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News from the Headmaster

As the school year moves into the middle of the first semester, activities at PCS are in full swing. It seems as if most everything is running smoothly!

The PCS Board and Administration have been planning for the next several years. Goals have been set and assignments made. The school leadership is seeking the guidance of our Lord and making every effort to follow His leading.

As part of this planning, PCS has retained the services of RSI to lead a study this fall to see if the PCS community is ready for a capital campaign. I mentioned this last month, and now things are moving on. Some patrons will be interviewed directly, some in focus groups, and some on-line. Every patron will have an opportunity for input. Please help us when asked to participate. This is a very important time in the life of PCS that could determine our direction for years to come.

As we start to feel the cool weather and see the leaves begin to change, I hope we will all stop and take the time to thank our Creator for the blessings of each day and for the many blessings He has bestowed upon PCS.

In His Service,
Allen O. Smithers, Ph.D.

News from the Board

The PCS Board and Administration held their second annual planning meeting in September, and one of the goals set by the Board was better communication with the patrons at PCS. In an attempt to keep you in tune with what the Board is doing, an article will be put in the newsletter each month. We hope this will give you a sense of direction in where the Board feels the Lord is leading.

As we said, the Board and Administration have gone through a planning process led by Dr. Smithers. The Board examined twelve different areas of the school on their keeping with the mission of the school, their effectiveness, and ways that improvement could be made. Goals were set in each area for this year, next year, and beyond. Dr. Smithers has assigned each goal with a timetable to accomplish it or show that it is not workable.

We look forward to sharing some of the goals with you in coming newsletters. Please continue to keep the Board of Directors in your prayers.

National Merit Semifinalists

PCS is pleased to announce our National Merit Scholars for the 2008-2009 school year. Rachael Fairchild (pictured left) and Rachel Masters, (pictured right) have each been named as semifinalists and will compete against other semifinalists for the opportunity to advance to the finalist level. It is from this group that all National Merit Scholarship winners for 2009 will be chosen.

Rachael Fairchild is the daughter of Mark and Kay Fairchild of Hattiesburg, and she is planning to attend USM and pursue a degree in music. Rachel Masters is the daughter of Eddie and Kathy Masters of Ellisville, and she has applied to USM, MSU, and Alabama. She is currently undecided about her major but is considering interior design.

More than 1.5 million juniors in over 21,000 high schools entered the 2009 National Merit Program by taking the 2007 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). The nationwide pool of semifinalists, which represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. Rachael Fairchild and Rachel Masters are two of only one hundred forty-four seniors named as semifinalists in the state of Mississippi this year.

Duke Talent Identification Program

Duke University has recognized eight PCS students as top achievers in the state of Mississippi. The eighth graders were nominated in their 7th grade year to participate in the Talent Search Program by taking the ACT last year. Undaunted by the task of taking the ACT with high school students, the eight students earned the rank of State Recognition. Evan Cole earned Grand Recognition as being among the top achievers in the United States. Robert Morgan, Hannah Sellers, Stephen Jones, Morgan Sumner, Daniel Patterson, Nicholas Stevenson, and Camille Azar also represented PCS as State Recognition winners. Congratulations to these students for their accomplishment!

Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Pamela Poole joined the PCS faculty this past summer as the secondary guidance counselor. She has a bachelor's degree in secondary English and social studies education from Louisiana College and a M.Ed. in counseling from Southeastern Louisiana University. Mrs. Poole also has completed additional coursework at the University of Virginia, Norfolk



Upcoming Events: (Elementary)

- Oct. 3 – 6th Grade Eratosthene's Day
- Oct. 10 – End of 1st Nine Weeks
- Oct. 13 – Fall Holiday – No Classes
- Oct. 16 – Report Cards sent home
- Oct. 17 – 2nd Grade Field Trip to Mitchell farms in Collins
- Oct. 20 – Lunch Menus go home
- Oct. 21 – Fall Festival
- Oct. 23 – Lunch Menus Due
- Oct. 23 – K-5 trip to Zoo
- Oct. 28 – Football Bobcat Buddies Visit

State University, and the University of Alabama. She has fourteen years of experience in Louisiana, Alabama, Virginia, Texas, and Mississippi. Mrs. Poole and her husband have four children: Justin, who is a senior; Nicole, who is a freshman; Christine, who is a sixth grader at PCS; and Joshua, who is in first grade. She says that she loves the South and PCS and is looking forward to a great year.

