

PALMYRA



PANTHERS

School District OR-1

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District OR-1 Newsletter
District OR-1 Public Schools
May, 2017

*****ECRWSS*****

**Local
Postal Customer**

*Together, we prepare our students to successfully meet
the challenges of the future.*

Foundation For Knowledge, District OR-1

2015

Since our beginning in December of 1998 -

\$567,000 – Contributions - you have contributed to The Foundation For Knowledge.

\$192,650 – Scholarships – 165 students from your community have been assisted with their post-secondary educations.

\$74,550 – Staff Development – helping to make District OR-1 one of the highest ranked and best trained teaching Staff's in the state of Nebraska.

Graduation Rate – District OR-1 has achieved one of the highest graduation rates in the State.

Post-secondary Education – the vast majority of District OR-1's students go on for further education that will help them for the rest of their lives.

\$12,600 – School Support – Assisting school programs, and support for students representing District OR-1.

\$326,000 – Invested Market Value – For endowed commitments.

With your help The Foundation For Knowledge's investment account ensures that your contributions will be available for the future of your community.

With your support we will continue our work for the future of your community

Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1 - P. O. Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418
Enclosed is my/our individual gift corporate gift _____

(corporate contact person)
of \$ _____ to the Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1

-OR-
I/We pledge \$ _____. Enclosed is my/our payment of \$ _____.

Balance paid by _____, 20__.

To validate your pledge, your signature is required _____

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If an alumni of Palmyra/Bennet School, please list year _____

Please make checks payable to - Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1

Thank you for your investment in the future.



PANTHER PANTHER

NEWS

May, 2017

District OR-1 Public Schools
425 F Street
Palmyra, NE 68418
<http://www.districtor1.org>

"Your intellect may be confused, but your emotions will never lie to you."

...Roger Ebert

Hi-Way 4: Feel all Your Fellings



Serving the Communities of
Bennet, Palmyra, and Douglas.

Special points of interest:

- Graduation
- Teammates



PowerSchool has Changed

Last year, District OR1 moved to the new release of PowerSchool, which introduced a new login system called Single Sign On (SSO). SSO gives parents quicker and more convenient access to PowerSchool data. SSO allows parents and guardians to set up their own individual login credentials and, for those with multiple students in the district, access to all their students' information with a single login. In addition, SSO allows users to retrieve forgotten login and password information themselves rather than requiring a call to school.

PowerSchool works well from the mobile web. However, Pearson's mobile apps works well with SSO; thus, giving our patrons the option to download the app or continue to utilize the web interface. Additionally, District OR1 plans to adopt a new lunch system that will integrate into PowerSchool. This will allow parents to see family lunch balances that are updated daily. Finally, those completing the SSO process will have the opportunity to digitally sign paperwork and pay balances online.

PARENTS OF STUDENTS FROM K-12, PLEASE...make sure you can log in and see the grades of your student (s). If you cannot log in, PLEASE e-mail support@districtor1.net, or contact your school secretary.

Superintendent Notes...by Robert Hanger

Notes from Mr. Hanger

It is difficult to believe that we are preparing close out the 2016-2017 school year. It seems as though we were just opening doors to begin the year not all that long ago. It is at this point of our school term that I like to recognize the efforts of our students, staff and parents for their support and hard work that resulted in many achievements. We feel fortunate to serve as administrators and educators in a growing and progressive school district with a solid commitment to continued excellence and a "kids first" approach to education. Our students are a direct reflection of our school core values and beliefs as well as those of the parents and patrons we serve. The class of 2017 has been a pleasure to work with and I look forward to them becoming positive ambassadors for District OR-1, as they embark on the next phase of their lives. We wish them the best for a bright and productive future.

The summer of 2017 will continue with much activity as it will again involve construction and renovation projects on both the Bennet and Palmyra campuses. These projects, while demanding in nature will provide excellent facilities for many years to come. I would like to extend a sincere thanks to our staff for their patience and flexibility as we work towards completion of construction at the Bennet campus and the focus shifts to Palmyra. Working through construction has not deterred us from our primary mission of working to educate our students at District OR-1 Public Schools as shown by our assessment scores. Our board of education is supportive of these efforts and continually steps up to support improvements and our students. Not



all schools/students enjoy a 1 to 1 Chromebook initiative, dual credit

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opportunities every day, a wide array of course electives, distance learning opportunities, excellent facilities and the highest quality staffing available at the K-12 level. We will strive to live up to the District Mission Statement: **“Together we prepare our students to successfully meet the challenges of the future.”**

Current student achievements, staffing and the construction project also point strongly to a commitment to the OR-1 Vision Statement:

District OR-1 commits to a course of action providing continued academic growth through a curriculum that recognizes limitless potential and inspires faith in a positive future for every student. With a sense of community ownership and responsibility, we will remain fiscally accountable and attentive to current and future high-tech facility and staffing needs.

Facilities update:

Rogge General Contractors have quite nearly completed work at Bennet Elementary. The current timetable calls for Fire Marshal review and completion of punch list items prior to the end of May. The renovations and additions to Bennet Elementary have provided OR-1 with a state of the art facility able to carry out the process of educating Pre-K-6 students safely and efficiently. The Palmyra project also has an aggressive timetable with completion of the new classrooms (Industrial Arts, Family Consumer Science and Agriculture) and renovations to the existing facility by the start of the next school year. We are working with Cheever Construction to complete demolition of the 1935 building and facilitate the move of existing classrooms and limit disruptions as much as possible. We ask for everyone to be patient during construction as there will be inconveniences with parking, classroom locations and building access during the next 9-10 months. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

The OR-1 technology initiative continues to reflect national trends regarding technology and student engagement. I would like to thank Mr. Brown our research committee members and the Board of Education for taking time to review and adopt the current Chromebook model. The Chromebook product allows for student management systems and technology platforms to be inclusive across grade levels the curriculum subsequently easing the transition of students from grade 6 to 7 as they will have developed some familiarity with the product prior to arriving at Palmyra Junior High. District OR-1 continues to develop and lead in this approach greatly benefiting our students. That includes maximizing use of various funding sources to complete

security enhancements as called for in the construction project.

I wish all of you an enjoyable and relaxing summer and time with family and friends. Safe travels to all of you who will be vacationing.

Attention Parents....

Any family with a negative lunch balance must have their balance paid before their children can be checked out of school on the last day, May 19th, 2016. All positive balances may be rolled forward to the 2016-2017 school year. Please contact the office if you have any questions. Thank you for your prompt attention.

Attention Parents/Guardians of Students with Medications

This is a reminder for parents that have sent medications to school (either over the counter or prescription). Please pick them up from the main office on the last day of school. We prefer to send medications home with adults only rather than students. Thank You!

CLASS BUNDL

Bennet Elementary School has again partnered with ClassBundl to help you with your school shopping! No lines, no shipping fees, and no hassle. Get class bundling from June 1st through the first week of school by following three simple steps:

1. Go to ClassBundl.com and search for our school.
2. Order the classroom-specific bundle.
3. Supplies are shipped directly to your door with no fees.

**BONUS:
BENNET ELEMENTARY RECEIVES FIVE PERCENT CASH BACK FROM CLASS-BUNDL.COM**

Purchase at ClassBundl.com and you skip the checkout lines!

Bennet Elementary School Supply List (all students need a Book Bag, Gym Shoes and Headphones)

Class	Must Have	May Not Bring
Kindergarten Mrs. Dvorak Mrs. Nitzsche	Small plastic pencil box 12 large glue sticks A-M 1 box of quart size ziplock slider bags N-Z 1 box of gallon size ziplock slider bags 2 inch binder with clear sleeve on front cover 2 black dry erase markers	scissors pencil sharpener crayons markers
First Grade Mrs. Hall Mrs. Dowding Mrs. Wusk	12 Large glue sticks Small, plastic pencil box 24 crayons #2 pencils (a package of 12) 4 black fine tip dry erase markers	pencil sharpeners
Second Grade Mrs. Christensen Mrs. Schauer	#2 pencils (a package of 12) 12 Crayola Classic Washable markers Box of 24 crayons 1 Spiral college rule notebook 4 large glue sticks Small plastic crayon box (5 ½ x 8) Clorox wipes 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ clear front pocket 2 Pink Erasers	pencil sharpeners mechanical pencils
Third Grade Ms. Struebing Ms. Keppler	#2 pencils (a package of 24) Box of 24 crayons 2 Large erasers 8 Large glue sticks 2 Spiral notebooks (70 page College Ruled) Scissors 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ clear front	large pencil boxes markers
Fourth Grade Mrs. Ourada Mrs. Sullivan	#2 pencils 3 Spiral Notebooks 1 Pkg. Wide Ruled notebook paper 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ clear front 1- 2 inch 3ring binder w/clear front 2 red pens 1 package of highlighters 1 package of 12 markers 4 Large glue sticks 5 inch Scissors Clorox Wipes	gel pens/ multicolored mechanical pencils no toys pencil boxes over 8x10
Fifth Grade Mrs. Wolfgang Mr. McChristian	#2 pencils (a package of 24) White board eraser Dry erase markers 1 Pkg. of wide ruled notebook paper Clorox Wipes	large pencil boxes multicolored pens no toys
Sixth Grade Mr. Goodrich Mr. McElfresh	# 2 pencils Small pencil box Spiral notebooks/notepaper Colored pencils Crayola Washable markers Calculator (Optional)	gel/multicolored pens large pencil boxes no toys

Science Experiments in Preschool



Preschool students at Little Panthers Preschool enjoy building their knowledge through hands-on science exploration. As part of the Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines for children ages 3-5, preschoolers should participate in active investigations through observing, describing, and discussing (S. 02). Recently, students were able to take part in several color mixing activities. Each experiment allowed the students to observe the color change take place. The students enjoyed mixing red, yellow, and blue paint on their paper. They also observed color change as red, yellow, and blue water was combined.



