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Dentzler Eagle Edition

February 2024

HOME/SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
"Dentzler, Growing Great Minds!"

No School

Classes will not be in session on Monday, February 19 in observance of President's Day.

Morning Arrival

Please keep in mind that students are NOT permitted to arrive to school prior to 8:55 a.m. Students arriving prior to 8:55 a.m. will remain outside and there is no supervision for these children. Please keep your child(ren) safe and don't drop them off during unsupervised times. If your child(ren) is coming for breakfast, they may arrive at 8:55 a.m. as well.



Congratulations Dentzler on National Recognition

Dentzler Elementary has been named a 2023 National ESEA Distinguished Schools for the extraordinary success of our students. The National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA) has been selecting examples of superior, federally-funded schools for national recognition through the National ESEA Distinguished Schools program since 1996. They

celebrate the efforts of schools across the country making significant improvements. The program has annually acknowledged the success of hundreds of schools in one of three categories:

- Category 1: Exceptional student performance and academic growth
- Category 2: Closing the achievement gap between student groups
- Category 3: Excellence in serving special populations of students (e.g. homeless, migrant, English learners, etc.)

We are proud of the collaboration and consistency among our staff and student programming. We believe in our students and implement strategies that promote high levels of learning and achievement of students' learning goals. Please see the attached list of recognized schools.

[Download List of 2023 Schools.](#)

Ohio State Testing Schedule

The Ohio State Tests will be administered to students in grades 3 and 4 during the months of April and May. Exact dates and times will be forthcoming.

To learn more about state testing, go to <http://www.ode.state.oh.us>

You can also access practice tests by clicking below [Practice Tests](#)

Home Liaison

Welcome to February! I hope you have had a great start to the year as we settle into February. We have coats for students available at Dentzler, if your family is in need.

We have multiple counseling resources available if you feel that is something that would benefit your child. We are here to support you in any way that is needed. Please feel free to reach out to me by email at eland@parmacityschools.org or call at 440-843-8979 if your family needs any assistance.

LET'S TALK ABOUT ATTENDANCE:

Between the cold weather and all the germs going around, getting to school can be challenging. Nonetheless, being in school is important. Just missing 2 days a month can impact a child's ability to read. If you have any questions about attendance or need help please reach out to Ms. Eland at 440-843-8979.

What You Can Do

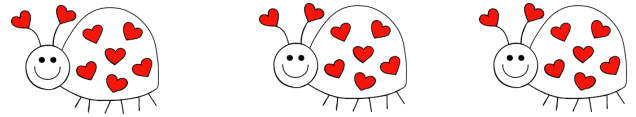
It's important to keep track of how many days your child is actually missing. There are also things you can do to help your child *want* to go to school, or at least not try to avoid it:

- Talk with your child. Try to find out the reason for missing school. Together, you can try to brainstorm some solutions.
- Call the school and talk with an adult who knows your child like their teacher, school counselor, administrator.. Find out what the school can do to help.
- Get tips on [how to respond when kids say they don't want to go to school.](#)

NEW SCHOOL WIDE INITIATIVE- ATTENDANCE

As you know attendance is important and we look forward to seeing all of our students everyday. Therefore, we are starting a program to celebrate those who are present. Once a week, during morning announcements we are going to call our random "[Lucky Number](#)." The students in each class who are assigned the "Lucky Number" will be given a certificate, a prize, and we will take a group picture. Please help support us with improvement in attendance. Encourage, support, and assist your child in getting to school everyday. We want to

recognize them, but more importantly regular attendance leads to success and high student achievement.



Winter Weather and School "Snow Day" Closings

If schools are closed due to inclement weather or any other reason, it will be announced on both television, radio, twitter, and facebook. You will also receive a "robocall" letting you know that school has been canceled. You may also check our district website at www.parmacityschools.org for the latest school closings. In the event that school is canceled, all evening activities will be canceled as well.



FAST

Our Dentzler FAST program has already completed its first round in the Fall. We graduated with 8 families. Families love the FAST program and have grown closer as a family. We will be hosting another session in the Spring. There will be a flier coming home with your child in March with more details. Our FAST sessions are offered to students in grades K-4 and are held on Wednesday evenings at the school. It is a wonderful opportunity for you and your family to spend quality time together, make projects/crafts, talk, interact with other families, eat dinner and grow as a Dentzler community. Please reach out with any questions that you may have.



Pierogi Dinner

"Partners in Education" (PIE) will hold their annual Pierogi/Fish dinner on March 1. Dine-in and take out will be available. Our fantastic Dentzler choir will be performing that evening as well. Follow the newsletters and Eagle Edition for more details as the event gets closer. And, we will be selling Pierogi Dinner tickets at the building. Thank you for your support.

