



Panther Post

Thoreau Park Elementary School



Mr. Bickley, Principal

Mr. Keating, Dean of Students

March 2020

At Thoreau Park, we believe it is our mission to increase student achievement and social-emotional health through student-centered instruction, positive family-school partnerships, and providing a safe learning climate.

Principal Update

Every year, schools are required to create "School Improvement Plans" (SIP for short). For Parma Schools, the last few years all of the elementary schools have collaborated on creating the same 5 goals. Each school then determines action steps of how they plan to work towards those goals. We have 3 academic goals (85% of students will be on track for Language Arts, Math, and Third Grade Reading Guarantee) and 2 resilient learner goals (2% reduction in chronic absenteeism and 10% reduction in aggressive behavior referrals).

I am proud to report that, thanks to the hard work of our staff and students, that Thoreau Park is either exceeding these goals or progressing toward them. For example, after our latest benchmark assessments, we improved our Language Arts on-track scores by 13 percentage points. At the end of the 1st semester, our aggressive behavior referrals had decreased by 13.5% as compared to the previous year.

We will continue to provide updates on all of these goals as we continue to gather data this semester.

Ted Bickley, Principal

Morning Arrival

Please remember there is no supervision of students prior to 8:45 am each morning. That is the time students are let in the building for either breakfast or to wait in the gym until the bell rings at 9:15 am. Please do not drop your child off prior to 8:45 am each day. The safety of our students is always our most important priority.

PTA News

Our PTA has some exciting things happening before the end of the year. Be sure to watch for flyers, they'll be coming home soon. PTA memberships are still available, please consider joining if you haven't already. Join us on Facebook (Thoreau Park PTA) for the most updated information, changes and courtesy reminders. Sadly, we only have a couple meetings left this school year. We normally meet the first Monday night of the month. Please, stop in and share your thoughts, ideas or just come for the snacks and laughs! We'd love to have you. Thank you again for your continued support, we are

proud of our PTA and with your help we can continue to grow!

Home Liaison - Mrs. Catalano

Parents, please send your child to school dressed for the winter weather with a coat, boots, mittens, and a hat. We do go outside for recess as much as possible. Also if you are able to, we are asking parents to send in an extra set of pants, underwear, and socks for your student to keep in his/her locker for those just in case moments. Our clinic is running low on "extra" clothes for our students. If you are in need of some support getting clothing or other supplies, please call me at 440-843-3526 or directly to the Parma Area Collaborative at 440-887-4873. As a reminder, the Parma Area Family Collaborative moved to Parkview Elementary at 5210 Loya Parkway. The clothing center is open at the Collaborative every Thursday from 2-4pm. Please stop in the school and take a look at the Lost and Found in the cafeteria. There are many clothing items piling up.

Let's start the 4th quarter off right by sending your student to school every day on time. Attendance counts! If you do receive a letter regarding your student's attendance, please contact Mrs. Catalano so we can discuss any concerns.

If you or your child are in need of some mental health support, food or clothing assistance, please contact Mrs. Catalano at 440-843-3526.

Kids Heart Health Challenge

Formerly known as Jump Rope for Heart, this fundraiser will take place from March 2-16. All donations are due back to school on March 16, 2020. All funds raised will be used to support the American Heart Association. Please contact Mrs. LaRiccia with any questions - laricciak@parmacityschools.org.

Million Minute Reading Challenge

The challenge is still under way. Keep reading at home! Thanks for all of the support with Dr. Seuss week and thank you to all of the parents who supported our students with Dr. Seuss Reading Challenge. With Spring Break on the way and AIR testing in April, now more than ever, it is vital that we are supporting our students and helping them make gains with their reading. Congrats to Mrs. Kaczmarek's and Mrs. Hoffman's classrooms for winning celebrations.