It may have been a new concept to some young students that mixing two colors together will create a completely new color.

A Good Use of Extra Time

At the beginning of the second semester, Mr. Goodrich's class agreed to take on a project that would give back to the school and leave a bit of a legacy. The sixth graders decided to take on the mound of Box Tops for Education that were piling up in the office. It was agreed upon that the project would not interfere with classwork or take away from instruction. The students would only be allowed to work on them during down time after all homework was finished. A few students decided to take bags of Box Tops home with them, and others came in early and worked before school.

The box tops had to be trimmed, counted into groups of 50, and then bagged. Each bag was then rolled to save space, sealed, and taped closed. Most all of my students participated in this activity. The sixth graders did not begin the project with a goal in mind. However, once they were closing in on \$1000.00, they quickly decided they wanted to reach that amount. From January to date, the sixth graders have packaged 11,300 Box Tops in 226 bags of 50 Box Tops each. At 10 cents apiece, this equates to \$1130.00.

Thank you to all who donated the Box Tops for Education, and thank you to all my sixth graders for giving of their time.

Submitted by Mr. Goodrich

6th Grade Notes

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one."

— George R.R. Martin

Recently our class read the fictional novel "Journey of the Sparrows". This story starts out with three siblings Maria, Julia, and Oscar being nailed into a crate to illegally cross into the United States. These three siblings are leaving behind other family members in Mexico as they are all trying to escape the devastation of a civil war in El Salvador. As the main characters settle in Chicago, Maria and Julia struggle to find work but are helped by several compassionate individuals. With the goal of getting their youngest sister, Teresa, across the border, Maria makes a courageous attempt to cross the Rio Grande by herself.

From reading this story, the students observed a young Maria grow up very fast by trying to protect her older and younger siblings. She displayed courage and bravery throughout the story even when being confronted by obstacles that would make Maria question her faith. This story kept our class animated, engaged, and guessing what would happen next. I believe the quote from George R.R. Martin directly relates to the story we just read. My students were able to imagine themselves in the life of a struggling refugee family trying to create a new life in America. The more we can encourage our students to read, the more they will learn from those additional experiences. Mr. McElfresh

Building Background Knowledge Through Fun Experiences

Elyse Moore and Jiree Wilson, Speech-Language Pathologists

Summer is a time of relaxation for students, and it is much deserved after a rigorous school year. But we want children to continue learning throughout the summer, and there are some very fun ways to make that happen! Summer can be a great time to build upon background knowledge through life experiences. Background knowledge is the information that students already know about a topic, and real life experiences they have had related to a topic. Background knowledge can aid in a student's academic skills in all areas. For example, if a child has experienced a trip to the SAC Museum, the student will be more likely to be interested in a reading passage about military aircraft from the reading curriculum. Or if a child visited the Lewis and Clark Center, when that topic comes up in Social Studies, the student will have experiences to relate the new learning to, and will therefore absorb more information. Feel free to think outside of the box; you can make almost any new experience a learning opportunity by creating a language rich environment. Talk about what you see, hear, smell, touch, taste, and think, and encourage your child to engage in learning by talking about what they are learning as well. For example, if you are camping, talk about animal tracks you see on a hike and predict what type of animal it could be. Then, you can take it a step further and look up animal tracks online. Try to find the tracks you have found and figure out what animal it may be.

Here are some examples of opportunities for building background knowledge:

- *Go to the zoo. There is so much to talk about at the zoo, and an infinite amount of learning.
- *Have your child help you cook dinner or bake dessert. Talk about measuring, conversions, texture, taste, etc. They will likely take great pride in what they make, and, if you have a picky eater, they may even eat better when they have been invested in the preparation!
- *Visit a museum or park.
 - Lincoln Children's Museum or Omaha Children's Museum
 - Morrill Hall (Lincoln)
 - Pioneers Park (Lincoln)
 - Lewis and Clark Missouri River Visitor's Center (Nebraska City)
 - Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum (Ashland)
- *Go camping or go on a nature hike.
- *Pick a topic each week and challenge your child to find information about that topic through books, TV, websites, etc. The topics can range from Tractors to Whales to Computer Programming. Make it fun and interesting for your child.
- *Go to the library. Lincoln Libraries has weekly story times for younger children and events throughout the summer, such as a Heavy Equipment Day, when kids have an opportunity to interact with bulldozers, fire trucks, tractors, etc. and talk to the operators. They also have opportunities for children to interact with robotics and learn about computer programming.
- *Take your child grocery shopping with you. Remember to use a lot of language to talk about the foods you buy, using the five senses. Talk about making a list from recipes and budgeting. Take cash and have your child figure out how much change they should get back. Teach social skills like asking for help or asking where the restroom is.
- *READ. READ. READ. Your child gains vocabulary and background knowledge from reading, and, even if your child is a great reader, there is evidence that continuing to also read TO your child is beneficial. If your child doesn't like reading, try audiobooks. Lincoln Libraries has an app called OverDrive, in which you can download audiobooks for all ages for free (with a Lincoln Library card).
- *Go on a family vacation, or make an already planned vacation language and experience rich.
- *Limit screen time. While TV can build background knowledge, research continues to show that screen time, including video games, TV, tablets, and phones, should be limited. Limiting not only the amount of time a child spends on screens, but also limiting the content of what your child plays and watches can be very beneficial. Ask yourself what your child is getting from the shows/movies they watch or video games they play.
- *Take your child with you to work for the day and talk about all that you do during the day. This can be a great learning experience for your child, if it is possible.

Summer is a great time for children to get outside and play, as well as have some downtime. But be sure to take some time to make your child's summer rich in language and experiences as well. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

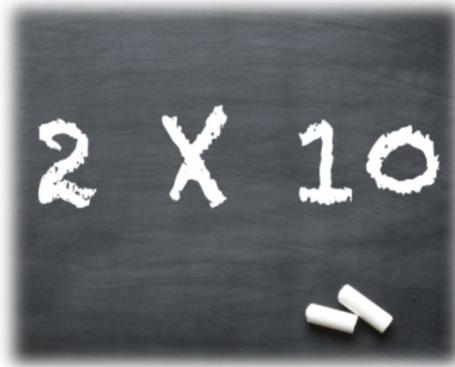
2x10 Strategy

By: Jackie Engelhardt

I am currently working on my Master's Degree through Doane University. Through the research methods class, I was given the opportunity to conduct some action research at Bennet Elementary. Action research is a special kind of research that relies on a journey filled with action, reflection, and critique. For educators, action research can start with a feeling, a sense of frustration, or better yet, a sense of creativity for action and the commitment to "do it differently" to bring one's practice in line with one's values and aspirations. Education is ever changing. Action research gives teachers the opportunity to assess their own teaching for the betterment of their students.

My action research was based on the importance of building relationships. I based my research on the quote, "They don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." This is true for everyone through all stages of life. I focused my research on the 2x10 Strategy.

The 2x10 Strategy states that by taking 2 to 5 minutes per day to spend with an at-risk student for 10 consecutive school days, talking with them about whatever he or she wants, there will be a marked improvement in performance, attitude, or engagement. Thanks to the support of my colleagues, I was able to



put my action research to the test.

Through the implementation of the 2x10 Strategy at Bennet Elementary, we saw 80% improvement in target behaviors, meaning, 80% of the students who participated in the research showed improvement in engagement, attendance, academic performance, or behaviors. The other 20% of the students who participated did not show improve-

ment in target behaviors; however, this does not mean they did not benefit from the 2x10. All the students who participated in the project completed pre and post surveys. The surveys assessed students' attitudes towards school. Of the students who participated, 100% showed a marked improvement in how they perceived school. These students looked forward to going to school, said they try harder in school, and enjoy school more after having been given the opportunity to build stronger relationships with their teachers.

