



Spotlight on RESOURCE

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PES RESOURCE TEAM

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LIBRARY

WOW week was a huge success at our school! Thank you for supporting your child as they wrote letters and participated in the Vocabulary Parade. We have turned our students on to writing! As a result of this interest, we will soon add a writing and publishing space to our library. This area will be open to any students who are interested in writing and publishing their own books.

The **second reading challenge** is underway! Your child should be reading 5 books new to them. One of the books must be an information book and one must be a chapter book. Candy Cane Reading Challenge forms should be returned by December 2nd.

The **Book Fair** is always an exciting week. We are proud to offer books for students and families to build a personal library. Thank you for supporting reading in our school.

Beginning in December, 4th and 5th grade students will begin learning how to knit! This is the first activity in our new **Makerspace**. A makerspace is an area that helps students create, learn and discover. Our first project will be learning how to knit. Students will work collectively to knit stocking caps for refugees. Then those who are interested can continue to create different knitted items. In January we will learn about circuits and electricity. We are very excited about these creative opportunities in the library.



ART



Students have been working on a variety of projects with Tempera paint. The **fifth grade** began with a sketch of a fall scene showing depth with things in the foreground, middle ground and background. Using the sketch, they enlarged a part of the picture to turn into a painting using tempera paint. They are currently adding details with oil pastels and colored pencils. The **fourth grade** started their work with art in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe. They looked at many images of her flower and landscape painting and created a picture using mostly shape and color from O'Keeffe's work. They also drew with oil pastels a shell in the style of O'Keeffe. The last project was to take a part from either project and enlarge it into a painting. These became very abstract and very interesting to look at for everyone! The **third grade** worked on beautiful warm and cool color leaves! They were learning about color schemes and how they work together. They are currently working on Art Rocks! They are painting layers of the earth artistically and adding visual texture to the layers with oil pastels. We have nice rock sample kits from an earlier FACES grant I brought with me to help give them great inspiration for their textures. They LOVE the rocks! We are planning a surprise layer- a fossil- to add a tactile texture element to their work.

MUSIC



This is an exciting time of the year in music class. We are building on the general music skills we learned and reviewed during the first nine-weeks by playing musical instruments! **3rd grade** is playing the recorder, **4th grade** is playing the guitar, and **5th grade** is playing the keyboard. Each instrument requires a different skill set while, at the same time, building on prior music knowledge. By the time our students leave Pick we hope they have a well-rounded education with opportunities to sing, play instruments, and perform.

COMPUTER LAB

We have a new webpage for the computer lab. To find it, go to the Pick website, www.auburnschools.org/pes and click on the tab for "Students."

We are reviewing the six basic rules of online safety. Ask your students about some of the rules we have discussed. A good online safety website for both students and parents is NetSmartzKids.org.



Students have begun units using Word in Windows10, accessing and saving files, and creating individual projects. We will practice using these tools for word processing. **Third Grade** will create a "Would You Rather?" activity, **Fourth Grade** will create name acrostic poems, and **Fifth Grade** will write "I Am" poems. I will send projects home at the end of the unit. We continue to work on our keyboarding skills during lab time. We are using a program at school called Type to Learn 4, and it teaches students touch typing just a few keys at a time. There are some typing games and lessons on the Computer Lab webpage for extra typing practice. Just click on the link for Typing Games.

VENTURE

Third grade finished their unit on STEM challenges and moved into a Geometry unit. We have made shapes with geoboards, created tessellations with pattern blocks and are now working on creating three dimensional shapes using Origami. All students will bring home an Origami Cube we will make in class. We will end this unit in time to participate in the classroom spelling bees and practice for the geography bee.

Fourth grade students completed their unit in Chess and moved on to an Engineering unit. We created tables from newspaper, tag board, and duct table sturdy enough to hold a text book. The record table in 4th grade held 16 text books! We definitely have some engineers in this group!



Fifth grade students finished their unit in Chess and have also completed a unit in Cartesian planes. We learned all about Cartesian planes using Kahoot! - we practiced finding points, and plotted points with mystery pictures.

Currently, all fourth and fifth graders are working on a project together to fold 1,000 origami cranes to send off. Ask your students why we are folding the cranes and who we are sending them to!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We want wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and let you know what we have been up to in PE. **Third Grade** recently had a Hockey Championship. Congrats to the winners from Mrs. Gautney's and Mrs. Stewart's rooms. Third grade has also been fitness testing and the kids rocked it. They have daily homework/fitness challenge. We have been giving them sets and reps to do each night to work on multiplication facts. For example, 3 sets of 5 reps of an exercise represents 3×5 , so ask them about PE homework. **Fourth and Fifth Grade** have been doing flag football and are having their grade level championships on Friday Nov. 18th. While we have been teaching rules and concepts of football, we focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, and fair play. We will begin fitness testing next with 5th and 4th grade. As always and for safety purposes, please encourage your child to wear sneakers or closed toed shoes with non-marking bottoms to PE.



COUNSELING

Ms. Burney is enjoying getting to know your students better so that she can best meet their needs! This 9-weeks we are wrapping up our personal safety lessons in grades 3 and 5 related to Erin's Law. Students are learning to use their courage to stay safe, both online and in their communities. For more information on Erin's law you can visit www.erinslaw.org. During **Red Ribbon Week**, Pick students celebrated being drug free and keeping our saws sharp! Counseling lessons surrounding Red Ribbon included information on healthy choices and refusal skills. Bullying lessons provided opportunities for students to practice standing up for themselves in ways that empowered them and enabled them to navigate bullying or just a problem with a friend. Moving forward this 9- weeks, we continue to dig deeper into our **7 Habits of Happy Kids** to include "Begin with the End in Mind" and "Putting First Things First". If you haven't checked out the games to help your students practice the habits at <http://www.theleaderinme.org/students/>, she encourages you to have your students try some out! In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to Ms. Burney with any specific concerns about your student that you might have that she might assist you with.