DO YOU KNOW?

- Do you know a student who is passionate about his/her volunteer work? The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program is looking for students in grades 5-12 who have made differences in their communities. The application deadline is October 31, 2008. For more information, follow the link posted on Edline>College Planning and Placement>Scholarships—Senior and Other Grade Levels.
- Do you know that you can find opportunities for enrichment programs posted on Edline>Counseling and Guidance>Special Programs?
- Do you know there is a lot of other important information listed under College Planning and Placement and Counseling and Guidance on Edline?
- Do you know that you may contact Mrs. Poole by email or at the secondary campus with any questions you may have?

Elementary Box Tops/Soup and Coffee Barcode Contest---October 6 - 10

- 1) Box Tops/Barcodes will only be collected during the week of October 6 - 10.
- 2) ***The student in each homeroom who brings in the most box tops/barcodes per class will receive 10 free tickets to the fall festival!!!***
- 3) Put all items in a ziploc bag with the student's name and first period class.
- 4) Only valid box tops/barcodes will be counted. For info. on specific products, please see boxtops4education.com and labelsforeducation.com and communitycoffee.com.
- 5) Any questions? Please call Kate Jakab--296-8066. Our school has received over \$6,000.00 by saving these items...Keep collecting!

Upcoming Events: (Secondary)

- Oct. 10 – Debate Tourney at Petal H.S.
- Oct. 10 – Last Home Varsity Football Game (Senior Night)
- Oct. 13 – Fall Holiday – No Classes
- Oct. 15 – PSAT Exam (9th-11th Grades)
- Oct. 16 – Report Cards Mailed
- Oct. 21 – Fall Festival
- Oct. 25 – ACT
- Oct. 30 – Last Home JV Football Game

Alumni

It was great to see so many alumni come by the Alumni tent during the recent homecoming game. Make your plans to come by again next year to visit with former classmates, teachers, and, of course, to check out the food!!

Homecoming Court

Homecoming 2008 was held on September 19th. It was a nice evening with the football team winning 49-0 over Heidelberg Academy. Nine homecoming maids were presented during halftime activities. Pictured below is the homecoming court, along with the 2008 Homecoming Queen, Rachel Masters.



Pictured from left to right are freshman Harley Felsher, sophomore Allison Dueitt, junior Katye Magee, senior Samantha Leslie, senior Rachel Masters (Queen), 2007 Homecoming Queen Kate Conerly, Headmaster Dr. Allen Smithers, senior Brooks Martin, junior Shealy Molpus, sophomore Logan Venus, and freshman Cathelin McCarthy.

Surprise Visit

PCS kindergartener, Camden Russell, had a special surprise recently when his dad, Sergeant Troy Russell, paid him an unexpected visit. Sergeant Russell, a former PCS student, has just returned from six months in Kyrgyzstan where he has been serving with the U. S. Air Force. Camden's mother, Christina Russell, also serves as a Captain in the U. S. Air Force and is presently in Iraq. She will also be returning home soon.



Visit our website

at

www.pcsk12.org

for additional info.

FIND INFO SUCH AS:

Upcoming Events

School Lunch Menus

Latest News

Elementary Handbook

Secondary Handbook

A R Book List

Q-U Wedding

T-1 and kindergarten students attended the Q-U Wedding. Mr. Pittman performed the duties for Mr. Q and married Ms. U (Mrs. Pittman). Mr. Griffith officiated the ceremony. A reception was held for them in the Big Room.



