

Pioneer Press

March 2016



Broken Sprinkler Head Didn't Stop Pioneer PTA Talent Show!

On February 10, what would have normally been the final rehearsal for this wonderful event turned out to be quite exciting! One of the sprinkler heads above the stage was broken off when the folding door opened in preparation for rehearsal. Water, water everywhere! Thanks to the quick response of our evening custodian, John, the local fire department, and the OSD maintenance crew, the carpet and floor were cleaned and ready for the next evening's performance. Pioneer families and friends enjoyed 32 terrific acts. A special thank you to PTA Talent Show Chairs, Sarah Applegate and Jennifer Bowman, along with the super stage crew of parents and volunteers.

Move Over Talented Students... Mrs. O'Donnell and Mrs. Schutte Love to Perform!

The Olympia School District's annual musical, HONK!, was a huge success. Mrs. Amy Schutte, Pioneer first grade teacher, and Mrs. Suzette O'Donnell, third grade teacher, performed along with many other district employees in this major fundraising event for the Olympia School District Education Foundation. The proceeds from all performances...\$30,000!!! Thank you, Olympia community, for your support. And thanks to our two "stars" for their time and talents!

Spring Forward

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour Sunday, March 13th!

Special Guests in the Half-Day Kindergarten Classes

The half-day kindergarten classes recently had some special visitors in their classroom. O Bee Credit Union presented their "Financial Literacy" curriculum. They read a giant Berenstain Bears book about a visit to the credit union and introduced the 4 concepts: earn, spend, save, share. Brother and Sister Bear arrived and gave hugs and high-fives. They passed out pencils and bookmarks and donated a class book, "Trouble with Money."

Stephanie Estrella, raptor rehabilitator with Raindancer Wild Bird Rescue, visited the kindergarten classes along with two beautiful birds... Elle, a great horned owl and Talus, a peregrine falcon. Both birds have injuries that prevent them from being re-released to the wild, so they are now "education birds." Students were mesmerized by these wonderful creatures and their stories of rescue and recovery. Thank you to Kandra Barrett, kindergarten parent, for assisting with this opportunity. Thank you also to Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Muzatko.

PTA Arts Program is Very Popular with Students!

During the month of March, we are lucky to have another talented member of our own Pioneer community to work with students in dance and movement, Michelle Penrod. Last month, Julia Cereghino and Mimi Williams instructed students in a variety of art projects, some of which will be displayed at the Spring Arts Walk on April 22-23 at the Capitol Theatre. Thank you, Jennifer Bowman, and our PTA!

Safety Reminder to Parents & Students

Students should not arrive at Pioneer before 8:15 AM (unless they attend YCare or are doing crossing guard duty). There is no supervision before this time. When students arrive after 8:15 AM, they should go down to the gym and wait in line with the rest of their class.

If you need to drop your student off at Pioneer before 8:15 AM, please make childcare arrangements through YCare at (360) 705-2642. Thanks for your cooperation!

Absences -- Please Call the Office!

If your student is going to be absent, please remember to call the Pioneer office at (360) 596-6500 -- preferably before the start of the school day. There is voicemail available if you don't reach a person. When leaving a message, please provide your name, your student's name, the date of the absence, and the reason for the absence. *If your child is out sick for multiple days, please call the office each day of the absence. We cannot assume that your student continues to be absent due to illness.*

Pioneer Staff are Learners, Too!

Since the beginning of the school year, approximately 20 hours of professional development for staff have been offered after school hours. The majority of certificated staff, along with many classified staff, have participated in many of these trainings such as: Technology, CPR/ Defibrillator/ Triage/ Rescue, Bridges Mathematics, Learning To Use the New Report Card, Intervention Programs for struggling readers (Headsprout & PALS), and Differentiation Instructional Strategies.

Calendar of Events

5th Grade Parent Night, WMS Gym	March 15, 6:00 PM
4th & 5th Grade Orchestra Festival, OHS Gym	March 17, 7:30 PM
Pioneer Presents "Schoolhouse Rocks!", OHS PAC	March 18, 6:00 PM
Pioneer Presents "Schoolhouse Rocks!", OHS PAC	March 19, 2:00 PM & 6:00 PM
FamOLY Concert, OHS PAC	March 23, 6:00 PM
Kindergarten Registration Begins	March 28
5th & 6th Grade Band Festival, WMS Gym	March 29, 7:00 PM
Early Release for Conferences (11:35 AM)	March 29 - April 1
Book Fair in Pioneer Library	March 29 - April 1