My research proved that relationships are the foundation for successes. Spending 2 to 5 minutes a day with an employee, colleague, or student can lead to stronger relationships, more productivity, and can improve the culture and climate in any environment.

From Miss Struebing

This week third grade submitted writing to become published. The students worked very hard to incorporate all 6 traits into their writing. They revised and edited just as a real author would do, and found out all of the hard work it takes to make those books that we like to read on the shelves. Our book will be titled, "When We Grow Up" and we are so excited to see the finished product. Both Miss Kepler and Miss Struebing's class will be getting published copies of their class' book. The future is looking bright for our students when they grow up!

Mrs. Ferretti's Life Skills Room

A major theme this year in the Life Skills room has been caring. The students have been learning different ways to show caring and their first caring project was to create a recycling bin which is still used in the teacher's lounge at the elementary school. Next the students learned about caring for themselves by creating meals that were nutritious and included healthy portions suited for each individual. To end the year the class is going to practice being good friends by listening in order to listen, rather than listening to respond, thus discovering ways to leave people in a better mood than when they found them. Overall we hope to spread caring by being good examples of people who care for the earth, ourselves and others.

"Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have." - Margaret Mead



Fifth Graders Attend Earth Wellness Festival

On Wednesday, March 22, both fifth grade classes attended the 23rd annual Earth Wellness Festival held on the SCC campus. The festival lasted two hours and was split into four 25-minute sessions. Each session had a different concept—Wildlife CSI, a water droplet’s incredible journey, reptiles and amphibians, and raptors from the World Bird Sanctuary out of St. Louis, MO.

In the Wildlife CSI session, students were given different scenarios in nature and had to decide what happened based on animal prints and clues left at the scene.

In our second session, students acted as water droplets and traveled from place to place, such as from the soil to the plant to the cloud and down to a lake. They collected beads at each

place they landed and made bracelets out of them.

The reptiles and amphibians session was a huge hit. Students had the opportunity to touch a salamander, a box turtle, a fox snake, and a baby American alligator. They also got to experience a salamander feasting upon crickets.

The last session we attend each year is always a hit. Raptors from the World Bird Sanctuary are shown off. We had the opportunity to see a turkey vulture, a hawk, a barn owl, and a bald eagle.

Students pictured: Cadence Kauffman, Zach Phillips, Brayden Ganger, Ayden Tyndall, Ava Palm, Seamus Versaw, Drew Erhart, Madison Maahs, Jonny Glantz



Students pictured:
Brylie Vollman,
Madison Maahs, Faith
Green



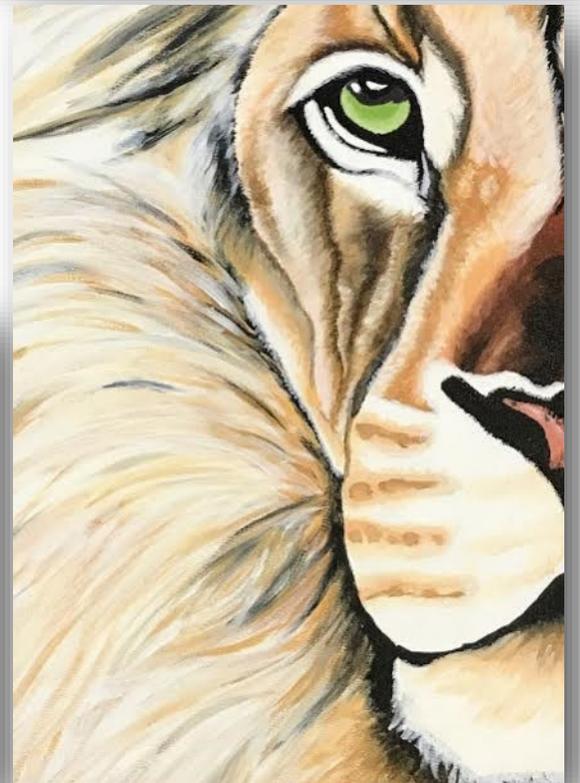
ECNC Art Show Winners from Palmyra

Gold Medal Winner/Acrylic Lion Painting: Wesley Steward

1st Honorable Mention/Acrylic Mary Poppins Portrait: Ashlynn Wilen

2nd Honorable Mention/Acrylic Leopard Painting: Madisen Jones

3rd Honorable Mention/Acrylic Tree Painting: Jessie Grieser-not pictured



Keep them Reading!

For most parents, it's a challenge to keep kids reading and writing all summer. With summer break approaching, it is important to remember the benefits of summer reading. Research suggests, it is estimated that during summer break, the average student will lose up to one month or more of instruction. Helping our learners get their hands on literacy activities during the summer is key. The following is a list of ideas from the Reading Rockets website to help support student reading and writing throughout the summer.

The Summer Reading Challenge from the Reading Rockets website (readingrockets.org):

Investigate your public library's reading program.

Most libraries offer a special program or two during the summer, including puppet shows, book authors, and children's storytellers. Most are free of charge.

Extend your reading circle.

We often find ourselves checking out the same types of books over and over again. This week's challenge is to bring a new type of book into the house. Consider fantasy or science fiction, historical fiction, poetry, biography, or an informational book.

Listen up!

Audiobooks are a great way to engage readers and can introduce students to books above their reading level. Many libraries have audiobooks available for checkout, and an Internet search can turn up several sites, including Speakaboos.com, that offer free audio books for children.

Make your own audio book!

Most phones and computers have simple recording apps on them which are perfect for making homemade audiobooks! Have your child make up a story, or reread a favorite loved book. The recordings will be priceless!

Go wordless.

Wordless picture books are told entirely through their illustrations — they are books without words, or sometimes just a few words. Grab a few wordless books the next time you're at the library and have fun "reading" different versions of the same story. The language and the conversation will inspire you!

Point, shoot, and write.

Most families have access to a digital camera, iPad or camera phone. Snap some photos and then encourage your child to write a silly caption for each photo. Not feeling that ambitious? Cut out some pictures from a

magazine or the newspaper and have your child write original captions for those.

Mix up the media.

Your child has read every Clifford book on the shelf, but has she heard Clifford author Normal Bridwell talk about writing? Explore author interviews from over 100 authors on Reading Rockets Author Interview page. Bet you can't watch just one.

Write it down.

Encourage your child to keep a simple journal or summer diary. Track interesting things like the number of fireflies seen in one minute, the number of mosquito bites on a leg, or the different types of food that can go on the grill. Each entry is a chance to be creative!

Farm in a Glove: By Miss Kepler

The 3rd grade class had the privilege of having Sarah Purcell come into our classroom and teach us all about Nebraska Agriculture. During one of our experiences with her, she taught the students about the parts of a seed and what a seed needs to grow. Each student got to plant four different seeds (corn, wheat, soy bean, and pinto bean) in a plastic glove. For two weeks, the students observed the seeds and documented the growth and change of their seeds.

We had some pretty good "farmers" in our class because some of their plants grew so well they poked out of the glove! The students really enjoyed this hands-on activity and learning about these local crops that they see growing around this area.



Learning and Looking at Clouds

By: Mrs. Dvorak, Mrs. Nitzsche,
Mrs. Wusk

This spring our Kindergartners were asked, “Do clouds always look the same?” Which sparked a lively discussion on the different types of clouds. We made a cloud craftivity in which we wrote descriptive words about clouds, and played I Spy a Cloud! To top off our cloud lesson Mother Nature helped us out and provided us with a thunderstorm and some beautiful cumulonimbus clouds!



President Reports

Did you know that many Presidents had unusual careers before entering the White House? Jimmy Carter, the 39th President, was a peanut farmer and Ronald Reagan, the 40th President, was a movie actor. These are just two of the interesting facts about past U.S. Presidents that Bennet 4th grade students have been collecting the last couple of weeks.

They each chose a President and have been researching about his life using various reference books and the iPads. Using the Pages app on the iPad, students have to compile information and write an organized report in chronological order. In addition to their report, students are also responsible for creating a visual display poster to show some pictures and facts about their President. Finally, they will create a presentation over their information using the Keynote app on the iPad.

On Monday, May 1st, students will be practicing their public speaking skills as they present their reports in the form of a speech to their teachers. That same night from 6-7 p.m. there will be an open house here at the Elementary for a peek at their Keynote presentations and display boards.

Want to learn more about our Presidents? Stop in to the lunchroom on Monday, May 1st and check out the students' research and visual displays! Anyone in the community is welcome to attend!



FOOD BANK of
LINCOLN

BackPack PROGRAM

Bennet BackPack Program

Sustainability. That was the directive from Scott Young, director of the Food Bank of Lincoln, back in 2007 when we met to talk about starting a backpack program at Bennet Elementary. He said if you start this make sure you are prepared to sustain it over time. For nearly ten years we have been providing backpacks of food for qualifying families at Bennet Elementary.

