

Panther Press
English

January Newsletter



Principal's Message



1 - Kim Koller, Principal

I notice!

The first few days after a long winter break in many ways feels like the start of the school year. At Putnam Heights we take the first week after break to review what we want our school to look and feel like. Living and working with 5-11 year old children, we know that students are still learning self-control and how to be part of a community. While redirection and reminders will be inevitable, as often as

possible, we try to put students in the position of thinking about what's happening and deciding if it's the right thing to do.

One phrase that you'll hear teachers at Putnam Heights use frequently is "I noticed. . ." For example, they might say, "I noticed you walked on the right side of the hall." "I noticed when you got frustrated, you walked away." "I notice everyone has their notebook and a pencil out. The key to this phrase is to notice, state the observation, and then stop. Don't say another word!

When adults simply "notice" or share their observation and then stop, the student is left to judge whether what was observed was positive or negative. It's the adult's way of showing that they have faith in students to draw upon their own resources to remember behavioral expectations and to act on them. For example, after hearing and "I noticed you walked on the right side of the hall," the student has the opportunity to think: Was it good that I was on the right side of the hall? Is that where we're expected to walk? Through their own thinking, students remind themselves of the expectations and judge their own behavior against those expectations. Over time this translates not only into students who know expectations, but students who live within those expectations independently.

Kim Koller - Principal

- Do you wonder what mathematical literacy looks like and sounds like in our elementary classrooms? Now you can see our Putnam teachers and students in action in the new video posted on our ECASD homepage. This is a snippet from seven videos that were produced in the ECASD and are being used across the country for professional development in the area of mathematics. Please feel free to share this video with families and community members who are interested in learning more about how our students are gaining a deep understanding of mathematics. Check out the video to see many former and current Panthers and how they are gaining a deep understanding of mathematics!



Celebrating our Partnerships

This year, Junior Achievement is once again sending community members into our classrooms so that our students can learn about real-life experiences in the business world. Through JA, our students learn about businesses and professions, the need to make informed decisions, and how to think like an entrepreneur.

There are still volunteer openings for the spring semester in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classrooms at Putnam Heights Elementary. Junior Achievement offers a training to help volunteers feel comfortable with teaching, all you need is a desire to learn and share with the students at Putnam Heights!

We Care About Our Students' Futures!

"I loved having the ability to work with and mentor young students. Having the opportunity to share the knowledge I possess and also gain knowledge from them made the interaction even more enjoyable." – Jazlin Larson (JA Volunteer)

To get more information about volunteering, please contact Hannah Morton at hmorton@jawis.org or 715-214-1128.



Putnam Heights Elementary, Manz Elementary and the Eau Claire YMCA partnered together for the December Family Night at the YMCA. Students were entered for prizes that were drawn every 15 minutes, and one of our 1st grade Panthers won the grand prize of a YMCA birthday party. It was fun to see so many kids and families in the pool, playing basketball and volleyball, climbing the rock wall, and more. Thank you so much to the YMCA staff for making this a great night. We appreciate our partnership.



Counselor's Corner



2 - Drew Brandenburg, School Counselor

Counselor's Corner: Kickoff

No, I am not talking NFL playoffs, at least not in this newsletter. But I am talking about our Winter PBIS Kick-off. With the winter break in the rearview mirror we settle into a relatively uninterrupted stretch of the school year. And after two weeks of being away from the structure of school, we need to refocus and re-establish classroom and school culture. The first week back after break is always an important focus of PBIS, revisiting behavior expectations throughout our school. Classrooms will revisit playground, cafeteria, hallway and bathroom expectations. They will also take time to reflect on the first trimester, celebrating the things that went great, and tweaking things that maybe didn't. This a great chance for a restart at home too. Celebrate with your child the things that have gone well this first trimester like maybe morning or evening routines, homework completion, or comments and scores from their report card. It's also a chance to try something different, like introducing an evening homework or reading routine or working with your child to develop new friendships. Maybe you can build in additional responsibilities like how to set an alarm and get themselves going in the morning, or the value of setting clothes out the night before to save time and stress. Utilizing these natural transitions is a great way to introduce new opportunities and challenges.

To learn more about PBIS at Putnam Heights contact

Drew Brandenburg – School Counselor .

And from all of us at Putnam, Happy New Year!!

Messages from PTO

Bruce Mound Family Ski Day

January 22, 2018 10 am-4 pm

(open to public at 9 am but previous experience has shown lift doesn't get going until 10/10:30 am)

Families must provide their own transportation and an adult must be present at event. Adults can participate but do not have to. There is a nice chalet and the restaurant will be open. You can also choose to bring your own food.

Fees (You will pay upon arrival (cash/check/credit card)—Do **NOT** send payment ahead of time to me or Bruce Mound)

- \$9.00/person to tube
- \$11.00/person to ski or snowboard (with own equipment)
- \$9.00/person for ski or snowboard rental that includes boots.
- \$5.00/person for helmet- not required for skiing or tubing per Bruce Mound but is highly recommended on most reputable websites.

