

# OPR Penguin Post Family Edition

December Newsletter

## Message from Principal Wooden

Tis the Season! I want to take this time to wish all of our families, a happy holiday and winter season. It is during the month of December where all the sounds in the air are that of rejoicing and celebration. I want to take the time to rejoice and celebrate with each of you as we embark upon the winter and holiday seasons. There is so much to celebrate. I celebrate the completion of the first four months of school. I

celebrate that our scholars are working hard and trying their best each and every day. I celebrate our teachers for providing our scholars with the best educational opportunities possible. I celebrate our families for being supportive to our school. I celebrate our bus drivers who ensure that our scholars get to school and home safely. Finally, I celebrate our business partners for supporting our school all year long and especially during the holiday season to ensure that our families and most importantly, our scholars in need can enjoy the holiday season.



At the close of this month, we will take our winter break. It is my hope that you and your family spend time making lasting memories. I am looking forward to spending time in Philadelphia with my family and friends this holiday season. In January, my paternal grandmother will be 103 years old. So, every holiday that our family gets to spend with her is memorable. It is a time for us to laugh, sing, play cards, watch movies, eat, and laugh at all those who fall asleep fast for eating so much. All memorable for us.

During the winter break, please take time to read a good book with your child. Take time to watch a favorite family movie. During winter break, play a board game or work on a puzzle that requires the entire family to be together. During this winter break, take pictures and selfies to return back to the memories that were made during the holidays and winter break. I promise you, these memories will last a lifetime.

As we celebrate, I want to celebrate all our families who have become more active in our school. It makes a huge difference when the schoolhouse and families join together to impact the lives of our scholars. It really does take a village. One of my wishes this holiday is that more families become active in our school. One way is by joining our PTA. The cost for PTA is \$8 per family. Let's continue to

increase our PTA membership and get involved to make our school the best of the best. Please use the link to join our PTA by using the secure Member Hub <https://fspta-00009657-wpopr.memberhub.com/store>.

Also, be sure to join our social media sites. These sites are a hub for school information where we show pictures of scholars engaged in learning and show live videos during classroom instruction so that you can be involved. The codes below will take you to our social media sites.

Together let's WISH for a Wonderful Winter Season!

Happy Holidays,

Principal Wooden

## Don't Forget to Check us out on Social Media



## Upcoming Important Dates

- **Friday, December 2:** Winter Wishes Wonderland Family Event
- **Friday, December 9:** 3 Hour Early Dismissal for Students
- **Friday, December 23:** 3 Hour Early Dismissal for Students and Staff
- **Monday, December 26-Monday, January 2:** Winter Break, Schools Closed



## Grade Level Updates

**Pre-K**

- In ILA we have been working on identifying letters and the sounds that they make, drawing shapes and lines and practicing writing our name This month will be focusing on the following letters: F, E, U and C.
- In math we will continue to work on number sense, we will explore the number 4 and 5, order events and use a 5-frame.
- We hope you had wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends, and we are looking forward to the holiday season that is fast approaching.



## Kindergarten

As we head into an exciting time of the year, full of reflection and celebrations, we want to express our deepest gratitude for our Kindergarten scholars and families! We are so thankful that you are a part of our Kindergarten family!



- Please remember to read the agenda book nightly and sign that you have seen it. This is a great way for communication to occur between home and school!
- Please update the extra clothes that are in your scholar's bookbag in case of accidents! Now that it is cold outside, we want to make sure these extra clothes are seasonally appropriate.
- We are looking forward to welcoming families into the building for our Kindergarten Learn with Me Event on Friday, December 16th, 2022 from 10:00AM-11:00AM to celebrate the gift of reading!! Be on the lookout for more information from your scholar's classroom teacher!
- Word Scientists: Scholars will independently use their learning to identify letters and letter sounds, use their knowledge of letter-sounds to begin to segment words in reading, incorporate letter knowledge in writing, and identify and write SNAP words to incorporate in their reading and writing.

**Reading:** Sharing Reading: Scholars will begin to track print (one touch for one word) and use SNAP words to help them read. We will work with reading partners to help use comprehend our books.

**Writing:** Show and Tell: Scholars will get more and more down on their paper! We are hoping to build lots of inventive spellers in our classroom! We want to fill our pages with not just pictures but also words!

**Mathematics:** Topic 4: Compare Numbers 0 to 10: Mathematicians will compare and order numbers 0 to 10. Topic 5: Classify and Count Data: Mathematicians will classify data to answer questions.