Community support. The success of the Bennet BackPack Program is because of community support. Churches, community groups, school children, and individuals all donate money and volunteer their time to make sure that we have food for the program. Bennet Community Church stores the food for the Bennet BackPack Program. Civic groups, church groups and individuals help bag the food for distribution each week. Donations are received to purchase the food from the Food Bank of Lincoln for the backpacks. We also purchase fruit through the school lunch program and add two pieces of fresh fruit each week. Milk vouchers are included twice a month. All of this happens because our communities are committed to providing food for those in need.

Not only do our communities provide backpacks of food each week throughout the school year, but they have also provided Thanksgiving baskets filled with all the trimmings for a bountiful Thanksgiving meal, gift cards for food at Christmas and gifts for the children at Christmas. People caring for people! District OR-1 is blessed with caring people.

Thank you. We are fully funded for the 2017-18 school year. That means we have the money we will need to purchase 18 backpacks of food from the Food Bank of Lincoln (\$262 each) and the money to fund the fresh fruit and milk vouchers as well. Thank you to all who have donated this year!

2018-19 That means it is time to raise the money for the 2018-19 school year. Why? because we plan to continue to provide backpacks of food each week during the school year to qualifying families. Sustainability. The Bennet BackPack Program will continue to meet the needs of the students at Bennet Elementary for years to come because of the commitment of the administration, churches, civic organizations and individuals like you. People who care about their neighbors.

Donations for the Bennet BackPack Program should be made payable to Palmyra Presbyterian Church with a note in the memo to Bennet BackPack Program and sent to Palmyra Presbyterian Church, 1297 G Rd, Palmyra, NE 68418.

Congratulations 3rd grade class! They have earned their Keyboarding Certificates for completing and passing all of their beginning level Keyboarding lessons. These keyboard lessons take most of the year. Each lesson introduces a new key on the keyboard and gives them drills to complete for each key. Along with correct finger placement they need to learn to keep their back straight, feet on the floor and to not rest their wrist on the keyboard or table. They had to pass 3 typing test along with a research paper that counted as their keyboarding final. If you see a 3rd grade Bennet Elementary student, please congratulate them on this tough accomplishment!



Jen Hanger

Caring Project...by Mrs. Hanger

As most of you may know, the Bennet Caring team raised money this year for the Lincoln Children's Zoo. Every year in February we pick a caring project to raise money and bring awareness to our students about the needs of others. We try to select a non-profit organization that



can use help. In the past we have worked with Capital Human Society, Lincoln City Mission and Wounded Warriors to name a few. The Lincoln Children's Zoo was a good fit as they are actively raising money around comminutes to help with their expansion projects. For this donation drive, each 6th grader had a job they were responsible for; we had a bake sale committee, poster committee, pep rally committee, photographers and writers. Below are the articles our writing group did to place on the school webpage to inform others of our work. There is also a picture of the 6th grade students at the Lincoln children's Zoo press conference. The District presented the zoo with our donations and was able to get a picture with Larry the Cable Guy.

6th Grade Caring Project By Drew Moyer and Slade Lamp

The 6th grade from Bennet Elementary is doing a fundraiser from Monday, February 13th to Friday, February 24th to help the new expansion of the Lincoln Children's Zoo. In order to make this possible the District OR 1 students will be collecting money and organizing bake sales to donate money for this matter. The bake sale will be Monday, February 20th at the Junior High Girls basketball game at Bennet. Additionally, there will be jars scattered throughout Palmyra High School and in Bennet Elementary classrooms for loose change to be collected. All donations will be given to the Lincoln Children's Zoo at a press conference in Lincoln, Nebraska in March.

By Ethan Powell

Bennet Elementary helped the zoo raise money for the zoo expansion. We had a goal of \$1,000 to raise for the zoo. We had goals to reach of \$250, \$500, \$750, and \$1,000. When we reached a goal we had school wide dress up days, free homework pass, and a free recess. We blew the goal out of the water with over \$1,704 and since we made it to \$1,000 Mr. McElfresh and Mrs. Walter volunteered to take a pie to the face. The bake sales raised over \$300 for the zoo expansion. The High School also helped out and raised \$364.00. March 29th the 6th graders will be going to the Lincoln Children's Zoo to present the money.

By Samuel Iwan

So as you know District OR1 collected donations for the Lincoln Children's Zoo. On March 29th the 6th grade class went to a press conference where it was revealed that six new attractions would come to the zoo. The first is that the zoo will be open all year round, the next is a new water attraction the third is there will be a feed a giraffe station that only one other zoo has. You will be able to climb with the monkeys. Also drive with a tiger and they are getting a new education center. All these attractions will be coming to the zoo in 2018 and 2019. Great Job District OR1 Bennet Students!

Spring Semester Brings Social Studies Student Teacher

By: Mark Kotik



Tony Thies was welcomed to Palmyra High School and the Social Studies department to complete his degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Mr. Thies, chose to come to PHS because of the similarities Palmyra offered him to his hometown of Randolph. An ambitious young man, Mr. Thies, has the drive to become an outstanding high school social studies teacher and coach. Mr. Thies leads by example in the classroom and strives to engage our students with genuine warmth and a compassion for learning.

Mr. Thies quickly immersed himself into the Palmyra school culture and the social studies department teaching American Government to seniors, American History to the juniors, & World History to sophomores. Everyone around him recognized that he enjoyed teaching. He brought a big smile and a little extra hop into the classroom. With student driven assignments in one hand and a passion for differentiation instruction in another, Mr. Thies set out to challenge himself and his students to learn.

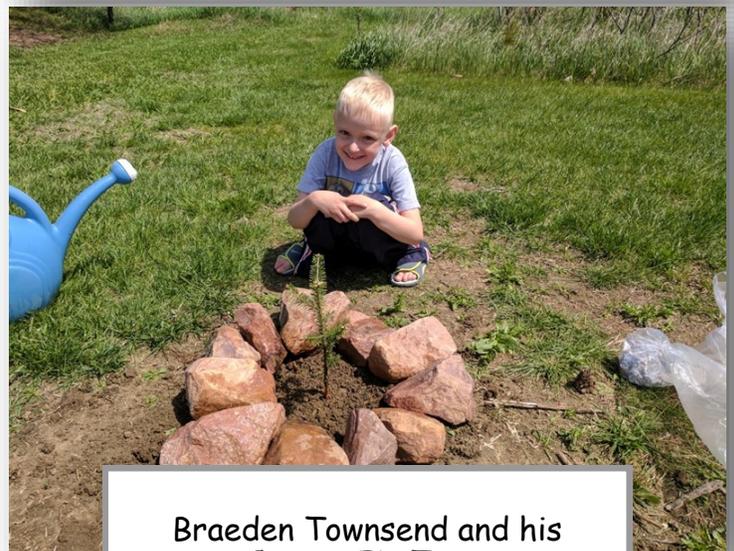
Mr. Thies also was able to be “coach” Thies during his time at PHS. He helped out with boys basketball and golf teams. Learning the ins and outs of coaching basketball from Coach Maas and golf from Coach Hoeft.

Ultimately, Mr. Thies will graduate with his Bachelor's of Science in Education Degree from UNL in May; no doubt earning his way into a full time teaching position soon thereafter. As he departs PHS, Mr. Thies will have passed on many positive lessons to the students in his classroom, impacting them for their foreseeable future.

Thank you and good Luck, Mr. Thies!

1st Grade Has Special Visitor

On Thursday, April 20th the first graders had a special visitor, Jane Kuhl from the Nemaha Natural Resources District. She came out to talk with the students about the importance of trees. She also discussed how to plant and care for trees. She specifically talked about the Caanan Fir tree, giving the students facts about its needles, fruit, and growth. To finish off her talk, the students were each given a Caanan fir seedling to take home and plant at their house!



Braeden Townsend and his
Cannon Fir Tree.

First Grade and Spanish IV Students Collaborate to have Fun!

Family parties or fiesta's are the best, first graders agree. In their reading story "Mama's Birthday Present," Francisco plans a surprise party for his Mama with the help of family and friends. All the details are worked out. Papa will play his guitar, Grandma and Francisco make a piñata, Grandpa and Francisco make sweet buenlos to eat, Senora Molina will bring hot tortillas from her shop and Francisco and his friend Gina make confetti eggs. The day of the party arrives and he still doesn't have a present for Mama. In the end she tells him the best present was having family and friends at the party.

