



The Arbor Times

Arbor Intermediate School's Monthly Newsletter

Janelle D. Williams, Principal

Jennifer Sernotti, Assistant Principal

A message from the Principal

February is now upon us and we are well into the second half of the school year. Students have continued to work hard toward meeting the expectations of our staff, school and district. In addition, I am proud of the work of the entire Arbor staff and their dedication to your children, pushing them toward meeting school goals. As a safety reminder for the winter, please know that the district sends automated phone calls to families in the event of a delayed opening or school

closing and the district webpage also contains the most up to date information.

Another safety tip for this month is parking. Please remember to only park in designated spots when picking up your child. If you do not have a handicap tag, please leave those spaces to individuals who have the appropriate tag. In addition, when picking up after school, please do not double-park on Harold Place as this creates a very dangerous situation

for our students who must then cross between vehicles. Assisting us with this minor change will help tremendously in keeping each child safe. As always, I thank you for your commitment to Arbor School. Let's continue to work together in the name of academic achievement and success for every child.

Sincerely,
Janelle Williams
Principal

February 2018

Inside this issue:

Principal's Message	1
PTO Corner	1
Nurse's Notes	2
Staff Spotlight	2
Curriculum Corner	3
Parent Central	4
Arbor News	5
Gator Greatness	6



P.T.O. Corner

Thank You!

It's Candy Time!!!

Gertude Hawk Candy packets have been distributed. Please be sure to support this fundraiser which helps pay for school trips.

Please support!

Fundraisers

-Harlem Wizards Pre-Sale Tickets are available!! This amazing event is happening on March 29, 2018! 😊

Purchase Your Tickets Now!!

https://harlemwizards.tuandertix.com/orders/new?performance_id=1971269

PTO Goals

- Pay for 4th and 5th grade trips
- Help to install 2-4 erasable white boards in language arts classrooms
- Assist with the cost of Field Day
- Sponsor an End of the Year Talent Show!!

We Need You!!



Nurse's Notes

Flu Season!

Parents, flu season is upon us and has hit hard in many schools and towns. It is important that we do all that we can to keep our students, staff and overall school environment healthy. Here are a few tips to prevent the spread of the flu this time of year:

- 1) Wash your hands often
- 2) Get a flu vaccine
- 3) Stay home if you don't feel well
- 4) Use tissues when you sneeze

Let's all do our part to prevent the spread of the flu!!

-Ms. Fender



Staff Spotlight

Our Custodial Staff

Each Newsletter features some of the support staff that make Arbor such a great place to be. This month we feature our dedicated custodial staff who make sure the whole building is clean and safe for our students, faculty and families. Our daytime time custodians, Ms. Jackson and Mr. Spence, work diligently to get the buildings ready each day and ensure that the rooms, halls and cafeteria are spic and span. Cleaning up after more than 500 hungry students each day is no small feat, but Ms. Jackson and Mr. Spence meet the challenge every single day when they join our students in the cafeteria. Ms. Trina is joined each evening by our evening crew, Mr. DJ, Ms. Hattie and Ms. Diane, to get the school ready for the next day. Our custodial staff are an invaluable part of our school community and truly help make Arbor a great place to be!



Curriculum Corner

This month the Curriculum Corner will highlight Science and Social Studies. Students rotate each marking period between Science and Social Studies spending half the marking period in each. In addition to their time in the classroom spent on learning the subjects, the students complete Science and Social Studies projects in Technology class.

Fourth Grade: In fourth grade Social Studies, students began the year studying geography. They are currently working on New Jersey's natural regions, land and early people. They will be concluding the year studying early European Explorers. In addition to the dedicated Social Studies Curriculum, the students study the Holocaust, Civil Rights Movement and American Revolutionary War as part of their Language Arts Curriculum. In Science, the students are involved in hands-on experiments in each of their units. The Science units cover information such as the learned behaviors and adaptations of animals, the structures, function and processing of information in animals and how this applies to humans in the form of body systems. In the same way that Social Studies is integrated into the Language Arts Curriculum, the students have also completed a thorough Weather Report project exploring the causes and impacts of Weather phenomena such as hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes. In Tech, the students create various presentations and documents to share the information they are studying in science and social studies in their classrooms. The fourth graders created a NJ regions informational brochure using publisher and are now completing a senses project brochure.

Fifth Grade: In fifth grade Social Studies, students study United States geography, Native Americans, the settling of America and early colonial life. In addition to the dedicated Social Studies Curriculum, the students study the Civil Rights Movements and Westward Expansion as part of their Language Arts Curriculum. In science, the students participate in hands-on experiments in each of their units. One of their first experiments investigated mixtures and solutions. Other science units will cover information such as the properties of matter, plants life, energy and ecosystems. In Tech, the students create various presentations and documents to share the information they are studying in science and social studies in their classrooms. The fifth graders created a food chain "wanted poster" using Word and Publisher for their Native American brochure. Pictures for each fifth grade project are displayed below.



