**PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Park Days, class plays, and the Scholastic Book Fair have provided the most recent excitement at the Primary School. Field Day is planned for May 18, with morning and afternoon activities for different grade levels. PE teacher Mrs. Janet Anderson is coordinating Field Day with the help of about 70 parent volunteers. Teachers are busy completing instructional activities and assessments prior to the last day of school, and preparing for various classroom moves and transitions. We are welcoming Kathleen Brundage and Ashley Lewis from the ES and Melinda Buchanan from the IS; all of them have been participating in building meetings and observations here. Dr. Yokley distributed Chromebooks to PS teachers and provided introductory training. We had great attendance at Kindergarten Round-Up, and currently have about 18 students enrolled in each of the 8 kindergarten classrooms for next year. Now current kindergarteners and first graders are looking forward to “Swap Day”, a short period on the last day when they meet their new teachers and classmates. Class lists will be posted online on the afternoon of May 20.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Last week we celebrated 165 students who met their Independent Reading Genre Requirements. These students read poetry, traditional literature, informational text, historical fiction, realistic fiction, biography and fantasy. Genre finishers enjoyed pizza and got to choose a new book to take home.

The PHES Film Club held their showcase over the weekend and visitors enjoyed 16 films that students produced using i-Movies and Stop Motion Studio. Film Club served 60 students this semester and was sponsored by Mr. McDavitt and Mrs. Young. Congratulations on this accomplishment.

Third Graders went to the Symphony last week and fourth graders visited the Intermediate School. We also enjoyed a fantastic Field Day organized by Mrs. Reeves in which students enjoyed “Around the World” activity stations. A great time was had by all!

This final week of school brings with it a performance by the Middle School Choir, a visit to the Rock Quarry, expressions of gratitude at the Volunteer Tea and celebrations at the Pleasant Hill Park. On Friday, we will recognize all 4th quarter accomplishments at our Celebration Assembly which begins at 9:45 in the gym. At the assembly we will recognize achievement in academics, character, music, art, sportsmanship and perseverance. We will also share the art work of 4th grader Abby Wildhalm which was chosen to be
framed and added to our PHES student art gallery. Over the next few months students will be encouraged to participate in the PHES Summer Reading Challenge. A graphic organizer was sent home and will be available on the webpage for students to use to keep track of the number of pages they have read. Our goal for 3rd and 4th graders is 500 pages.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Congratulations to this week's Students of the Week! They are: Madison Woods, Morgan Lassiter, Emma Dutcher, Ayden Cline, Megan Elam and Lexi Danner. They were recognized by their teachers for exhibiting outstanding character traits and deeds!

The PHIS Poetry Club submitted haiku poetry to the 2016 Young Poets National School Project. Entries were evaluated by a panel of educators based on creativity, sensory images, age-appropriate language, and poetic structure and technique. The poems accepted will be published in the 2016 edition of Young American Poetry Digest, and a copy of the book will be sent to the school to be displayed in the library. The poetry of Calli Bloom, Aryana DeVault, Alyssa Dinges, Chezney Fritts, Ema Graham, Braidy Moore, and Audrey Perkins was accepted for publication and will be a part of our library collection next fall. Congratulations to each of them!

May is full of exciting activities:

- **4th graders visited our building on the 9th.** They toured the building, heard important information, asked questions and experienced the cafeteria first hand when they received a free cookie and milk. Their parents were invited to Parent Night that evening. We enjoyed sharing with them what a typical day “looks like” for their child.
- **Field Day and MAP Reward Day took place May 13.** Students celebrated with a MAP reward party half of the day and field day activities the other half. Students had a fabulous time! We thank Mr. Adamczyk for organizing this day for us! Check out our photos at [http://phislmc.weebly.com/phis-field-day-2016.html](http://phislmc.weebly.com/phis-field-day-2016.html)
- **6th graders will tour the MS on May 17.**
• 6th graders are creating their own Shark Tank products for their technology invention unit. They will present to the Shark Panel on May 17.

• Our Awards Assembly begins around 8:45am on May 19; parents and guests are invited to attend. We are so proud of our students' achievements!

• We kick off our summer reading challenge with a variety of reading activities following our awards assembly on the 19th. We thank Mrs. Arenson for organizing this reading initiative for our students!

