

Panther PAWPrints Newsletter

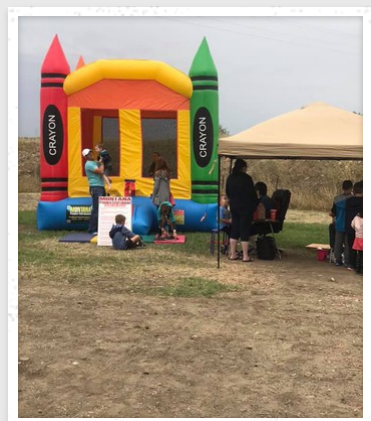
OCTOBER 2019

CAMPUS NEWS

CARNIVAL

Our Panther PTA put on another AMAZING school carnival! A little rain didn't stop us from having the BEST time, EVER! Thank you to Jake, Meghan, Lindi, and Erin for all of your hard work making this night a success.

We'd also like to thank the PTA members and parents who volunteered their time to assist with set up and/or donated items for our classroom raffle basket items. We could not do this every year without you! We appreciate you!





GOODIES WITH GRANDS

Goodies with Grands was another outstanding success! Our Panthers LOVE getting together with their grandparents or people who they find GRAND to enjoy a sack lunch, "goodies", and photo opportunity (complete with props!). Thank you to our supportive "Grands" that spend time with us year after year!

Another thank you to our Panther PTA for hosting and supporting this event each year!





PLAYGROUND

After months of work, we finally have the student voted SPINAMI, also known as the "Around We Go" in the ground and ready to provide hours of play and fun!

Thank you again, Arrow Striping and Knife River for your donations. It is companies like you who help make our students' dreams a reality and our growth possible. We appreciate you!



NOTES FROM NURSE KAREN

The fall months ahead are not only a time for students to resume their studies they are also a time when colds, flu, and other communicable diseases are at their peak. RiverStone Health would like to partner with you to minimize the spread of common childhood illnesses and missed school days.

Here are some steps you can take to ensure your child stays healthy and learning-ready this season:

1. Keep immunizations up-to-date. Get a flu shot. RSH is already seeing influenza in the community.
2. Encourage hand-washing at home. Unwashed hands are a major source of disease transmission; scrubbing hands with soap and water before eating and after use of bathroom facilities is an important way to avoid exposure to many respiratory and stomach illnesses.
3. Teach your child good health habits. Even very young children can be taught to “cough or sneeze in your sleeve!”
4. Please keep your sick child home. While mild illnesses are not completely preventable when children (and their “germs”) share the same building, children with fever or signs of moderate illness should not come to school. Not only are they infectious to others but they also need the care and supervision that only a parent can provide.
5. Although lunchtime in the cafeteria is a chance for students to socialize with friends, it can also be an opportunity for viruses and bacteria to pass from one child to another. Discourage your child from sharing their food, beverages, and eating utensils with others.

I am committed to maintaining a healthy school environment for all students. Our wellness and illness policies not only conform to accepted national standards but are designed to promote the health and well-being of all members of our school community.

If you have any questions, please call me at 247-3367.

With Regards,

Karen Graf MSN, RN-BC, APHN Pioneer School Nurse



Stay home when...

May return when...



Fever of 100 or higher

Fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medication



Vomiting within the past 24 hours

Free from vomiting for at least 24 hours without the use of medications



Diarrhea within the past 24 hours

Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours without the use of medications



Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye

Eye has returned to normal or have a note from doctor to return to school



Hospital stay and/or ER visit

Released by medical provider to return to school

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Cold and snow are on the horizon here in Montana! As we tiptoe into the winter months, we want to remind you about the importance of cold weather safety at the bus stop!

Cold Weather Information

As our Montana weather becomes colder and potentially more severe, it's important for parents and students to remember to dress warmly and think smartly, especially when it comes to waiting for a school transportation vehicle. Everyone should be prepared for potentially severe weather conditions. Here's what you need to know....

* Parents/guardians always make the final decision as to whether or not it is safe to send their child to school. If parents decide to send their child to school when the weather is severe, the school will be open to receive them so long as we have not closed the school due to the severe weather.

* In the event that the school is closed, our Panther families will be notified via text message. In addition, a message will be sent out via the media and our school Facebook page.

* Parents and students should expect delays due to traffic and hazardous road conditions. This means a potentially long wait time for students at the bus stop. Students should be well prepared for extreme weather and have very clear instructions on what to do if the school vehicle does not arrive. Children should be escorted to their bus stop and parents should

remain with them until the bus arrives. Parents should have backup arrangements in case of an emergency. That plan should be written down, communicated with children and the paper copy put into the student's school bag.

PANTHER PTA NEWS



Panther PTA



Monday, October 7th

7:00-9:00 PM


Fundraiser Night!

**Pioneer Elementary
-and-
THE REEF**

are partnering to invite all students,
friends and family to join us

**Friday October 25, 2019
4:00 pm - 9:00pm**

for a night of tropical twisting and
turning, wacky and wet, water
sprayin' good time!