5th Grade Social Studies/Tech Project

Parent Involvement Matters... You + Us = SUCCESS!!!

In this month's newsletter, I would like to share a few points from PBS.org to help your child be as successful as possible. I thought this article was a great reminder of how important you are in the development of your child. I hope that you enjoy it!

-Ms. Williams

Be a role model for learning. In the early years, parents are their children's first teachers — exploring nature, reading together, cooking together, and counting together. When a young child begins formal school, the parent's job is to show him how school can extend the learning you began together at home, and how exciting and meaningful this learning can be. As preschoolers grow into school age kids, parents become their children's learning coaches. Through guidance and reminders, parents help their kids organize their time and support their desires to learn new things in and out of school.

Practice what your child learns at school. Many teachers encourage parents to go over what their young children are learning in a non-pressured way and to practice what they may need extra help with. This doesn't mean drilling them for success, but it may mean going over basic counting skills, multiplication tables or letter recognition, depending on the needs and learning level of your child. "There may be times to review, but don't take on the role of drill master," adds Diane Levin, Ph.D. "And when you do review it should feel as if your child wants to be a part of the practice."

Set aside time to read together. Read aloud regularly, even to older kids. If your child is a reluctant reader, reading aloud will expose her to the structure and vocabulary of good literature and get her interested in reading more. "Reading the first two chapters of a book together can help, because these are often the toughest in terms of plot," notes Susan Becker, M. Ed. "Also try alternating: you read one chapter aloud, she reads another to herself. And let kids pick the books they like. Book series are great for reluctant readers. It's OK to read easy, interesting books instead of harder novels."

Connect what your child learns to everyday life. Make learning part of your child's everyday experience, especially when it comes out of your child's natural questions. When you cook together, do measuring math. When you drive in the car, count license plates and talk about the states. When you turn on the blender, explore how it works together. When your child studies the weather, talk about why it was so hot at the beach. Have give-and-take conversations, listening to your child's ideas instead of pouring information into their heads.

Don't over-schedule your child. While you may want to supplement school with outside activities, be judicious about how much you let or urge your child to do. Kids need downtime as much as they may need to pursue extra-curricular activities. "If a child has homework and organized sports and a music lesson and is part of a youth group in church or synagogue, it can quickly become a joyless race from one thing to another. Therefore, monitor your child to see that he is truly enjoying what he is doing. If he isn't, cut something off the schedule," advises Michael Thompson, Ph.D.



It's Cold Outside

As a reminder....it is important that all precautions are taken to ensure each child is safe and warm when outdoors. If your child is a bus student, please be sure that they have all of the proper clothing if they have to wait outside. For those who walk or are dropped off to school, I advise that they arrive as close to 8:40am as possible so that they are not waiting outside for a long period of time.

Career Day 2018-Reminder:

Support Piscataway's theme of *Inspire* by partnering with Arbor School! On March 28, 2018 we will have our annual Career Day. Parents, families, and community friends of Arbor School are welcome to come in and share their career experiences with the students at Arbor School! If you are interested in participating please email our school counselor Mrs.Rosenthal rosenthal@pway.org



Important Dates

2/7/2018	Grandview Incoming 4th Grade Orientation	Arbor	9:30am-Students only
2/8/2018	Eisenhower Incoming 4th Grade Orientation	Arbor	9:30am-Students only
2/9/2018	GO Red Day! Wear Your Red for Heart Health	Arbor	All Day
2/14/2018	Arbor Academic Awards Ceremony-4th Grade	Arbor	7:45am-8:30am
2/15/2018	Arbor Academic Awards Ceremony-5th Grade	Arbor	7:45am-8:30am
2/19/2018	School Closed	District	
02/12/18- 02/23/18	Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale	Arbor	Daily
2/21/2018	Arbor Incoming 4th Parent Orientation	Arbor	6:30-8:00pm
2/23/2018	70's/80's Day	Arbor	All Day



CELEBRATE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

January 2018

5th Grade - Special Area Subjects

Technology: Madeline Bullock
 Spanish: Valerie Moleski
 Gym: Michael Teague
 Music: Joshua Taylor
 Art: Angelina Richtmyer

4th Grade - Special Area Subjects

Angela Green Pleasant
 Anthony Valentinuzzi
 Pradnya Chakka
 Jasiah Chambers
 Rhianah Hampton

Fifth Grade

Kelicia Conteh
 Param Shah
 Kamal Boyd
 Jack Coombs
 Angelina Richtmyer
 Suhani Kachhia
 Nyasa Bryson
 Aliyah Boone
 Jasiah Chambers
 Joshith Ankenapalli
 Aluba Uche
 Mekhi Russell
 Siya Patel
 Ariannah Basden

Fourth Grade

Shakaila Danastor
 Yug Patel
 Jai Ball
 Emelie Robinson
 Aruna Iyappan
 Tanya Melkote
 Rohan Patel
 Gabrielle Petit-Homme
 Sierra Chandler
 Aden Wilson
 Siya Patel
 Alexis Velasquez