Kindergarten Registration

There will be multiple opportunities to enroll students for Kindergarten for the 2020-21 school year. Children the age of 5 before September 30 may be enrolled in Kindergarten. All registrations will be completed at the Parma Board of Education - 5311 Longwood Ave. A list of dates and times are located below -



Get your child registered and ready for Kindergarten!
Your story begins in PCSD!

Parma City Schools provide residents of Parma, Parma Heights, and Seven Hills access to unparalleled opportunities. We are thrilled to welcome the Parma City School District Class of 2033 beginning in March, as we kick-off Kindergarten Registration 2020!

STEP 1: All parents MUST complete the online registration prior to attending a registration event. The completion of the online registration will act as a "ticket" to any one of our five Kindergarten Registration events.

Click this link to begin the registration process: [Register Today!](#)

STEP 2: Attend one of our Kindergarten Registration events!

LOCATION: There will be 5 kindergarten registration dates available this spring and summer. All events will be held at the district's administrative offices, 5311 Longwood Avenue, Parma.

DATES:

- Saturday, March 7:
 - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, April 3:
 - 8 a.m. - 12 p.m./ 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Saturday, May 9:
 - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, June 12:
 - 8 a.m. - 12 p.m./ 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Monday, July 6:
 - 8 a.m. - 12 p.m./ 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.

INFORMATION:

Parents must bring the following documents to the Kindergarten Registration event:

- Student's birth certificate
- Student's immunization record
- Two documents proving residency (must not be older than 60 days):
 - Electric, gas, water, sewer, cable/internet, monthly mortgage statement, or lease or bank statement.
- Parent/Guardian Photo ID
- Custody Papers (if applicable)
- Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Evaluation Team Report (ETR) or 504 (If applicable)

PARENTS WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT:

- How to prepare your child for Kindergarten
- A typical school day
- Transportation
- Before/After School Care options
- Extracurricular Opportunities
- STEM Project-Based Learning
- PTA
- Supply Lists
- Special Education
- And so much more!

For more information, please visit <https://www.parmacityschools.org/registration> or call 440-885-8334

Parma Parent University



SAVE THE DATES

From 6:00 PM -7:00 PM

- October 16 @ Normandy
- November 13 @Valley Forge
- January 22 @ Parma Senior
- February 19 @ Normandy
- March 18 @Valley Forge
- April 15 @Parma Senior
- May 13 @ Normandy

Attendees will enjoy refreshments and have the opportunity to help select topics for future workshops.



Friday morning Mystery Announcers

The Office is looking for volunteers to read the morning announcements Friday mornings. Volunteers are asked to arrive at Thoreau Park by 9:10. Announcements begin at approximately 9:20 each day. After announcements, parents and guardians can enjoy a donut with their child and Mr. Bickley. If interested, please call Mrs. Pace in the Main Office at 440-885-2351 to schedule a day. And remember, don't tell your child to keep it a surprise.

Choir - Ms. Shelow

Choir practice resumed for 3rd and 4th grade students on January 27, 2020. Interested 3rd and 4th grade students that did not join in the fall can join now to practice and prepare for our Spring concert. Practices take place Mondays and Wednesdays after school until 4:30 pm. The evening concert is scheduled for May 12, 2020, at Parma High School at 7:00 pm. The dress rehearsal will be at Thoreau Park the afternoon of May 11. Don't forget to sign up for Ms. Shelow's Remind group for updates and information regarding choir. The code to join the group is: **@74gc83**. Contact Ms. Shelow with any questions - shelowa@parmacityschools.org.

River Valley Paper Recycling Bin

Don't forget to bring all of your paper and cardboard to our recycling bin located in the main parking lot. Our school earns money for each ton of paper collected. Thank you for supporting our school and helping the environment at the same time.

