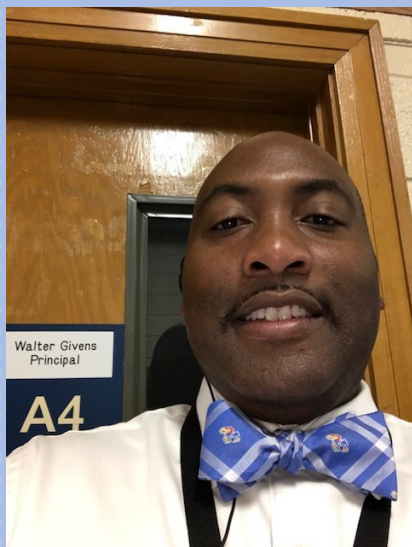




PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Pleasant Valley Middle School



It is amazing how fast this school year has flown by. We now just have three months left of great instruction ahead for your student. I do hope that you will join us on March 13 or March 14th for Parent/Teacher Conferences. Students will be released at 12:30 on March 14th and will begin their Spring Break.

It would be good if your child reads for twenty minutes a day and works on math for the same amount of time at least five days over the break.

Another good idea would be for you to check your student's phone or social media sites (Facebook, Snapchat, etc.) What they post can have severe consequences.

In light of the tragedy in Florida and the threats locally, we will continue to be vigilant in doing our best to maintain a safe and secure learning environment.

Front page: Message from the Principal

Asst. Principal Talk pg.2

Sports & Activities pg 3

Exploratories (pgs. 4-6)

6th & 8th grad (pgs.7-8)

Gear Up (pg. 9)

State Testing Info (pg.10)

Student Recognition (pg.11)

Asst. Principal Talk



Dear Parents and Guardians,
On Friday, February 23 all students attended an assembly where the message communicated was “if you SEE something SAY something.” This assembly was developed in response to the recent Parkland, Florida tragedy. We started by teaching kids what empathy is and asking them to demonstrate empathy for all of those affected by this most recent incident.

We emphasized to students that this is never a laughing matter; it is inappropriate to make jokes at the expense of others’ misery. We educated students on what may be considered a threat and how threats create an environment of fear. Students were also made aware that consequences will be issued if they choose to threaten individuals or the school as whole. Students watched a short video that explored some of the potential warning signs of a person who may be planning violent acts against others.

In the end, we encouraged students to have the strength to speak up if they know a student is planning to harm themselves or others. We ended our presentation by discouraging bullying and encouraging kindness. Please speak to your student about the importance of treating others with respect and contributing to creating a positive and safe learning environment for all.

Thank you,

Mr. Escarpita

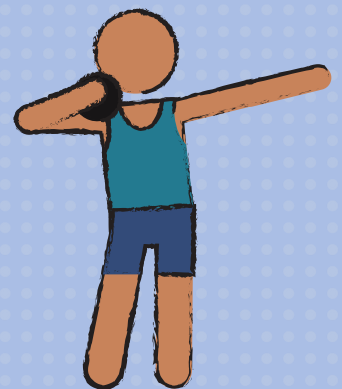
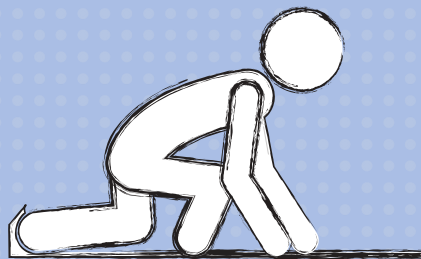
Undefeated Season



Congratulations to our Girl's Basketball team. These young ladies went 10-0 in Division III. This is a tremendous accomplishment and we are very proud of all the hard work and effort that they put in to become the first undefeated girl's basketball division champion for Pleasant Valley.

Coach Thompse in his first year as the head girl's basketball coach has set the bar high. We are appreciative of developing the girl's basketball skills to a level that allowed them not only to compete, but to win also.

Activities for March



Track seasons begins March 26th. Please be sure that your child has a physical on file before the first practice on March 26th.

Good luck to the all the 7th and 8th graders who will be representing PV!