**TUB:** Communities: Scholars will explore what makes a community successful.

We are looking forward to a month full of festivities with our scholars! Stay warm!

## 1st Grade

First graders have been working so hard as we begin the second quarter of school together! We are looking forward to the December and the excitement that the season brings! We are beginning to move into new content in our curricular calendar as we enter December! In math, we are beginning Topic 4, Subtraction to 20! As writers, we will be thinking about our knowledge of the world around us as we begin to write non-fiction teaching books! In Phonics, we will be working on "cases" and trying to solve the mystery of the silent e at the end of words and how that tiny silent letter can change





the sound of the whole word! In Reading Workshop, we will be Word Detectives and use all we know about vowels, blends and digraphs to help us read unknown words!

As a grade level, we would like to remind all parents/guardians of the following:

- Please make sure that your child has a coat, as we have recess outside twice daily. If you need assistance in getting a coat for your child, please reach out to your child's teacher.
- Please make sure to pack your child an extra set of clothing in their backpacks.
- ALL money coming to school should be in a ziplock bag and labeled with your child's name and the purpose of the money.
- Please make sure to initial your child's agenda each evening, as this is the primary communication tool between school and home! Check your child's teacher's communication platform (ClassTag, Dojo, etc.) for updates, reminders and notifications of upcoming events!

We look forward to sharing in the joy, smiles and love that this special time of year delivers!

## 2nd Grade

- We will be going outside every day so please make sure your child is prepared with hats, gloves, jackets, scarves, and anything that will keep them warm for our time outside!
- Please make sure your scholar is reading for 20 minutes a night independently. Also, don't forget it is still important for you to continue to read *to* your child so he/she can hear fluent reading.
- Don't forget to sign your scholar's agenda EACH night to look for important information from school!



## 3rd Grade

- Please note that the weather is getting colder, and we will continue to go outside for recess if it is above 40 degrees. Please be sure to send your child to school with the appropriate outdoor clothing. If you need assistance with winter outdoor wear, please reach out to your child's teacher.
- 1st quarter report card grades are viewable on HAC as of 11/23/22. 2nd quarter began 11/14/22.
- Quick reminder: If your child is absent, please send a note for the absence on the day he/she returns to school.
- Another reminder: Please be sure to check and sign your child's agenda binder every evening. It is a great form of communication between home and school. Thank you!



Thank you for all your continued support, and we wish you a wonderful holiday season!

## 4th Grade

- Our scholars had a great time with parents at Learn with Me day. Scholars made multiplication games and activities. The games and activities are great resources to use to continue practicing multiplication facts. We will be using multiplication in our upcoming unit Multiplying by 2 Digits.

- As we bring our reading unit *Reading the Weather, Reading the World* to a close, scholars will create a visual to show the information they learned while researching an extreme weather occurrence.
- In science scholars will use the Engineering Design Process to construct an Earthquake proof structure.



*The fourth grade teachers would like to wish our penguins and their families a holiday filled with love, fun, laughter and family time!! 🐧❄️*

## 5th Grade

- Students showed their stewardship while at Harford Glen and had a blast exploring nature.
- Students have become expert reporters during our journalism unit
- Students have been multiplying 4 digits by 2-digit numbers and 3 digits by 2-digit numbers. Continue to encourage your children to practice math facts at home.



## Special Areas- Primary

In P.E. Students will be entering the galaxy with some Cosmic Bowling! In Art students will be doing winter projects to emphasize the elements of art. In the Media Center students will be learning the qualities of being a digital citizen . Finally in music students will be practicing winter themed songs in forms of dance, singing, and instruments.



## Special Areas- Intermediate

During the month of December, the students in the intermediate building will be working on: **Music**-discovering dynamics and tempos and continuing with learning/reviewing rhythm, **Media**-being introduced to a new technology tool, Wixie, **Phys-Ed**-focus will be on integrating movement and dance, and **Art**-developing our painting skills.



## OLD POST ROAD ELEMENTARY WINTER CONCERT FOR 5th Grade Band/Orchestra/Chorus Members:

Come join us in the Intermediate Building Gymnasium for an evening of Holiday Cheer as our 5th Grade Students of the Band/Orchestra/Chorus will present our Holiday Concert at 6:00 p.m.

Families of students who will be performing, you will be receiving a letter with all of the important information about the concert. Please be on the lookout for this letter in blue



# Winter Wishes Wonderland

Join us for a fun-filled family night!

Pictures with Santa Claus  
Reading and math activities  
Raffle prizes





Friday, December 2  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Intermediate Building





## OLD POST ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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