Cuyahoga County Library- Homework Help

Free homework help is available at certain branches of the Cuyahoga County library. The Parma branch is a site where this is offered. Registration is required for participation. Visit the following website for more information -

<https://www.cuyahogalibrary.org/Services/Homework-Help/Homework-Centers.aspx>

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS)

As part of our school's commitment to increase the social-emotional health of our students, Mrs. Catalano and Mr. Keating presented the Be Kind, Stick Together assembly supported by Duck Tape and Project Love. During the assemblies presented on Feb. 11 & 12, the students learned about ways to spread kindness by paying it forward through doing kind deeds or by coloring the world with kindness. Each student promised to Be Kind and Stick Together by either signing their name to a piece of Duck Tape and taping it to a poster, or adding their name to our school's Chain of Kindness. Both the posters and chain are hanging in the school's hallway near the cafeteria for visitors and students to see. We will be having two assemblies coming up this year to support character education and growth mindset. More information will be available about these assemblies in the near future. The PBIS committee would like to recognize the following students that have received Super Student status at least 5 times since September. These students were recognized during the morning announcements and have received a new Green clip for their classroom clip chart:

Emmett - Rm. 113
Anjolie - Rm. 113
Stella - Rm. 106
Devin - Rm. 214
Chase - Rm. 215
Ethan - Rm. 215
Jarelle - Rm. 202
Brendan - Rm. 203
Brianna - Rm. 203
Brayden - Rm. 203
Hunter - Rm. 209
Payton - Rm. 209
Jimmy - 210
Aidan - 210

The following students have received Super Student status more than 5 times since September. They have traded in their Green clip for the following clip:

Tamirus - Rm. 103 - Purple glitter
Nevaeh - Rm. 103 - Rainbow glitter
Skyler - Rm. 103 - Blue
Kaylee - Rm. 103 - Purple
Aiden - Rm. 103 - Pink
Martin - Rm. 103 - Pink
Laila - Rm. 113 - Purple
Aaliyah - Rm. 113 - Pink
Anthony - Rm. 218 - Pink
Samantha - Rm. 218 - Pink
Camryn - Rm. 218 - Pink
Ellie - Rm. 105 - Pink
Annabella - Rm. 106 - Purple
Angel - Rm. 106 - Pink
Ameena - Rm. 106 - Blue
Arianna - Rm. 106 - Pink
Madelyn - Rm. 108 - Purple
Emanuel-Ryan - Rm. 214 - Blue
Addison - Rm. 201 - Blue
Ibrahim - Rm. 201 - Purple
Dakota - Rm. 201 - Pink
Parker - Rm. 201 - Pink
Jonathan - Rm. 201 - Blue
Thea - Rm. 201 - Blue
Amanda - Rm. 202 - Purple
Hunter - Rm. 2020 - Purple
Olivia - Rm. 202 - Purple
Evelyn - Rm. 203 - Purple
Jada - Rm. 210 - Purple
Ana - Rm. 210 - Purple
Dominic - Rm. 210 - Pink

Go Green Lottery

The Go Green Lottery will continue this school year at Thoreau Park Elementary. All students who remain on green (Ready to Learn) and above in our behavior management system known as CLIP IT for 80% of the month have the opportunity to be entered into the lottery for a Pawsitive Panther yard sign. Every month, a name will be drawn for each grade level so we will have 5 winners a month. Winners for the month of **January** were: **Luke Reynolds, Hailey Devera, Anayz Ocsio, Luis Mercado, and Aiden Richards**. Continue to

encourage your child to be **READY** to **LEARN**.
Remember: **GREEN IS A GREAT PLACE TO BE!**

Panther 200 Club

Every day, five student names are randomly drawn and if your child is at school and ready to learn during the morning announcements, they will come down to the office to earn a pencil, a paw sticker, and draw a number. The number they select is where their picture will go on the *Panther 200 Club* board located in the hallway next to the Main Office. Make sure to look for it the next time you stop in the building. Our school just recently completed our second 200 Club chart for the year. The students earned a locker badge and began their day as a Role Model on their classroom clip chart. We will begin working on our third 200 Club chart on or around March 6. Thank you for making sure your children are at school and on time each day.