• On the last day of school, we will have our talent show at 8:30. We invite parents and guests to this event too. Yearbook signing will take place afterwards.

It has been a wonderful year full of learning and fun. We wish all our families a safe and enjoyable summer!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Our Pleasant Hill Middle School choir students traveled to Ozark High School on Saturday, May 7th to compete in front of a judge and receive a rating. We received a I rating, which is the highest you can receive!

Students focused on part independence, memorization, tall vowel shapes, crisp diction, clear tone quality, dynamics and phrasing, appropriate facial expression to match the meaning of the song, and musicality. After our performance at Ozark High School, students traveled to Silver Dollar City to enjoy a day of fun. In the evening, we also attended an awards ceremony at the Silver Dollar City Opera House. This was an exciting opportunity for our choirs to perform and receive quality feedback to see how we are progressing and also receive feedback on what we can work on in the future.

As we close the Anne Frank unit in ELA classes, we are making leaves for Anne's beloved chestnut tree. The leaves were to be decorated with messages and images of freedom, caring, goodness courage, and humanity. More information on the tree can be found at [www.annefranktree.com](http://www.annefranktree.com).
High School

Congratulations to Aidan Link, Drake Sivils, Alexander Whittington, Jacob Dennis, James McGovney, and Evan Williams. These six juniors at Pleasant Hill High School have been accepted to participate in the 2016 American Legion Boys State of Missouri program, June 18-25, 2016!

Congratulations to Rachel Dustman, Fernanda Sierra, Haley Burge, Josey Pate, and Emma Moore (not pictured). These five juniors at Pleasant Hill High School have been accepted to participate in the 2016 American Legion Auxiliary Girls State of Missouri program, June 26-July 2, 2016!

High School Art students presented their best artwork at the Art Show held on May 10, 2016. Here are a few of the selections from the presentation.
Four PHHS students qualified for the State Photography Contest held at the Lodge of Four Seasons on May 3, 2016.

- Tanner Archer received a 1st place ranking on her photograph Wonder in the category of PH2 (Digital Photograph)
- Patrick Montag received a 1st place ranking on his photograph Champion in the category of PH3 (Experimental Photography) and won State in PH3. To do this Patrick had to receive a 1st place ranking on the photograph but also score higher than anyone else on the standardized test.
- Emily Graham got a 1st rate ranking on her photograph Youth in the category for PH3 (Experimental Photography) She also received BEST IN SHOW overall in Photography. (This is the highest award given)

Wonder by Tanner Archer    Champion by Patrick Montag    Youth by Emily Graham

- Kaitlin Dierking got a 1st rate ranking on her photograph titled Poke in the category of PH2 (Digital Photography)
- Emily Graham got a 1st rate ranking on her photograph Lights in the category of PH2 (Digital Photography)
Mrs. Diederich and Miss Woodson’s 1st grade and Miss Kay and Miss Underwood’s 2nd grade co-taught classrooms collaborated to perform *The Three Piggy Opera*. The opera tells the story of the three little pigs and the big bad wolf through song and narration. Students auditioned for special parts of the three pigs, the wolf, peddlers, and narrators. The students worked diligently to memorize lines, actions, and song lyrics. The students learned about the teamwork required for a performance, how to read with expression, public speaking skills, with multiple ELA concepts integrated (ex. RL.1.10 With prompting and support, read prose and poetry of appropriate complexity for grade 1.) *The Three Piggy Opera* dress rehearsal was a blockbuster hit at the Primary School with more than one hundred kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade students in the audience! The students performed for their families the following afternoon.

Elementary
Michelle LLOYD Self Contained
Our 3rd and 4th graders read a nonfiction article on fossils and dinosaur fossils. We learned new vocabulary such as, *amber and paleontologists*. *Amber is a clear substance from ancient trees, sometimes containing insects or other materials*. After reading the article, the students were shocked to find out that fossils are not just dinosaur remains. We created our own amber fossils using flat marbles! Take a close look!
Speech
Cindy White
Cross Chat
Speech/language involves many skills. By using just one game, we can work on producing our sounds in words, sentences and conversation. We can also use language skills such as more/less, across, horizontal, pair, and also turn-taking. Cross Chat also incorporates math. Speech/language is so much more than fun and games!!