As an extension of "Mama's Birthday Present," Senora Gill's and her Spanish IV class from Palmyra High School visited the first grade and taught them some Spanish vocabulary words for family members and pets. They also shared the "Happy Birthday" song in Spanish. Before the Spanish IV students headed back to the high school they joined the first graders in cracking confetti eggs (cascarones) on each other's heads. Once first graders finished with the confetti eggs they went inside and had a swing at a couple of piñatas. It was a lot of fun – a treasure to celebrate with friends.



First Graders Explore Outer Space

By Lisa Dowding

Every spring, first graders at Bennet Elementary blast off into learning all about space. They kick off their astronomy study by exploring the sun. They read wonderful literature and create a sun with their hands as rays and record facts on the rays that they have learned. Did you know that it would take you 177 years to travel to the sun!

After exploring the sun, it's on to the Earth and how it moves. Again much great literature was shared along with an experiment. In the experiment the first graders went outside with a partner to get a firsthand glimpse of how the Earth rotates. Using sidewalk chalk, they traced around the shadow of one of the students and labeled the time. Then they returned to the same spot four hours later and traced their shadow again. In this experiment, the first graders were able to see how the shadow had changed positions because the Earth had rotated causing the sun to be in a different location in the sky.

The next step in our astronomy exploration was the moon and all the other planets in our solar system. For this study, there were again many wonderful books shared including *Moon* by Steve Tomecek and *The Moon Book* by Gail Gibbons. Through this literature the students learned about the different moon phases, exploration of the moon, and many moon facts. The first graders were able to recreate the phases of the moon in a very yummy project. The first graders were given Oreo cookies and asked to use them to show the different phases of the moon. The students seemed to enjoy this activity and if you ask them, their favorite part was getting to eat their moons when they were done.

....CONTINUED

Students then used their knowledge of space and created their own planet. These were very fun projects as students got to name, design, and describe their planet. Another fun project that required students to use their creativity was our constellation project. Here students were able to pose in a position and then turned that into a constellation.



To finish up our Space Unit, first grade families were invited back to school on the evening of Thursday, March 30th to do space themed activities as a family. At this time the families were able to work and learn together by rotating through different stations all dealing with space. There were six different stations for the families to learn. Family Space Night was well attended by many families who had a ton of fun learning and exploring more about space!



Palmyra High School
“Running with the Panthers”

CROSS COUNTRY CAMP

Grades 4-12

Wednesdays at 7pm on June 7th, 14th, and 21st

“Running with the Panthers” is a camp that is open to all boys and girls in 4th-12th grades looking to improve as distance runners. All ability levels are welcome. The program emphasizes a progressive building of endurance, proper running form, and stretching techniques. Along with learning these great skills, guest speakers will present information to improve and motivate camp attendees as distance runners.

Each camp session will last between 1 hour - 1 hour 15 minutes.

Camp attendees will be provided water throughout the camp and after completing the evening’s camp attendees will be provided a Gatorade and snack.

Cost: \$35 per person for the three day camp. A tee shirt is included in the cost for the camp.

*If writing a check please make it out to Palmyra High School Cross Country.

Payment is Due Friday May 12th. Payment after this date will be accepted, however a camp tee-shirt will NOT be guaranteed.

Money, tee shirt size, and Waiver Form can be turned in at office at either building.

Location: Meet at the Gazebo at Taggart Park in Palmyra.

The park is located between West 9th and West 7th streets in Palmyra.

Dates with speakers, topic, and the evening’s workout:

June 7th @7pm: Jeremiah is a personal trainer. He is a recent graduate of the University of Nebraska where he studied Exercise Science. Jeremiah will cover the importance of warm-up, proper form running drills, and stretching.

WORKOUT: Talk, Warm-up, 4th-8th timed mile run/ 9-12 timed 5k, cooldown/stretch.

June 14th @7pm: Stacy Mangers-Shaw is an avid distance runner. She has competed in the Lincoln Marathon, Rock’n Raccoon 100 mile race, The Boston Marathon, and many others across the United States. Stacy is also part of the prestigious Nebraska Running Group. She will be talking about her experiences and the joys of running.

WORKOUT: Talk, Warm-up, timed mile run 4th-8th/ timed 5k 9th-12th, cooldown/stretch.

June 21st @7pm: Speaker: TBA **WORKOUT:** Bring a camera phone and a selfie stick (if you have one).

Weather: If weather is a concern before camp, camp cancellation will be posted on the Palmyra Cross-Country Facebook page and an email will be sent out.

If weather becomes an issue during camp, student can be picked up on the north side of the Palmyra High School.

***If there is a light rain, camp will still be held. Running in the rain is part of the fun of Cross Country!

*** There are no refunds if camp is canceled due to weather.

Camp Director:

Michael Trausch

Head Jr High and High School Cross Country Coach.

Email: trausch.mik@districtor1.net

What is happening in Math 7?

In Mr. Jensen's Math 7 class, we are revisiting the different types of data displays, and creating new ones. The ones we are reviewing are bar graphs, circle graphs, histograms, line graphs, line plots, pictographs, stem-and-leaf plots, and tables.

Bar graphs show the number of items in a category. A histogram looks similar to a bar graph, but it shows the data in equal intervals instead of by category. A circle graph shows the data by how it compares to the total number of items. These are broken down into percentages which the students have to review finding a percent, and changing it into a degree measure. This reviews changing fractions into decimals and percent's. Two other graphs we review are line plots and line graphs. The only similarity is the word line. These represent the data in different ways. A line plot shows how many times each number occurs in the data, while a line graph show how the data changes over time.

A new type of graph we learn is a box-and-whisker plot. This graph is made of rectangle and line segments on each side. The rectangle represents the box while the line segments are the whiskers. There are five pieces of information we need to find from the data. These are the median, upper and lower quartiles, and the upper and lower extremes. The median is the middle number in a list of data while the upper and lower extremes are the lowest and highest number in the list. After we have split the numbers in half, then we find the quartiles. These are the medians of the upper and lower halves of data. We use box-and-whisker plots to show how the data is distributed. It is easy to see how the data is split because the chart is broken up into four quartiles.

While the students make these charts, they have to find the mean, median, mode, and the quartiles. This in turn has them reviewing the order of operations. The students are always reviewing mathematical concepts each day while creating data displays.

These concepts are part of the Data Analysis and Probability section of the NeSA-M Test the students will taking this month. During the past few weeks, we have been reviewing these concepts and doing review activities to refresh our understanding of these concepts and processes. These worksheets are based on similar types of questions which are on the NeSA-M test. The worksheets are called Check for Learning problems, and are known as C4L for short. The questions are multiple choice, and there is only one correct answer. Students have also reviewed test taking strategies like eliminating possibilities, and highlighting key words, which are mathematics vocabulary we have been emphasizing throughout the year.



Peru State Business Contest 2017

PHS business students once again attended the annual Peru State Business Contest. The competition consisted of twenty-three schools from all over southern Nebraska and northern Kansas. Students were able to test their knowledge of business concepts and principles by participating in objective tests over subjects including accounting, advanced accounting, business communications, business law, business math, computer concepts, economics, entrepreneurship, introduction to business, keyboarding objective, marketing, personal finance, and web design. In addition to objective tests, several students were able to participate in skills or performance tests including job interview and keyboarding skills. The job interview competition tested students on their ability to create a resume and cover letter as well as their ability to perform in a live interview where judges pretended to be potential employers. The keyboarding skills competition consisted of a three minute typing test where speed and accuracy was crucial. The top five fastest typists with the least amount of errors were awarded medals.

This year we had 11 students attend Peru State Business Contest. Those students were Alex Broening, Macy Reynoldson, Marissa Waltke, Abigail Steiner, Fritz Naumann, Kris Phillips, Henry Iwan, Josh Jones, Landon Hornby, Alex Broening, and Carly Poskochil. Palmyra high school was again represented well with two people finishing in the top 10. These students deserve recognition for their efforts as finishing in the top 10 is an honor given there are over 60 competitors in some of the contests. The top ten finishers are as follows: Abigail Steiner in Business Communications and Fritz Naumann in Economics. In addition to the top 10 finishers, all of the other students tested and competed hard and they all got to enjoy a day on the beautiful campus of Peru State College. Congratulations to all who attended and to all who placed in the top 10.

Peru State Mathematics Competition:

On Friday, March 17th, Mr. Maas and 9 students traveled to Peru State College to participate in their yearly mathematics competition. The students divide up into groups of 3 and take on other competitors in the disciplines of Algebra, Geometry, and Pre-Calculus. Representing PHS in Algebra this year were: Anya Bogen, Brandon Martin, and Rike Schauermann. Alex Broening, Colin Stewart, and JJ Boyce tried their hand in the Pre-Calculus division. Geometry team members included Marissa Waltke, Tyson Reed, and Sophia Bonifant.