Classroom Attendance Incentive Program

Has your child mentioned that their class got to put a PAW up on the chart next to their classroom door? This is part of our school's initiative to increase daily student attendance and decrease student tardies and absences from school. Every classroom will have a specific percentage of students that need to be present each day to earn a PAW for their calendar. This percentage will be based on data collected over a period of time at the start of each semester for each particular classroom. Each Monday, the classroom from each grade-level with the most PAWs will get to choose a prize for their class. This program worked to help our school decrease chronic absenteeism last year, so we look forward to it helping our Thoreau Park Panthers be at school each day this year as well.

7 Habits of a Happy Kid: The Leader in Me

As a school this year, we will be focusing on building leadership skills in our students using the 7 Habits. Each month we will focus on one of the 7 Habits. Two students who exemplify the monthly habit will be selected by their classroom teacher to be the Student Leader of the Month. March's Habit is **Habit #6 - Synergize - Together is better**. Throughout the month, students will learn to do the following:

- Learn from others.
- Value other people's strengths.
- Get along with people different than themselves.
- Work in groups to create better ideas.

From *The Leader in Me*, **SYNERGIZE** is when two or more people work together to create a better solution that either would have thought of alone. It's not your way or my way, but a better way. Talk about the equation: $1 + 1 = 3$ (or more). How is that possible? 1 person + another person = 2 ideas + many more than either of them would have thought of alone. Synergy is taking good ideas and making them better by working together.

At home, you can help your child develop **Habit 6** by choosing a problem you may have (like completing tasks). Summarize your child's solution and your

solution: (1) Define the problem. (2) Share your views. (3) Think of solutions. (4) Choose the best solution together. See if you can reach a better solution than either of you would have come up with alone.

The following students were recognized as the January Leaders of Month for Habit #4 - Think win-win: Everyone can win. Each student was recognized for their leadership with a donut and juice celebration. Each grade-level's pictures are posted on the bulletin board near the cafeteria. Congratulations to the following students -

Martin - Rm. 103

Brandon - Rm. 104

Christian - Rm. 109

Danext "Ace" - Rm. 110

Caleb - Rm. 114

Arabella and Steven - Rm. 113

Lana and Abigail - Rm. 217

Addalyn and Samantha - Rm. 218

Eastyn and Zoey - Rm. 105

Kelsey and Stella - Rm. 106

Jamari and Ava - Rm. 108

David and Olivia - Rm. 212

Dylan and Aleigha - Rm. 214

Karla and Quintin - Rm. 215

Anthony and Keanu - Rm. 201

Aubree and Quentin - Rm. 202

Payton and Arimas - Rm. 203

Arianna and Hunter - Rm. 209

Kylie and Noah - Rm. 210

Levi and Alexandra - Rm. 211

Upcoming Events

March 9 - PTA Campbell's Popcorn sale begins; orders due back to school on 3/30/20.

March 12 - Spring Pictures

March 17 - Election Day - No School for students. PCSD has Issue 31 on the ballot - a Renewal Levy.

March 18 - 6 Pillars of Character school assembly

March 20 - Staff inservice day. No School for students.

March 21-29 - Spring Break

March 30 - School resumes for students.

April 1 - PTA Chipotle Night

April 3 - 3rd quarter report cards go home.

April 3 - March Student Leaders of the Month breakfast

April 3 - PTA BINGO night @ Parma Senior High - 6:00pm

April 6 - PTA Meeting - 5:30 pm

April 7 - Gr. 3 ELA AIR testing

April 9 - Gr. 3 ELA AIR testing

April 10-13 - No school for students - Easter holiday.

April 14 - Gr. 4 ELA AIR testing

April 16 - Gr. 4 ELA AIR testing

April 17 - Dental Van at Thoreau Park

April 20-24 - Disability Awareness Spirit Week