Safety Patrol

Safety Patrol members continue to work hard at their posts. Remember to arrive on time for morning posts, with your belts. The guards have done a nice job demonstrating proper school behavior. Grades and behavior need to remain in good standing in order to serve as a part of safety patrol.

The January guards of the month are: **Sam Kullgren, Jessica Ebie, Chloe Raffay, Agapi Papadelis**

All Safety Patrol Members take an oath and stand by their word to not only adhere to their own responsibilities but to ensure the safety of all bus riders, car riders, and walkers. Their service includes:

- Serving as a leader under the direction of Safety Patrol Advisors.
- Reminding students to listen and make good choices to ensure their safety while waiting in line for school to begin.

- Assisting adult door monitors in safely transporting students to and from their classrooms.
- Teaching fellow students about school safety.

Important Upcoming Dates

Tues., Feb. 6 - PCSD Townhall - FB Live

Wed., Feb. 7 - PCPTA Meeting - 7:00 VF

Fri., Feb. 9 - PTA Game Night - 6:00 Dentzler

Sat. Feb. 17 - PCPTA Founder's Night

Mon., Feb. 19 - No School - President's Day

Tues. Feb. 20 - PTA Meeting - CCPL - Powers Blvd. -
6:00 - All are Welcome!

Fri., Mar. 1 - Pierogi Dinner 3:00-7:00 Normandy

March 4-8 - PTA Book Fair

Kindergarten Registration

Parents/Guardians wishing to pre-register their child going into kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year will be able to complete the online registration process beginning **January 1**.



Parents must have **A COPY** of the following documents scanned and available to pre-register for kindergarten online:

- 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)

* Kindergarten Programs Available: *

Traditional Kindergarten

- May apply if child turns five on or before September 30th and must apply if child turns 6 by September 30th
- Rigorous curriculum using ODE Kindergarten Standards & Model Curriculum including HMH 'Into Reading', Math Expressions, Science Fusion, Reading Mastery, & Social-Emotional Learning

Kindergarten Launch

- An additional year of schooling between preschool and Kindergarten to help prepare your child for Kindergarten and life-long learning
- Eligible to apply if your child turns five between May 1st and September 30th
- Available at Green Valley, Ridge-Brook or The Meadows
- Curriculum using ODE Kindergarten Standards focused on foundational literacy and math skills, and social emotional learning

STEM Kindergarten

- Eligible if child turns five on or before September 30th
- STEM is a Project Based Learning Environment (work as a team to solve problems)
- Parents must be active participants along with students
- Interested students can fill out the STEM application after they are registered for Kindergarten
- Offered at Pleasant Valley Elementary School only

Early Entrance Kindergarten Testing

- A parent may request early entrance if a child turns five after September 30th and before January 1st
- Not every child is appropriate. This option is for a family that believes their younger child can socially, emotionally, developmentally, & academically thrive in the Kindergarten environment
- Factors taken into consideration during the testing process are: developmental readiness, social maturity, personal development, and motor development

Register Online Today!

- Registration is NOW OPEN!
- To register a student, visit parmacityschools.org/registration
- Or call us at (440) 885-8334



Music & Choir

Our Dentzler Choir is very excited to be rehearsing every Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:15 to 8:50 a.m. We are preparing many songs to share our singing at the PCSD Pierogi Dinner on March 1, 2024. Our performance time is set for 5:50 p.m., but our choir members will need to be there at 5:30 p.m. If you'd like to hear them sing at the Pierogi Dinner, we'd like to see you there, and remember, you don't need to purchase a Pierogi Dinner to listen to our choir sing. After March 1st, we will continue rehearsing every Wednesday and Friday mornings to prepare for our concert at Normandy High School on May 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Encore Music

Our Dentzler music classes continue to utilize "QuaverEd: Music" to explore many concepts and skills in music. Some of these include:

4th Grade: Note durations, Tempos, Timbre, Orchestra and Band Instruments, Fretted Instruments, Chords, and Harmony.

3rd Grade: The Classical Period (composers/orchestra/music), Dynamics, and more Rhythm,

2nd Grade: The Baroque Period (composers/orchestra/music), Dynamics, and Singing more Solfège.

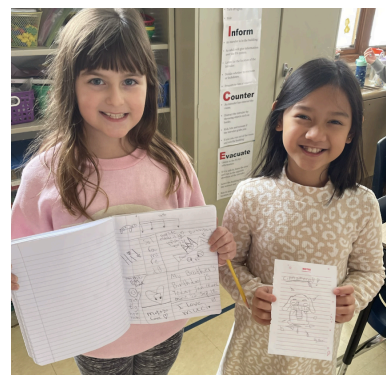
1st Grade: Exploring our voices (whisper, talk, shout, and sing), Pitches and Intervals, Sound and Rest, Loud and Soft.

