

# Prattville Primary School

## January Newsletter

*Learning Today...Leading Tomorrow*

### News from Mrs. McNider

Welcome to 2021! We are excited to have our cub leaders back on campus. Many people dread this time of the year as we are stuck inside because of weather, and it seems to be the "long haul" before spring break.

I must tell you though, this is my favorite time of the school year. We see some of our best teaching and learning during this time frame. There are little interruptions through the school and the calendar, therefore we can all better focus on our goals and strive to be our best.

I also enjoy seeing our students return from Christmas break because they seem to have had a transformation during those two weeks. Our first graders become more confident and proficient in their reading skills and those second graders suddenly become more like third graders. All students become more independent, accountable and begin to truly blossom in their academics.

During January, PPS teachers will reflect on our first semester achievements and adjust instruction to meet the needs of our students. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher and we will quickly schedule a time for you to discuss those.

Thank you for your daily support of PPS. Remember we are learning today, so that we may lead tomorrow!

Mrs. McNider, Principal

### DIBELS

During January all students will participate in the mid-year DIBELS assessment. These results help guide our instructional decisions. A parent report will be sent home with report cards on Feb. 5.

### Important school wide upcoming events

#### January:

- 8: PPS Spirit Day: Nerd Day
- 15: PPS Spirit Day: 80's Day
- 21: STAR testing begins
- 22: PPS Spirit Day: Camo
- 29: PPS Spirit Day: Athletic Wear/ last day of the nine weeks/Leadership celebration day

### Safety at PPS

As educators and parents, our most important job is keeping our students safe. Please review the following reminders concerning safety procedures:

- All visitors must sign in and show picture ID;
- If a visitor is not listed on the student's file, they will not be allowed to check out the student;
- When visiting PPS, please park in a designated parking areas. **Do not at any time**, block our front drive. Blocking this area could prevent proper authorities to get to our building quickly if there was an emergency;
- Any vehicle in carpool without the assigned PPS pick-up signage will be required to report to the front office before being allowed to pick up a student.

MORE ON BACK →

# More PPS happenings!

## Special Snack Fridays

Jan 8: Slushy

Jan. 15: TBD

Jan. 22: TBD

## **Leader In Me The Importance of Goals**

Research has shown that the simple act of writing a goal greatly increases the chances of accomplishing the goal. If the goal is broken down into action steps and the action steps are tracked, goals have an even greater percentage of success.

At school, your child may write his or her academic and personal goals in a Leadership Notebook. You will gain a lot of information on how your child is doing if you ask your child to tell you about his or her goals. The goals chosen are meaningful to your child so be sure to practice Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood.

The Leadership Notebook idea can also be used in your home. Create goals such as reading together, eating dinner at the table, or doing an activity together. Involve everyone in the family in choosing a meaningful goal and action steps. Post the goal and the action steps in a visible place and be sure to track and celebrate progress!

Ask your child about their PPS goals. Some goals we set at PPS may be AR, behavior goals, LEXIA, Reflex, Performance Series, or attendance related.

The new year presents many ways we can be a better ME!

## **Parent Resource Center**

Are you looking for some resources to help your child at home?

Make sure to check out the PPS Parent Resource Center. Here you can check out materials to use at home to support your child's learning. Contact our parent liaison, Mrs. Schooley at

[Jenny.schooley@acboe.net](mailto:Jenny.schooley@acboe.net)

## **THANK YOU!**

**Thank you for your support during our first semester APT fundraisers.**

Mark your calendars!

PPS will be selling FERNs, Feb. 15-March 1. More info to come.

## **Attendance**

**Research tells us that children who are at school all day everyday perform better academically. If your child has to be absent, make sure you send in an excuse.**

Please remember if you bring in cupcakes, snacks or other items, those must be dropped off in our front office.

Thank you for your support while we protect our instructional time at PPS.