High

Students in Mrs. Book and Mrs. Felden's Language Arts II classes are interviewing one another about their independent reading books and recording the interviews on Chromebooks. The interviews are then either uploaded or shared with the teachers. For the interview, students must read aloud a passage from their independent novel that does one of the following: shows an emotion or mood, uses interesting or beautiful language, describes an important character, contains the climax of the book, or reminds them of something in their own lives. After reading the passage, students then explain and discuss how the passage reflects their choice. Then, students must answer five additional questions in the interview. Interview answers must be supported with at least two reasons and must include details from the text. The project teaches students how to support opinions with clear, relevant reasons, teaches students to support a controlling idea with evidence from a text, and teaches students speaking and listening skills.

Pleasant Hill Activities... “It’s a GREAT Day to be a Rooster/Chick!”
Highlights:

1. Chicks Soccer: The Chicks wrap up their regular season with a rivalry win vs. Harrisonville. That win secured an MRVC West Championship for the Chicks. It is their first conference championship! Their record heading into district play Tuesday night in Clinton is 21-1! The District tournament will begin Tuesday night at 5pm vs. Center HS.
2. Rooster Baseball: The Rooster baseball club is scheduled to begin play in their district tournament Monday as the #1 seed vs Pembroke Hill; 4:30 start at KC 3&2 Stadium. The Roosters are 17-7 heading into the post-season.
3. Track & Field: The Rooster & Chicks just finished the district track meet this past Saturday. The team qualified for sectionals in 16 event with multiple District Championships. Logan Blomquist took two championships as did Donna Borer in the discus & shot put. Logan (59’2") and Donna (39’9.5") both achieved a school record in the shot put on Saturday. Olivia Ferdig surpassed the school record in the 100m dash with a time of 12.26. Luke Woodall was the district champion in the pole vault.
The boys 4x800 (Brayden Bonnesen, Ryan Hopkins, Chase Melies & Jacob Watson) won a district championship as well. Overall the Roosters & Chicks collected 6 district championships!

4. Rooster Golf: The Roosters golf team qualified two members for the state golf tournament being held on Monday and Tuesday this week. Jordan Hamlin & Ean McKee will put their clubs to work representing the Roosters at state this year.

**DISTRICT**

Curriculum Writing Update

The New Missouri Learning Standards have been approved by the State Board of Education. This summer teachers will begin the process of selecting essential standards, as well as realign curriculum maps, pacing guides, and curriculum lesson plans to these new standards in the areas of mathematics, ELA, and social studies. Our summer work to begin this process starts on June 6th with social studies teachers and ELA teachers from grades 7-12 focusing on the new writing standards on June 7th. Following these two days for specific groups, other teachers will be able to select additional days to work on curriculum. June 8-9, June 13-16, and August 1-4 are all designated as curriculum work days at Central Office. The social studies and ELA teachers are able to continue their work along with the following groups on those days: mathematics, vocal and instrumental music, art, and counselors and librarians collaborating on 21st Century Citizenship Curriculum. Each teacher involved in curriculum writing/revision is able to select the day or days that best meet his/her needs. The time is flexible to allow teachers to come and write their daily lesson plans organizing the lessons into units while making $20 per hour. There are 40 seats available each day for curriculum writing. We are excited that teachers will all have a chromebook to utilize for curriculum writing this year!

During these same days, any high school teacher who need to set up Google classroom in preparation for the first day of school and the Connect Me 1 to 1 initiative will be able to work at Central Office. The curriculum facilitators and I are looking forward to the work which will be accomplished during these days!

**TECHNOLOGY**

The technology department has been busy distributing Chromebooks to teachers as part of the district Connect Me initiative. Teachers will be able to use the Chromebooks and Google Apps for Education in their classrooms, for staff development, collaborative meetings and curriculum writing. Summer workshops are available for staff to learn more about the Chromebooks and how to use them for lesson planning and for further staff development. Graduate credit is also being offered for staff through UMKC if teachers choose to participate in all the workshops and complete additional assignments outside of the workshops. Throughout the 2016-2017 school year there will be further staff development opportunities for teachers to familiarize themselves with the Google Chromebooks.

**FACILITIES**

Long time Pleasant Hill R-III School District custodian Henry Saubers maintains the High School building in part by cleaning the windows on a daily basis. Mr. Saubers is a 1978 graduate of Pleasant Hill High School and he has been employed in the district as a custodian since September of 1983.