Kindergarten: Using our voices to explore: High and Low Pitches, Melodic Contour, Patterns of 2, 3, and 4, Intro to Instrument Families.

Music continued:

From Dr. Owens

According to Merrill and Gonser (2021), examples of student choices may be centers, a sensory table, or a book nook. Learning and playing in unstructured ways that involve the school's curriculum can be fun for students, giving them the flexibility of choice.



At Dentzler, music students have a voice in their learning decisions. We mix art/drawing, movement, instruments, singing, and more. Sometimes, it is a little chaotic, and sometimes, everyone doesn't get to play the piano (the favorite instrument to share), but we see engaged, enthusiastic students in music class. In January, students learned to write rhythmic patterns and note duration values using the Chrome Jamboard, paper/pencil, or whiteboards. They also used rhythm sticks, pianos, and drums to play the rhythms. Students are eager to share their work with the music teacher and classmates.

Reference

Merrill, S., & Gonser, S. (2021, September 16). Student engagement. The importance of student choice across all grade levels. When students get to make decisions about their learning, it can be powerfully motivating. Eutopia. <https://www.edutopia.org/article/importance-student-choice-across-all-grade-levels/>

Student Council

Student Council met to talk about New Year's Resolutions. Representatives focused on goals for the entire school. Some of the goals were "earn Dentzler dollars", "be kind", and "listen to others". Students wrote these goals down and they are displayed on the Student Council bulletin board for all to see! We also had a fabulous carnation sale for Valentine's Day!

ENGLISH LEARNERS

As we start the month of February, OELPA testing will begin. Each current EL student will take four state tests to assess their English Language Proficiency level. We will get the results of these tests by the end of the school year and use these scores for next year's grouping. A copy of the results will be sent home.

Dentzler has been piloting Lexia English since the start of January. This program works on each student's individual level for Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking. It has been exciting to hear our Newcomers speaking English as soon as they begin working on Lexia English. We look forward to seeing the growth they make throughout the rest of the school year.

Dentzler has added an additional EL teacher to their staff. We have welcomed Jennifer Broa to work alongside Beth Moss. This additional teacher will give our students more access to English Language Learning.

WE'VE ADDED AN EL TEACHER

Ms. Broa enjoys teaching children of all ages and backgrounds. She began teaching in New York in 2001 as a Spanish teacher in a dual language program. She later moved on to teach ELL in Parma, Ohio. Her love of teaching and traveling combined and she moved to Mexico, the United Arab Emirates, and China. While teaching in each country, she gained invaluable experiences in second language acquisition. Outside of work, Ms. Broa loves spending time with her daughters, going to the beach in the summer and skiing in the winter. She is excited to join the Dentzler staff and

share her love of language and different cultures with her students.

Parma School Banking Program - As part of PSE Credit Union's Financial Literacy partnership with the PCSD elementary schools they are offering elementary students the opportunity to participate in the Banking Program. School Banking helps students not only learn about money, but it helps them develop the basic life skill of managing money. It rewards them for saving and instills a sense of confidence especially when they reach a specific savings goal. Information was sent home earlier this year with students. If you've misplaced it and are interested in your child participating and/or have questions about this program, please contact Mrs. Renicker at renickers@parmacityschools.org and she will send the information home with your student so that they can open an account. **Banking days are every Wednesday morning.** Thank you.

Homework Centers at CCPL

Since 2002, Cuyahoga County Public Library's free Homework Centers program has helped thousands of students in grades K – 8 improve their grades and subject comprehension. Homework Centers are available at 10 branches. Students who participate in the program receive homework assistance from trained tutors in the following subjects:

- Language arts
- Math
- Reading
- Science
- Social studies



Each Homework Center location offers two after-school sessions Monday through Thursday throughout the school year. Please contact your local branch for more information. [Registration is required.](#)

Learn more about CCPL Homework Centers at: <https://cuyahogalibrary.org/services/student-success/homework-help>

10 Ways to Help Improve Your Child's Math Skills

1. Promote a positive attitude about math. What you say influences how your child thinks.
2. Incorporate math into your child's daily life. Have your child count out change or help with recipes that are halved or doubled.
3. Help your child appreciate how math is used in everyday life – for example, in sports, or when making purchases and paying bills.
4. Make math fun. Dominoes, cards, and board games that use counting and paper money improve mental math skills.
5. Ask for explanations of math assignments so you know that concepts are understood.
6. Challenge your child to be persistent about solving difficult math problems.
7. Review your child's homework and discover together how mistakes were made.
8. Encourage your child to do extra problems to build upon math skills.
9. Talk with your child's teacher about how you can help with the learning process.
10. Praise your child's efforts and math accomplishments.



focuses on Emotion Management. Please talk with your child about these lessons, it will help to reinforce them at home! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.



