Kitty, and many other exciting titles. We encourage kids at Penn-Lincoln to "Get Caught Reading" so Happy New Year and Happy Reading! See you at the library.

Mrs. Roberts

READING CLUB INFORMATION

The students in the Penn-Lincoln Breakfast and Lunch Bunch Reading Club focused on following directions in December. They mixed various ingredients together to create Spiral Soup Mix in a jar to give as a gift during the holiday. Thanks to their Penn-Lincoln advisors as well as Mr. and Mrs. Reimer, Mrs. Beiswenger, and Mrs. Letscher, they were able to sample the delicious soup during one of their lunch periods and beautifully decorate their jars.

In addition, over the holiday break, students were given a book to read. The books were purchased through our AASD Foundation Reading Club Venture Grant. During the month of January students shared the bag book reports with fellow members. Many of the reports are displayed in the library.

Plans are in the works for a possible February trip for members who have been actively participating as well as some special activities for Read Across America Day in March.

KIDS KLUBS KORNER

Penn-Lincoln's KidsKlubs, supported by an Altoona Area School District Foundation Venture Grant, have completed their first cycle of activities. Students in Grades 3-6 worked on many different skills in fun and creative ways with a classroom teacher or other support teacher. Some students built towers and bridges while others solved math puzzles. A number of clubs focused on helping others through recycling, reading to the younger students, and sending electronic postcards to our servicemen and women. Many of the clubs also helped students learn new skills or information. Students will be involved in a new club during the months of February, March, and April. They will then have the chance to participate in a third club to finish out the year.

Students in Grades 3-6 are working on an "American Heroes" unit during the months of January and February. This unit was created by Mrs. Morden, Penn-Lincoln's PSSA/Technology coach, and a colleague, Mrs. Rupp, for teachers and students in Grades 3-6. It focuses on important PSSA skills as well as other literacy strategies designed to help students be more involved in their education by reading, writing, and thinking as much as possible. Teachers of Grades 3-6 and Mrs. Morden will be instrumental in helping their students successfully complete this unit.



ALL CITY CONCERT

The All City Concert will be held on Thursday, March 4, 2010 in the Altoona Area High School auditorium at 7:00 PM.

All City Chorus:
(Fifth Grade)

- Madisyn Jones
- Teagan Molinets
- Zachery Detwiler
- Lindsay Chamberlain
- Nanci Mock
- Saira Miller
- Jordan Merritts
- Sarah Schmitt
- Kylia McCartney
- Emily Hugar

(Sixth Grades)

- Alexsys Allshouse
- Deanna Seese
- Tiffani Porta

All City Orchestra:
Devin Allmond

All City Band:

- Teagan Molinets - Clarinet (Gr. 5)
- Jordan Merritts - Clarinet (Gr. 5)
- Eric Yarnell - Trumpet (Gr. 6)
- Jacob Wike - Trumpet (Gr. 6)

We would also like to congratulate 6th Grader, Eric Yarnell ,who auditioned for and was accepted into the AASD elementary jazz band on trumpet, which is a high honor.



DAFFODIL DAYS

Daffodil Days information will be coming soon.



REMINDERS

1. You must notify the secretary if you change your address or telephone number.
2. Temporary Absence/Education Trip - If your child will be absent temporarily for an educational/family trip, the school will need ten days advance notice. Please send a note in with your child and a form will be sent home with him/her for you to complete and return.
3. For the protection of your children, all doors to Penn-Lincoln Elementary School are locked. ALL visitors and volunteers must sign in at the office, and if remaining to help at school, obtain a visitor's badge and wear it until signing out and leaving. **PARENTS ARE NOT TO VISIT THE CLASSROOM/TEACHER FOR ANY REASON WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT.**
4. When volunteering in the library or in a classroom, including classroom parties, bringing younger children with you can create a distraction. Your time volunteering is to be dedicated to helping our students.
5. Valuable teaching time is lost when students are tardy. Please be sure to have your child to school by 9 AM.
6. Please be reminded that birthdays are not to be celebrated in school. Parents are NOT to send balloons, cakes, candy, etc. to school.

PARENT FEEDBACK SECTION

Please use this section to communicate your points of view, suggestions, concerns or compliments. Just send it back to school with your child to the office.

TO: Mr. Duffett

FROM: _____

DATE: _____

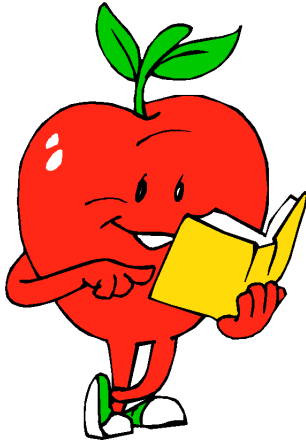
Here is my:

- _____ Concern
- _____ Compliment
- _____ Question

Would you like me to call you? If so, please list your phone number

PROGRESS BOOK

Please visit our web site <http://penlin.aasdc.com> and use the Progress book button to connect to the site. You will find a monthly calendar and announcement for parents as well as complete access to your child's grades.



PTO NEWS

A big thank you to parents for volunteering at our Santa Shop. We could not have done it without your help!

Upcoming events:

Spring Fundraiser coming soon
Students vs. Teachers Basketball Game -
February 4, 6:30 PM, Penn-Lincoln Gym
Scholastic Book Fair in library February 22nd -
26th

Don't forget to turn in your Box Tops and soup labels!

STUDENT COUNCIL

In February, Student Council will be having a money wars activity to benefit the Penn-Lincoln PTO. Students will use different coin denominations to vote for the King and Queen of Hearts from our faculty members. Watch for more information to be sent home.

In March, we will be sponsoring a School Spirit Day to help kick-off the PSSA Test.

Reminder to all Student Council Members: There will be a meeting the first Wednesday of every month of every month at 8:30 in Miss Hricko's room (Room 144).

PARENTS

PLEASE LOOK FOR FUTURE MEMOS FROM TEACHERS AND MR. DUFFETT RELATED TO THE 2010 PSSA TESTS

HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO PREPARE FOR THE PSSA TESTING FOR READING AND MATH:

WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD BE SUCCESSFUL IN SCHOOL:

- Make sure your child eats a healthy breakfast.
- Make sure your child is getting enough sleep.
- Sign homework notebooks after you check to make sure that the homework is completed.
- Check take-home folders daily for important information from school.
- Practice math facts daily with your child.
- Read daily with your child.

PARENT REMINDERS:

- Grades can be accessed on PROGRESS BOOK.
- Updates are made weekly.
- Visit our Penn-Lincoln website <http://penlin.aasdc.com> and click on the link to Progress Book

STUDENT REMINDERS:

KEEP WORKING ON...

- Memorizing the multiplication and division facts
- Continue reading and discussing reading stories at home
- Practice sentence writing
- Practice paragraph writing (introductory sentence, 3 detail sentences, and a concluding sentence)
- Practice the PSSA skills we go over in school
- Do all Classwork
- Do all Homework
- Be Responsible
- Be Kind
- Think of Others

TESTING DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

GRADE 5 WRITING-
APRIL 19-23

GRADES 3,4,5,6 MATH/READING-
APRIL 7-16

GRADE 4 SCIENCE -
APRIL 26-30