The morning started off with students taking an individual exam, after which, they enjoyed lunch at the PSC cafeteria buffet. After lunch, it was time to take the "team test" where the 3 students get to work together on a difficult 5 question set, and the day wrapped up with a quiz bowl squaring off 3 members of each school against each other.

Scores are then tallied, and an award ceremony takes place. This year, Palmyra proudly took home two medals. Anya Bogen was the Champion of the Algebra division, successfully repeating from a year ago when she won the Geometry division. Brandon Martin was close on her heels however, and took home the 2nd place medal in Algebra! (A little known fact about Brandon --- one of his main goals while at PHS was to medal at Math Day...and in his final appearance as a Senior, he reached that goal!) All in all, a great day for the Panthers, as all the students competed hard, and enjoyed their time away from PHS on a beautiful 70 degree Friday in March on a college campus. Mr. Maas would like to thank them all for attending and their efforts!

P.A.R.T.Y Group Hosts Movie Night

The PHS P.A.R.T.Y. group hosted an elementary movie night on April 7th. Elementary students grades K-6 had the opportunity to attend. There was a great turnout with over 50 elementary students attending. The night started off with pizza and pop and then students enjoyed the movies *Sing* and *Trolls*. P.A.R.T.Y. students had the opportunity to get to know the younger students and tell them a little more about what the group does. P.A.R.T.Y offers students extra-curricular activities while providing support for students to remain drug-free.



NSAA Transfer Rules

A few years ago the NSAA changed the Incoming Transfer Deadline date to May 1st. **All penalties associated with the old NSAA March 15th date will apply to the May 1st date.** All paperwork (incoming Transfer report) must be submitted electronically to the NSAA on or before midnight May 1, 2017. Students are permitted one NSAA transfer during their high school years unless there is a change of domicile by the legal parent (Bylaw 2.7.8).

Sports Physicals

All students entering grades 7-12 and wishing to participate in a JH or HS sport at Palmyra for the 2017-18 school year must have a current physical on file in the office. All physicals obtained after May 1, 2017 will be accepted for the 2017-18 school year. In addition, a NSAA Parent Consent form must be filled out and on file in the office as well. Both these forms can be obtained on the www.districtor1.net webpage under the High School Athletics tab.

Camps and other activity information

Due to construction at the High School, many if not all camps will be held at the Bennet Elementary gym this summer. Those coaches choosing to host a camp will be sending out that information soon. Please pay special attention to the times and locations of those camps.

Gym Floor Refinishing @ Bennet June 26th-July 2nd, gym will be closed @ Bennet during this time.

Alumni Banquet-June 3rd @ PHS. Contact Teresa Weaver for details.

Future Dates

For planning purposes, listed below are the NSAA dates in which the first day of practice for 2017-18 activities is permitted in the Fall. Sport specific practice times will be communicated by the coach at a later date.

HS Football & Girls Golf first permitted day of practice is August 7, 2017.

HS Volleyball & Cross Country first permitted day of practice is August 14, 2017.

Panther Wrestling:

The Panther Wrestling team had a successful season this year. The team worked hard and improved with every trip to the mat. The season was full of exciting action and lots of fun. The team had usually two or more who medaled in each tournament. Qualifying for the State Wrestling Tournament this year was Junior Riley Dillon. Award winners this year were: Most Valuable Wrestler of the year was Riley Dillon, and the Most Improved Wrestler of the year was Jaden Jung.

The Junior High Wrestling had a very strong season, also. This year's team included 7th graders: Andrew Waltke, Colton Robertson, Dedrick Dowding, and Michael Bryan-Aldrich. The 8th graders were: Connor Kapke, Nate Palm, Caleb Jung, Jarin Pope, Ben Meyer, and Keagan Callahan. The team finished 4th in the ECNC Junior High Wrestling Tournament only 5 points from second place.

The wrestlers wish lots of good luck to Senior Brittany Fry who will be graduating and heading off to college in the fall. Brittany has been the student manager the last 3 years for both the high school and junior high team. By..Mr. Panko and Mr. Kotik



Science Happenings, Jon Davenport, 9-12 Science Teacher

Wow! Time has gone by extremely fast this year. This school year has provided students with ability to do some things that they may have never been able to do before. This year in Science 9, they took their understanding of Earth science and Physical Science and applied it to new concepts. Science 9 students built a volcano that was either inactive, active, or dormant. The students conducted different experiments to see how different metals act in different solutions. When it came time to build a rocket, some students went above and beyond to make their rocket as

unique as possible. We used Newton's 3 Laws of Motion to better understand how they work. Energy is classified into the potential to do work or moving work. Students built small scale rollercoaster to better understand how energy changes for a moving object.

Anatomy and Physiology has many different concepts and information presented to the students throughout the year. The students have dissected a rat to look at all of the different organs within the body. They have dissected hearts to look at the structure and how blood flows throughout the heart. Eyeballs and brains were next on the dissection list to look at the different structures of the brain and eyeball. Some students were left with a bitter taste their mouth after a taste testing with an onion and many other fruits and vegetables. Finally, the class had to dissect a cat, and they are currently locating and identifying different muscles across the cat.



Jaden Jung
taste tests an
onion



PHS Students build
and test a rocket.

in

Physic students have had many different hands on projects throughout the year. They have used the knowledge they have gained to build projects that exemplify the concepts behind

physics. Students have constructed catapults, mousetrap cars, egg drops, and large scale roller coasters. The students are currently working on Rube Goldberg machines. They must have 8 simple machines in their overall machine that performs some sort of task. The kids have enjoyed these different hands on projects, and they have excelled in their construction of these different activities.

Chemistry has been something new and different for the students. What they had learned in Science 9 was going to be taken a few steps further. Students have dealt with scientific notation, cations and anions, and identifying different types of reactions. The class has become acquainted with dimensional analysis more than what they probably would want to. They have learned how to find the number of moles in substance, and no I do not mean the small, hairless creatures. Currently in chemistry, the students are learning about different phases of matter. They are acquiring knowledge on what the intermolecular forces are

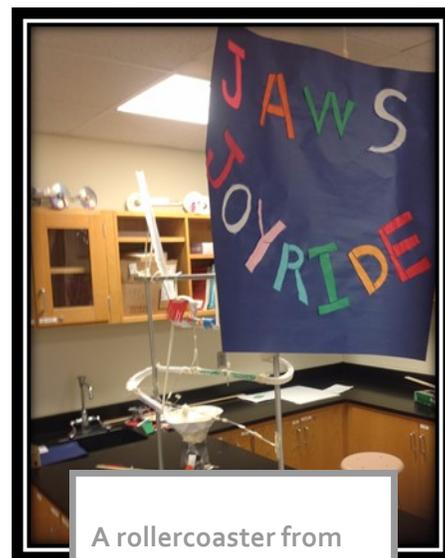
keeps these phases of matter together. With this under-

standing, the students are constructing hot air balloons to see what happens to gases when they are heated up. So far, the kids have thoroughly enjoyed building and designing hot air balloons.

This year has been fast and furious with and immense amount of information. As one year closes, the next school year will begin as soon as we know it. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer vacation. Good luck to the graduating seniors with their future plans.



Students built a
hot-air balloon.



A rollercoaster from
Physics.