Kindergarten: Accidents, Caring and Helping, We Feel Feelings in Our Bodies, Managing Frustration, Calming Down Strong Feelings

1st Grade: Accidents, Showing Care and Concern, Identifying Our Own Feelings, Strong Feelings, Calming Down Anger

2nd Grade: Showing Compassion, Predicting Feelings, Introducing Emotion Management, Managing Embarrassment, Handling Making Mistakes

3rd Grade: Showing Compassion, Making Friends, Introducing Emotion Management, Managing Test Anxiety, Handling Accusations

4th Grade: Avoid Jumping to Conclusion, Handling Put-Downs, Handling Put-Downs, Solving Problems, Making a Plan



*Second Step - SEL

As part of our PBIS Initiative at Dentzler, our teachers have been infusing a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum into their daily

routines. With a lesson focused on each week, this curriculum teaches our students important skills such as how to have empathy, emotion management, problem solving skills, friendship skills, and responsibility.

The weekly focus for each lesson varies. Each grade level is focusing on the end of Unit 2 which is based on Empathy, and the beginning of Unit 3 which



Super Soaring Eagles

As part of our PBIS Initiative at Dentzler, we award "Super Soaring Eagles" awards to students who go far above our expectations academically and behaviorally. Each month, one student will be selected per grade level to receive the award and recognition. Students will receive a certificate, Dentzler Elementary bracelet and a "Soaring Eagle" yard sign. Our entire staff is proud of our students and their accomplishments.

January's Super Soaring Eagle Students are:

Bella Jones – Kindergarten

Emily Loucks – First Grade

Viviann Chaloupka – First Grade

Finn Parker – Second Grade

Audra Benny – Third Grade

Rayfield James – Fourth Grade



10 BEHAVIOR STRATEGIES

PARENTS CAN USE TODAY

Think about things your child really enjoys and finds rewarding or motivating. What are a few of your child's favorite activities?

1. Keep in mind your child's strengths and interests. Set aside time to spend with your child when they are engaged in activities that matter to them.
2. Establish clear expectations at home. Keep your "house rules" similar to school expectations. The key is to be fair and age appropriate when you reinforce the expectations.
3. Create routines for your family. Organize the day so your child knows what is happening. Be clear about changes or new events like doctors appointments or visitors. Give your child a helpful transition warning to let them know what is coming next.
4. Anticipate challenges and plan accordingly. Preventing challenging behavior is easier than addressing it in the moment. Know what things or times of day trigger your child to engage in challenging behavior. Choose activities where your child will experience success.
5. Try to be consistent and know how you are going to react. Say what you mean and mean what you say.
6. Model the behavior you want your child to learn.
7. Communicate clearly what behavior you want your child to demonstrate. Phrase directions in the positive, telling your child what you want them to do, not what you don't want them to.
8. Talk about feelings and use visuals to help your child understand. Tell them you understand how they feel.
9. Look behind the behavior and see what your child may be trying to tell you. Try to remember that however a child is behaving, the

child is doing the best he or she can at that moment in time.

10. Use positive reinforcement often. Genuine, specific praise has a powerful effect on your children's behavior. This includes their efforts to work hard at following your directions and any small steps in the right direction.



The Parma City School District has created a new initiative called Embrace All at all PCSD schools.

Dentzler Embrace All Coordinators:

Lisa Eland, Home Liaison & Kim Ware, 2nd Grade Teacher. Please contact us with any questions or ideas at (440) 843-8979 or elandl@parmacityschools.org & warek@parmacityschools.org

Embrace All Mission:

We honor the uniqueness of each individual and embrace diverse backgrounds, values, and points of view to build a strong, inclusive community and to prepare students for lives in a multicultural society.

Embrace All Dentzler

At Dentzler, our Embrace All initiative is thriving! In January and February at Dentzler we will focus on collaborating for kindness. We want to throw kindness around like it's confetti. Together we will create a chain of kindness that will be displayed throughout the halls as we encourage students and staff to incorporate kindness into their daily lives.

"When you are kind to others it not only changes you, it changes the world." - Harold Kushner

The students will also learn about Black History Month and continue to do Embrace ALL activities as the year goes on. Be on the look out for the Embrace all cultural bingo card to come home with students as a way to incorporate "Embrace ALL" into your home. Follow the link below for other resources.

<https://www.embracerace.org/>