By Mrs. Pittman

The Snake Man

On Friday, September 26, Terry L. Vandeventer presented The Living Reptile Museum to PCS elementary students. Mr. Vandeventer, who is a professional herpetologist and Amazon expedition leader, is commonly known to students as “The Snake Man.” He brought several kinds of snakes with him, and explained to the students that there are fifty-five different kinds of snakes in Mississippi, but only six kinds are poisonous. Six students were selected to hold an eleven foot Burmese python, which is found in southeastern Asia. Pictured with “The Snake Man” and Burmese python from left to right are Solomon Landrum, Max Nierenberg, Mallory Wade, Daniel Breckenridge, Jacy Graham, and Chase Rush.



Parker Uniforms Info

PCS recently received a letter from the manager of Parker School Uniforms in Flowood. The letter was concerning the corporate headquarters and monogramming department in Houston, Texas. When the store in Flowood is out of an item, it is backordered. Houston is then responsible for getting the backordered items to the customer.

Many of the corporate employees have extensive damage to their homes, and some of them cannot, as of yet, leave their neighborhoods. At this time, the offices are still without power. UPS, which delivers backordered items, is still not operational in all areas of the city. They have been told to expect a 4 to 6 week time frame for things to begin to resume a semblance of normalcy.

As soon as power is restored, their top priority will be the fulfillment of their obligation to their families.

T-1 Field Trip

T-1 will attend the Laurel Fair after concluding a study of Mississippi. T-1 is learning Mississippi symbols, historical facts, and facts about agriculture and wildlife.

Did you know...

- The first heart and lung transplant was performed in Mississippi at the University Medical Center in the 60's?
- Barg's Root Beer was invented in Mississippi?
-

Ask a T-1 student for more interesting facts.

By Mrs. Pittman

FALL FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 21!!

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the Fall Festival on Tuesday, October 21 from 4:00 to 8:00! Many fun activities are being planned – including elephant rides, a petting zoo, live auction, silent auction, etc!!! A flyer will be sent home soon with additional information. Plan to attend the Fall Festival and support PCS at the same time! Remember – all proceeds will benefit our children!!

Eratosthenes' Day

Friday, October 3, 2008 is the day of the big celebration at PCS Elementary. Students are to wear their togas and bring a sieve filled with one bag of hard candy and a prime number written on a card for each piece of candy. They will parade to all the classrooms and distribute the candy and prime numbers.

By Mrs. Rowe

5th and 6th Grade Nine Weeks Test Schedule

Tuesday, October 7th – Math and Reading

Wednesday, October 8th – English and History/Science

Friday, October 10th – Bible

Report cards will be sent home on Thursday, October 16th by the students. They will also be posted on Edline.

Plaid Rhino Night

Plaid Rhino will be donating 10% of all proceeds on two nights a month to the PCS PTO. In October these days will be October 14th and 28th. Beginning in November, Rhino Night will be moving to the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Remember to tell the wait staff that you are part of the PCS family. Don't cook, and order to-go from the to-go menu! Plaid Rhino is located across from the Outback Steakhouse.

Accelerated Reader Quizzes

The elementary campus has added 139 more quizzes to our Accelerated Reader Database. These quizzes are now installed in the elementary computer lab and are ready for the students to begin using. The new quizzes for the Crown Books we have for 2008-2009 are also included in this list. The AR list on the website will be updated soon.

Lady Bobcat Softball

Congratulations to the Lady Bobcat Softball Team for their great season! They have a record of 24-8 heading into the final day of the Overall State Tournament and a conference record of 7 -1. They won the Jackson Prep Invitational, MRA Invitational, and were second in the other invitational tournaments they competed in this year. They were Runner-Up in the South AAA Tournament with a loss to Jackson Prep. The Lady Bobcats finished as State AAA Runner-Up to MRA. Meagan Bond, Ramsi Dykes, Joyce Smith, and Reagan Dykes made the State AAA All-Tournament Team. They will complete their season Saturday, October 4th at Mississippi College as one of four teams in the state in the second round of play for the Overall State Championship.

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The mission of PCS is to provide a comprehensive college preparatory education distinguished by a biblical worldview to equip students with the moral integrity, intellectual capacity, and social conscience to impact the world for Christ.