Exploratories

ART



8th grade classes Eighth grade art students have finished glazing their Empty Bowl project. Bowls are a fundraiser for the Wichita Food Bank. It is a lesson in clay while giving of oneself for a worthy cause. They are now working on their personal clay project, something they'll be able to take home.

6th and 7th grade Seventh and Sixth grade students have been studying famous artists. They have been duplicating masterpieces of the artist.

Seventh grade classes will work with clay prior to the Spring break. Sixth grade classes will work with clay after Spring break.

Instrumental Music

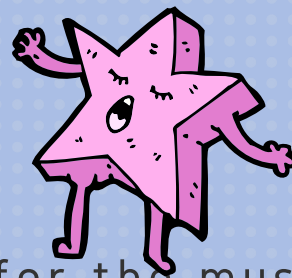


The following students will be participating in the Middle School Solo/Ensemble Festival Saturday, March 3rd at West High School: Javier Chavez, Hailey Aranda, Dimas Gonzalez, Brandon Schrader, Leslie Rojas, Abby Armendariz, and Devin James. The District Core Assessments are scheduled the first week of April. Please make sure to have the required dress apparel (white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black dress pants, black socks and black dress shoes).

Practice sheets are due the first day of each week with 100 total minutes of practice time and must be signed by a parent/guardian each week.

Exploratories

VOCAL MUSIC



Pretzel sales are winding down for the music department. The top four sellers in overall sales - between instrumental and vocal music - enjoyed a pizza party during lunch for their efforts. Several sellers sold over 150 pretzels even topping 200. Thanks so much for your continued help as we finish selling what's left. Our profits are going to help buy music for the spring concert and support students at all city and those going to solo and ensemble festival.

Solo ensemble festival is quickly approaching. Saturday, March 3 is the date if your student is in Royal Singers, Lion and Lionesses or singing a solo.

Thank you again for your support of the PVM Concert Choir and Glee Club!



Exploratories

Computer Technology



8th Grade we working on our CAD software and thinking three dimensionally. We hope to getting into construction soon.

7th Grade is also working on Engineering and Engineering Careers. We hope to be getting into some Vex programming soon.

6th Grade we have completed our Photoshop software components and are working on Internet Searching.

8th Grade Video Productions we are working on finding pictures and videos that show different aspects of making a Video. Students will be getting ideas and figuring out ways for them to use the Video cameras throughout the school.

7th Grade AVID



We are in full swing with our college research projects.

Students are working very hard in order to get this done for our family night in April. We have a field trip scheduled in April to see Hutchinson Community College. This is usually a really great trip for the AVID students to see what a college campus looks like. The end of the 9 weeks is March 15th.

Hopefully, your students are maintaining the G.P.A in order to fulfill the requirements for AVID.



6th Grade

Please check your student's binder to make sure they have the supplies they need. This includes pencils, lead, paper, highlighters, and their student ID.

Also, any additional tissues that could be sent would be welcome!

Please remember to check ParentVue consistently and to update the school with any new information so we can best serve your child!

8th Grade



Social Studies:

We will begin social studies state assessments when we return from spring break. It has been a couple of years since the last social studies state assessment, but we believe our students will put forth their best effort as they tackle the new and revised assessment.

Along with our regular content, we will also complete the spring DBQ over the Mexican-American War. The DBQ asks the students to use primary source documents to determine whether the United States was justified going to war with Mexico. It is always interesting to see many change their initial opinions after we read and discuss the documents.

Mr. Curtis U.S. History:

-The students just finished up the Age of Andrew Jackson and discovered what an "enigma" (Our word of the week) he was. We are about to start the Age of Reform and the Antebellum Era which has several exciting lessons involved!

Mr. Curtis 7th Grade Geography

We just finished with Europe and are now exploring the diverse continent of Africa! The students got to become subject matter experts on the African country of their choosing and created artwork corresponding with their country that is displayed in the hallway outside of Room E-11! They did a truly OUTSTANDING job!