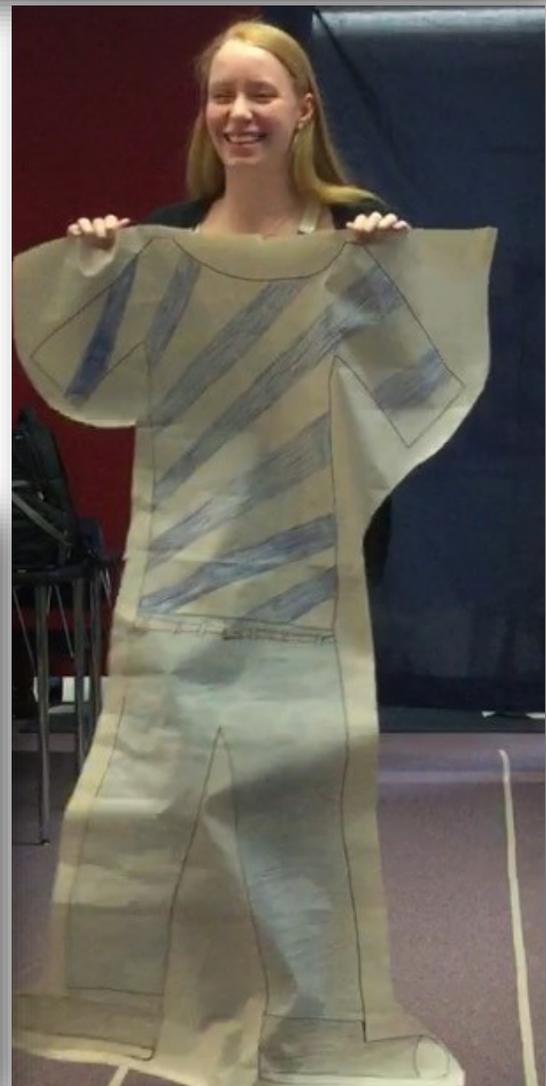
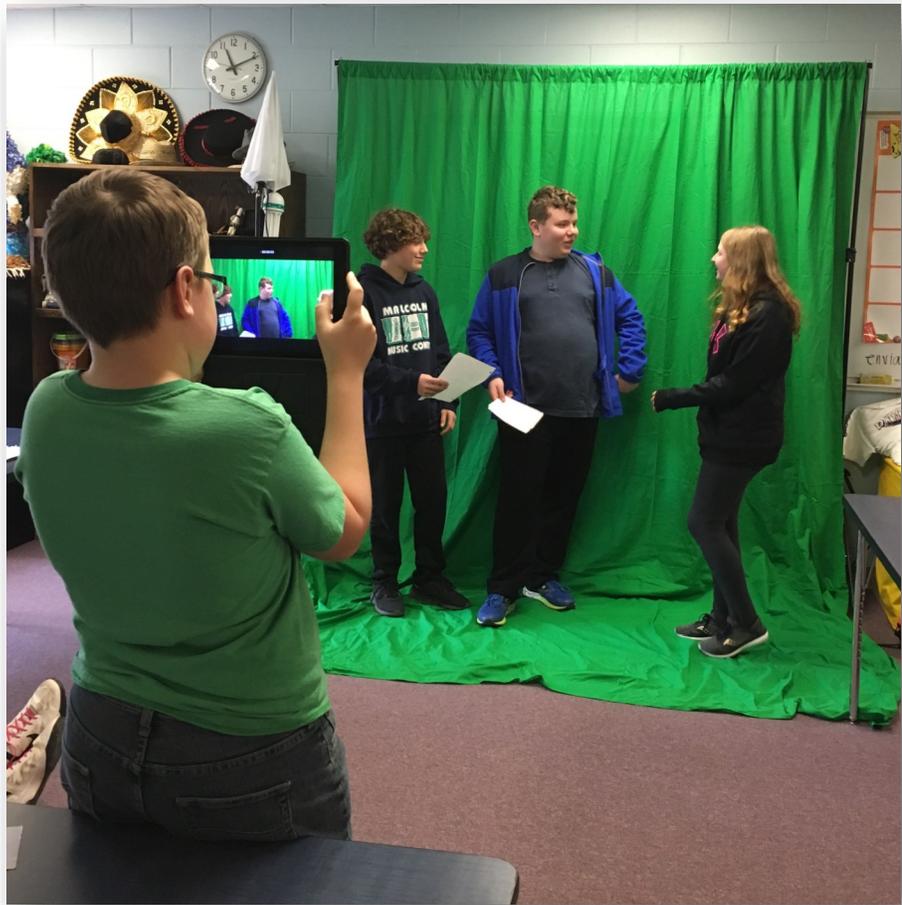
that

It's All About Communication... By Mrs. Gill

As anything today, there is change. Education is always flowing, always moving with the next greatest method. Change, however, can be exciting and make so much more sense than the technique that came before it. Language has always been about communication: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and culture. For years, language study has focused on verb conjugation and repetition of phrases, the more vocabulary, the better. And while these are important concepts, language instruction for true communication is by all means more important and more meaningful. For the last two years, the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages has directed its attention towards proficiency. Students' focus must be on listening and speaking. When students can speak and listen, then the reading and writing will follow.

Therefore, this year has brought more attention to oral communication. With each chapter, more emphasis has been placed on oral production. Writing will always be an important process, yet speaking must be emphasized above all. Students are currently testing at the completion of each chapter, responding to personal interviews and questions related to the chapter of study. A more in-depth response during discussions will result in a higher grade based on their performance without the use of notes. And while most chapters have realistic themes, from ordering a meal, completing a store purchase or giving directions in a community, other chapters lend themselves to culture and creative projects, such as a fashion show or creating a website in Spanish to sell a product.

To increase realistic speaking opportunities in the Spanish classroom, Chromebooks are used daily to view exercises, to listen to audio by native speakers, to view and discuss cultural photos, and to view cultural and native speakers via YouTube videos, or even make our own to share with classmates. Today's language classroom is an active one, hands on, focusing on performance and oral production for real-world usage, but it is also fun and creative.



2017 Spanish Classes take on UNL Foreign Language Fair

This year Spanish classes competed at UNL's 41st annual Foreign Language Fair.



Palmyra's drama presentation earned a Blue Ribbon for "Martina Martinez". Carly Poskochil, Shallin Benes, Marcus Kinney, Jacob Furtwangler, Sarahi Barajas, Kris Phillips, Jessie Grieser, Madi Jones, Wesley Steward, Rebekah Taylor, and Abigail Steiner

At Level 2 Music - Carly Poskochil earned a Blue Ribbon and the quartet of Kris Phillips, Sam Fitzpatrick, Zach Hartwick, and Tyson Reed received a Red.

At Level I Music - Mikayla Roeder and Grace Briley received a Red Ribbon, Sarah Vorderstrasse and Trinity Bohaty picked up a Red as well.

In the Poster competition, Mady Cox and Abbie Frazee earned a Blue and Reagan Bowlin and Marissa Waltke received a White.

Life Skills Day

By Ms. Barbur

On March 2nd, the 7th grade Life Skills class was invited to attend a Life/Social Skills Day at Nebraska City Public Schools. The learning goals for the day included social skills, feeling, coping skills, how to order from a menu, proper movie theater etiquette, money skills, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

When we first arrived, the students got to practice their money skills. They were required to buy their own tickets for the day's activities and were in charge of keeping track of their own money and tickets. The students participated in an introduction activity that required them to make a mask describing their emotions about the day. They got to pick from joy, sadness, disgust, nervous, and anger. In the next activity, students were required to get into groups with students they did not come with to discuss an assigned emotion. This gave the students the opportunity to practice introducing themselves and meeting new people from different schools. They also filled out "emotion booklets" with their groups. These required the students to discuss and record how certain emotions make them feel and act as well as ways they might cope with these emotions.

After a quick partner math game, it was time for lunch, during which the students sat with and learned more about their new friends from other schools. Once we finished lunch, it was time to go to the concession stand and to a movie. At the concession stand, the students got to use their money skills again to buy themselves treats for the movie. They were able to decide what they wanted and had to figure out how much money to give the cashier. Once they got their treats they viewed the movie, "Inside Out". "Inside Out" focuses on how a young girl handles starting her teen years and how she handles certain emotions. The movie was a great activity to wrap up the day.

This event was a great way to get students, who are working on life and social skills, to get out and practice many of the skills we have been developing in class this year. Many of the students were nervous about going into a situation that was unfamiliar. However, by the end of the day all of them said they cannot wait to attend again next year.

Science World

In the world of science there are theories, laws and a whole array of concepts to be learned.

The 7th graders are exploring the world of plants. Spring is a time of renewal as plants emerge from their winter hibernation. The grass turns green and leaves appear on trees. Farmers are tilling the earth. This week the 7th graders will begin their plant projects. They will decide which kind of plant to grow and what variable to test. It is a fun project and at the conclusion students take home what they have grown.

The 8th graders are exploring the world of meteorology. It's that time of year when watches and warnings are posted by the national weather service. Students are learning about various types of weather instruments and how the movement of air masses determines our weather. Students recently completed their realistic weather forecast for the state of Nebraska. Students worked in pairs to create a weather map and then did their best meteorologist impression in presenting it to the class.

The 10th graders are exploring the natural world of ponds and lakes and the creatures that live within. Students have been studying fish and amphibians and learning how their body systems are similar to our own. Students recently dissected a perch and will be dissecting a frog in the near future. It is hoped that throughout the year students have gained an appreciation for the diversity of life and how interconnected all life is on our planet.

In senior science, students are exploring the vast reaches of the cosmos. Students have been studying the planets, their moons and the exploration of space. American exploration of space began with the establishment of NASA. Students have been learning about Mercury, Gemini and Apollo missions and the qualities needed to be an astronaut. They have gained an understanding of the risks and sacrifices made as we were attempting to beat the Russians to the moon and our continued efforts to explore our universe.

This is just a small sample of all the wonderful topics covered this year in science.