Cost: \$15.00/Swimmer
Spectators: Free



***Please bring your own towels and
say you are here for
Pioneer Elementary!***



THE REEF
Indoor Water Park
1801 Majestic Ln.
Billings, MT 59102
406-839-WAVE (9283)

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PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Dear Panther Families,

As I look outside, I see leaves falling and pumpkins on porches. The weather is changing and the chill of fall is in the air. It's hard to believe that we've been in school for over a month! Time flies when you're having as much fun as we are here at school!

It was such a pleasure to see so many of you at our Panther Open House! Family and community are incredibly important to us here at Pioneer. We love every opportunity we get to open our doors and invite you all in to witness the incredible things that happen within these walls on a daily basis.

As we settle into October, learning is in full swing! Teachers are establishing school standards and expectations by defining specific routines and procedures for students to follow day in and day out. Examples of these routines might be giving the children a specific place to find and keep materials or ensuring that the students/class has a set schedule for classroom instruction. These routines, blended with the teacher's consistent standards form a smooth

running classroom where children have the security of understanding their environment and are reinforced positively for their hard work and contributions to the classroom community.

At home, routines can also make completing chores easier for both parents and children alike! If children are consistently expected to complete routine household duties at the same time on the same days in the same place, they soon begin to develop a responsibility for their commitment and contribution to the family.

As a reminder! We are now offering adult education classes monthly! I encourage you all to check our school website or school Facebook page often for registration information. Classes will range from accessing district technology applications and programing to seasonal crafts! This is a fantastic opportunity for you to get out and learn something new!

I hope that everyone has a wonderful and SAFE October!

Melissa Schnitzmeier - Principal/Superintendent Pioneer Elementary

MONTHLY CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Library - 6-8 PE/Health - 6-8 & 4/5	2 Hot Lunch Book Mobile Library - K PE/Health - 6-8	3 Library - 2/3 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3	4 Pizza - Pepperoni Library - 4/5 PE/Health - 6-8	5
6	7 PTA Bingo Night @ High Horse Library - 1 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3	8 Library - 6-8 PE/Health - 6-8 & 4/5	9 Library - K PE/Health - 6-8	10 Library - 2/3 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3	11 Pizza - Cheese Library - 4/5 PE/Health - 6-8	12
13	14 Board Meeting 4:30 PTA Meeting 6:00 Library - 1 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3	15 Library - 6-8 PE/Health - 6-8 & 4/5	16 Hot Lunch Book Mobile Library - K PE/Health - 6-8	17 No School PIR	18 No School PIR	19
20	21 AE: Chalk Couture Class 6:00 p.m. Library - 1 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3	22 Library - 6-8 PE/Health - 6-8 & 4/5	23 Library - K PE/Health - 6-8	24 Library - 2/3 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3	25 Pizza - Canadian Bacon End of Trimester 1 PTA Reef Fundraiser Library - 4/5 PE/Health - 6-8	26
27	28 Library - 1 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3	29 Library - 6-8 PE/Health - 6-8 & 4/5	30 Library - K PE/Health - 6-8	31 Halloween! Library - 2/3 PE/Health - 6-8 & 2/3		
						



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OCTOBER ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

You can now find information regarding our adult education classes on our school website!
<http://pioneerschool.us> -> Resources & Programs -> Adult Education



SPIRIT OF HALLOWEEN CHALK COUTURE CHALKING CLASS

You won't want to miss this SPOOKTACULAR chalking class! Limited spots are available!

Registration Deadline: Friday, 10/11/2019

Registration Fee: \$25.00 (Due at time of RSVP)

Due Day of Class: \$15.00

Includes 9"x12" Board, Spirit of Halloween Transfer (B-Sized), and paste singles.

Click on the link below to register!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

PAWS VALUE OF THE MONTH

All About **Acceptance**

Parents,
Hello! Here at school, we have been very busy learning about acceptance- what it means, why it's important and how to get better at it! Learning happens best when it is done both at school and at home. Below are many ways that you can help your child continue to learn about the theme of acceptance through reading about it, talking about it, and practicing it! We have really enjoyed exploring this topic at school, and I hope your family will enjoy it just as much!

Read About It!

Here are some books to help you learn more about acceptance:

- [Different Just Like Me](#)
by Lori Mitchell
- [Whoever You Are](#) by Mem Fox
- [Beegu](#) by Alexis Deacon
- [Elmer](#) by David McKee

Practice It!

Together with your child, pick a few different foods, and try to eat them each with a spoon, knife and fork. Talk about what would happen if we only had forks? Knives? Spoons? Use this activity to talk about how our differences make a stronger community.

Talk About It!

Here are some discussion points to help you talk about acceptance with your child:

- What do you think acceptance means and why is it important?
- Tell me about someone in your class who is different than you. How can your differences be a good thing?
 - What is one way you can show acceptance at school?
 - Has anyone ever made you feel accepted? Tell me about it.
 - What would the world look like if everyone was the same?



Acceptance.pdf

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