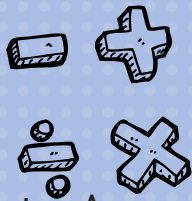
8th Grade (continued)

Language Arts:



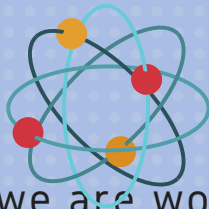
We are sending home a letter that discusses our end of year project: Autobiographies. Please begin gathering photos (family, friends, & activities your child is involved in) that will be returned to you via their autobiography book. Our next unit introduces the concept of influence and how different people and situations can be influential to others. It will also focus on a number of historical, non-fiction reads that deal with real-life historical figures who have had influence and an impact on the world.

Math:



Math State Assessments will begin on Wednesday, April 18th. Students are discovering how to use data in statistics using variables, which has many practical uses in real life. For example, it is useful predicting when a natural event may occur or when using one's height and weight as variables in a particular study. Students will dive even deeper into bivariate statistics next year in high school.

Science:



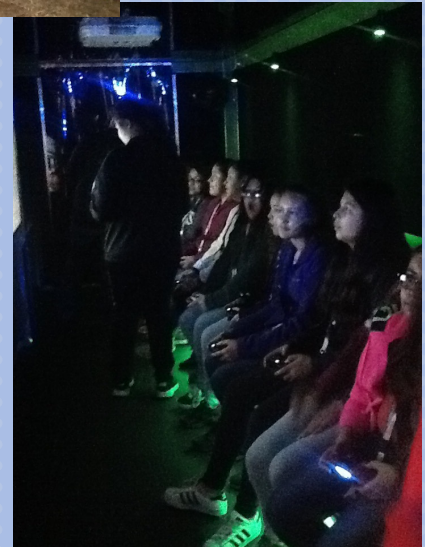
In science we are working our way through environmental science topics and will soon be preparing for the state assessment that we will take March 13th and 14th! It is highly important that your child receives a good night's sleep and a quality breakfast prior to these testing dates. We will be sending home review materials as the assessments will cover topics learned in 6th and 7th grade as well as what has been learned thus far this year. Also, we just ordered our frogs and they will arrive for dissection in the spring!

Gear Up News



Lunch with the principal. 4.0 students from 3rd quarter. Gear Up sponsored event with food from Chipotle.

On February 23rd honor roll students in 7th grade were able to participate in Royal Game Theater. Below are just a few pictures from this fun activity.



2/28 OKC BB Field Trip Day Honoring PV athletics with professional sports and STEAM education components

3/9

7th grade GEAR UP Kick off 7th hr @ PV

Kansas State Assessments



March is here and it is the time to think about Kansas State Assessments. PVMS will be giving the assessments on the following dates:

- **8th grade Science *March 13-14***
- **6th and 8th grade Social Studies *March 27-28***
- **6th-8th grade English Language Arts *April 9-10***
- **6th-8th grade Math *April 18-19***

Students will test in their core classes. Please plan on having your student at school on these days.

Along with the students physically being at school, they also need to be here mentally. Studies have shown that eating and sleeping play a large part in being successful on assessments.

Be sure that the night before the test your student gets at least 8 hours of sleep and has a good breakfast the morning of the test. If your student is testing in the afternoon, encourage them to eat a well-balanced lunch too.

The data from the state assessment is used to help place students in the appropriate class for the following year. Therefore it is extremely important that they do the very best they can. Together we can give our students the very best education possible.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

History Night on February 1st was a huge success!! We appreciate the large turn out to the event. Awards were given out at the assembly on February 16th to the top vote recipients.

"I Earned It Pass"

Below are the three winners for March

6th grade— Gabe Butler
Adolfo Cabrelas
Orlando Flores-Solis

7th grade— Angelle (Frida) Lopez
Brysa Gomez
Alexis Amezquita

8th grade— Roberto Segura-Lopez
Elona Loya
Kelly Ramirez

"I Earned It Pass' school partners: Botanica, Exploration Place, Old Cowtown Museum, Sedgwick County Zoo, and the Wichita Art Museum.

Students can attend, along with up to four of their family members, any or all of the special partner programs during the assigned month for free!