Example: 1 child with ski rental equipment= \$20, helmet would be additional \$5

Helmets are included in snowboard rental and are REQUIRED to be worn.

There will be a free ski class at 11 am.

Anyone needing financial assistance to attend, contact Erin Anderson at school or by email eanderson@ecasd.us (must still have parent/guardian present and own transportation)

FORMS: ONLY need if renting equipment----You do not have to complete ahead of time but if you want to:

Form 1- Liability Form (only needed if renting equipment)- make sure to fill out form for **each child** and sign both top and bottom sections. Bring to ski day.

Form 2- Fill out a form for **each adult AND child** participating. Only fill out above the dotted line, the rest will be done upon arrival to Bruce Mound. Bring to ski day.

If you do not have printer available, you can simply fill out on ski day.

Please email cloconnor3@hotmail.com¹ with any questions and also if you/your child would like to take a free ski class at 11am as they need to know how many ski instructors to staff for the day. (please title subject: PUTNAM-BRUCE MOUND)

Thank you,

Carlee O'Connor

Parent/PTO

¹<mailto:cloconnor3@hotmail.com>

From your Partnership Coordinator



3 - Erin Anderson, Partnership Coordinator

- Thank you to all our families who donated for our Holiday Community Project. We received so many necessary items for our Family Closet. It may sound silly when I get excited about packages of new underwear and socks, but it means that all our students have access to the basic necessities which in turn helps our students to be successful here at school. Thank you so much.

School Nurse News



4 - Beth Passint, School Nurse / Enfermera/tus nurse

Whether winter brings severe storms, light dustings or just cold temperatures, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has some valuable tips on how to keep your children safe and warm.

What to Wear—Dress infants and children warmly for outdoor activities. Several thin layers will keep them dry and warm. Don't forget warm boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat. The rule of thumb for older babies and young children is to dress them in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions.

Hypothermia—Hypothermia develops when a child's temperature falls below normal due to exposure to colder temperatures. It often happens when a youngster is playing outdoors in extremely cold weather without wearing proper clothing or when clothes get wet. It can occur more quickly in children than in adults. As hypothermia sets in, the child may shiver and become lethargic and clumsy. Speech may become slurred and body temperature will decline in more severe cases. If you suspect your child is hypothermic, call 911 at once. Until help arrives, take the child indoors, remove any wet clothing, and wrap him in blankets or warm clothes.

Frostbite—Frostbite happens when the skin and outer tissues become frozen. This condition tends to happen on extremities like the fingers, toes, ears and nose. They may become pale, gray and blistered. At the same time, the child may complain that his/her skin burns or has become numb. If frostbite occurs, bring the child indoors and place the frostbitten parts of her body in warm (not hot) water. 104° Fahrenheit (about the temperature of most hot tubs) is recommended. Warm washcloths may be applied to frostbitten nose, ears and lips. Do not rub the frozen areas. After a few minutes, dry and cover the child with clothing or blankets. Give him/her something warm to drink. If the numbness continues for more than a few minutes, call your doctor.

Winter Health—If your child suffers from winter nosebleeds, try using a cold air humidifier in the child's room at night. Saline nose drops or petroleum may help keep nasal tissues moist. If bleeding is severe or recurrent, consult your pediatrician. Cold weather does not cause colds or flu. But the viruses that cause colds and flu tend to be more common in the winter, when children are in school and are in closer contact with each other. Frequent hand washing and teaching your child to sneeze or cough into the

bend of her elbow may help reduce the spread of colds and flu. Children 6 months of age and up should get the influenza vaccine to reduce their risk of catching the flu.

Winter Sports and Activities—Set reasonable time limits on outdoor play to prevent hypothermia and frostbite. Have children come inside periodically to warm up. Using alcohol or drugs before any winter activity, like snowmobiling or skiing, is dangerous and should not be permitted in any situation.

RCU School Sense



January 2018

Happy New Year from your Royal Credit Union School Sense Team!

The Super Savers of Putnam Heights have started out strong practicing the saving habit with Royal Credit Union School Sense. Let's keep up the good work as we kick off 2018! Now is a great time to talk with your child to set a **saving goal**. Help them think of how rewarding it will feel to look back at the amount saved over the school year.

Remember that Royal donates \$250 Putnam Heights Elementary for every 500 deposits made. Think of it as a fund raiser that also helps teach your child to be smart with their money! Your Royal School Sense location is open on Thursday each week to help your child get excited about saving and helping their school.

As a special incentive, we will have a **Double-Stamp Day** on Thursday January 18th! Savers will receive **two** stamps on their Super Saver cards instead of one, helping them earn prizes more quickly!

If you have questions or want to know how to start saving at school with Royal School Sense, please contact us at:

Emily Hanson

emily.hanson@rcu.org

715-855-5403