Submitted by Mrs. Church

Palmyra FFA at 2017 FFA State Convention Group picture

1st left to right: Madison Thomson, Michael Bogart, Briley Luff, Madysen Cox

2nd Daniel Frey, John Dowling, Kylee Synovec, Baylor Lippold, Drake Spohr, Lilly Calkins, Abigail Lewis, Jami Gabriel

3rd Ryan Hoover, Madison Mills, Cole Cooper, Kord Haight, Tyson Martens, Kaleb Kempkes, Kate Zakaras



Junior Livestock Judging-
48 qualified state teams/
189 individuals

Palmyra – 17th (or as I say
2nd place of the teams east
of Grand Island): Cole
Cooper 18th, Madysen
Cox 54th, Kaleb Kempkes
and Drake Spohr

Agriscience- 103 teams/
406 individuals

Palmyra- White ribbon
50th place, Kylee Synovec
Blue ribbon 59th

Next Generation Leader-
ship Summit- Madison
Mills

Summer Learning

Summer is upon us once again, and families are beginning to plan for their children's days without a school schedule. Days filled with family, friends, freedom and laughter are in students' heads as they say goodbye to another school year. However, a nonacademic summer can cause students at every grade level to digress two to three months in their academic skills. Half an hour to an hour set aside daily can help students close learning gaps and perform at higher levels during the upcoming school year. Summer is an ideal time for students to strengthen their academic skills while still having plenty of time left over for summer activities.

Fun Ways to Keep Learning

- Grow a garden
- Write about family adventures
- Build a bird feeder or other crafts
- Volunteer
- Turn a zoo visit into a treasure hunt
- Photo album- Take photos and have students write a silly caption
- Keep a journal or diary
- Nature walks
- Have your child plan an outing
- Cook together

Fun Websites

- Visit a museum- <http://www.si.edu/kids>
- Free audio Books- <https://www.speakaboos.com/>
- Book lists- http://www.scholastic.com/summer/pdfs/2013/SCBookList2013_FULL.pdf
- Play Together- <http://www.ilovelibraries.org/parents/play-together>
- Cool Math Games- <http://www.coolmath-games.com/>
- Math Live- <http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/me5l/html/math5.html>
- Fun Math- <http://www.education.com/activity/math/>
- Daily Reading Ideas-
<http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2014/05/summer-reading-calendar-free-printables.html>

Summer Break Packet for Early Learners

<http://www.schoolisahappyplace.blogspot.com/2015/05/summer-ready-keeping-it-together-during.html>

Reading and Math- <http://www.abcya.com/>

Summer Reading

Lincoln City Library Summer Reading Program- On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!

Begins May 20th

More information available at lincolnlibraries.org

Palmyra Library

Hours:

Monday- 11-6

Wednesday- 3:00-8:00

Sunday 12:30-5:30

Book Mobile Comes every 2 week to the Bennet Community Church parking lot from 2:00-4:45

Have a great summer! -Mrs. Hinrichsen, Ms. Swartzendruber, Ms. Engelhardt

Join the Class of 2017 for Commencement Exercises to be held at Palmyra High School.

Saturday, May 13th at 2:00 p.m.

Class Colors: Red & Silver

Class Flower: White Rose

Class Motto: "Life is not about finding yourself, it's about creating yourself."

7th Annual Palmyra High School Golf Scramble
ALL GOLFERS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE



Hidden Valley Golf Course

10501 Pine Lake Rd Lincoln, NE 68526

www.hiddenvalleylincoln.com

Friday, June 2nd, 2017

9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Registration Deadline: Friday, May 19th

(Registrations after the deadline will be accepted if spots are available.)



Details:

- 4-person teams
 - Teams can be any mixture of men/women. Women will use forward tees.
- Scramble format – **Cash Payouts -- Will be flighted as well.** Flights depend on # of teams.
- \$65 per person fee – includes 18 holes of golf, cart, **LUNCH**, and unlimited range balls
- After the golf, we will stay at Hidden Valley for awards, food, drinks, etc...

This year's challenge is again in the works – it will be a surprise on June 2nd! Prior years have seen a Hole in One challenge for a car, a putt for \$15k, this year???

(Info and Prize to be announced at tournament)

Par-3 holes will again be “\$\$challenge\$\$” holes.

To register your team, or for questions, email:
maas.tyl@districtor1.net (Coach Maas)

Proceeds will benefit the Panther Strength and Conditioning Program, as well as the PHS Foundation for Knowledge (last year's event provided \$1000 in scholarships for PHS Seniors).

DISTRICT OR-1 PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018 Adopted

August 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2017

- 7-Aug Football Practice begins.
- 9-Aug Faculty In-service-8:00-4:00 .
- 10-Aug Faculty In-service-8:00-4:00 .
- 11-Aug Faculty In-service-8:00-4:00 .
- 14-Aug First Day of School
- 14-Aug Start of Fall Practice

September 2017

- 4-Sep NO SCHOOL -Labor Day
- 19-Sep Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.

October 2017

- 16-Oct Start 2nd Quarter
- 19-Oct 1:30 Dismissal Fall Break
- 20-Oct Fall Break; NO SCHOOL

November 2017

- 13-Nov Start Winter Practice
- 22-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
- 23-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
- 24-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

December 2017

- 21-Dec End of Second Quarter
- 21-Dec Dismiss at 1:30 for Christmas
- 22-Dec Winter Vacation December 22-January 2
- 23-27 Dec Five day moratorium period est. by NSAA

January 2018

- 1,2 Jan Winter Vacation
- 3-Jan School Resumes, Start 3rd Quarter
- 15-Jan Martin Luther King Day Teacher In-service No School

February 2018

- 5-Feb Teacher In-Service No School
- 6-Feb Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.
- 9-Feb NO SCHOOL Winter Break
- 21-Feb NO SCHOOL ECNC Speech
- 26-Feb Start of Spring Practice

March 2018

- 2-Mar NO SCHOOL Spring Break
- 8-Mar End of Third Quarter 1:30 Dismissal
- 9-Mar NO SCHOOL Spring Break
- 12-Mar Start 4th Quarter
- 29-Mar Everyone Dismissed at 1:30pm for Easter Break
- 30-Mar NO SCHOOL; Easter Break

April 2018

- 2-Apr NO SCHOOL; Easter Break

May 2018

- 12-May Graduation
- 16-May Elementary End of 2nd Semester Reg. Dis.
- 17-May End of Second Semester-1:30 Dismissal H.S.
- 18-May Teacher Work Day

Note: Early dismissal times of 1:30 will result in an elementary dismissal time of 1:10.

January 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

178

185 total for teachers

No School Bennet Elementary

Teacher days

Vacation Days

Parent Teacher conf.

Early Dismissal

The 2017 Palmyra-Bennet Alumni Dance Team
(otherwise known as the Team devoid of any dance talent)

Presents:

Dancing Through the Years

Swing back in time with Glenn Miller

Watusi with The Orlows

Disco with Travolta

Hip-hop with Jay Z

Tap your feet as the Palmyra High School Show Choir Performs

ALL PHS ATTENDEES ARE INVITED!

Special guests: Class of 1942, 1947, 1957, 1967, 1977, 1987, 1992, 1997,
2007 and 2017

Take a chance on
50/50 tickets and
win the pot!

When: June 3, 2017

Where: Palmyra High School Gym

Social Hour 5:00

Banquet: 6:00

Questions call:

Teresa (Schroder) Weaver: 402-770-4186

Mail reservations by May 21, 2017 to

PHS Alumni Committee

6321 Newton St.

Lincoln, NE 68506

Win a night out
including a stay at
the Fairfield Inn!

(Due to construction, enter on the North side of the High School. A Handicap accessible entrance is also available on the South Side of the Building).

Cut Here

Cost: \$20 per person (Class of 2017 and graduates celebrating 70+ years eat free)
Each meal includes entrée, coleslaw, vegetable, roll and dessert. Please indicate your name(s) and entrée choice(s) below. Please print!

Name _____ Grad Year _____

Guest/Spouse Name _____ Grad Year (if PHS Grad) _____

___ Creamy Rosemary/Garlic Chicken ___ Pulled Pork ___ Vegetarian Pasta

Join us after the Banquet as the dancing continues at the 2017 Bennet Street dance.

** Proceeds go to PHS scholarships and community improvements. **



Mariam Alhachami

Sarahi Barajas

Shallin Benes

Samatha Black

JJ Boyce

Alex Broening

Logan Burow

Jenna Butts

Cassidy Cox

Trevor Cox

Brittany Fry

Jacob Furtwangler

Jaci Hennecke

Jacob Koelzer

Sabrina Lamica

Kyle Lovell

Louis Pavey

Curtis Peterson

Casey Preston

Christian Proctor



Top Row:

Lyndsey Sheil

Callie Stall

Justin Warner

Logan Wendt

Second Row:

Olivia Wensel

Sarah Willeford

Kassius Skinner

Collin Stewart

Congratulations Class of 2017



*Together, we prepare our students to
successfully meet the challenges of the future.*

Devin Bruce

Winston Hornby

Kenzie Mayer

Cody David

Marcus Kinney

Logan Newell

Jessie Greiser

Brandon Martin

Carly Poskochil