**Elementary School Newsletter**

**PREMIER CHARTER SCHOOL**

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"I will believe and achieve!"

**PRINCIPAL'S POST**

Dearest PCS Families,

Lots of busyness around here as the learning continues until winter break!!  You may hear your child talking about some assessments that they have been taking in their classes. December is a month where we administer what are called benchmark assessments.  Depending on the grade level, different students take different tests.  These help us to monitor student growth and are administered usually three times a year... early fall, winter, and late spring.  Teachers use these assessments not necessarily to give as grades but to collect data in order to get a clearer picture of where a student's understanding is and what areas/standards they thrive in and other areas that they still find challenging.  This data collection then in turn drives instruction and sets a focus for the class as a whole as well as for each individual student.

Another friendly reminder...

Since the cold weather has finally decided to visit us, I want to make sure that everyone is aware of our recess/temperature policy in the elementary school.  Below are our guidelines for when we go out and when we stay in.  Please make sure that your student dresses accordingly (including hats, gloves, and coats) as all students will go outside if weather permits (unless a doctor's note is on file stating that outside recess is not permitted for a medical condition).

If the temperature (including wind chill) is below 20 degrees, recess will take place indoors.  If the temperature is 20 degrees or above, outside recess may take place.

IMPORTANT note regarding enrollment...

Although it may be hard to believe, it is time for K enrollment for next school year. If you have a child or know a neighbor or family friend who has a child starting Kindergarten next year (must turn 5 years old by July 31, 2017), the time to apply is NOW!  Every child must apply through the lottery, whether they are a sibling or not in order to enroll.  We want to make sure to reach the siblings of all our current students and all our referrals by the first lottery pull for Kindergarten for next year, which is scheduled to be held on February 1, 2017. Parents can either apply directly on our website via an online application (Online Application is the preferred method), follow the link on parent portal, or get an application from the office. To access the online application please use this link (copy and paste into your browser): [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Lottery17-18](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Lottery17-18%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).

A note from our PCS staff daycare...

The daycare at Premier Charter School is a safe and homelike child development center on the campus of a K-8 Charter school located in the city of St. Louis. We are looking for child care workers to come join our team. We are looking for energetic individuals to teach and care for our infants and toddlers, ages 15 months to 4 years. One must have experience working in a child  care setting. Interacting with the children to support a learning through play program. Skills for

this position include a positive attitude, an abundance of enthusiasm, and the ability to multitask.

Daily tasks include Curriculum implementation, Circle Time, art projects, feeding, diapering and interacting with children, parents and other staff members. This job requires oral and written communication with parents on a daily basis. Positions offer full and part-time, no weekends or evenings and salary based on experience and/or education. Email your resume to sflorence@premiercharterschool.org.

Required experience:

Childcare experience necessary.

Maintain a positive and professional relationship with children and adults.

Enthusiasm for the mission of the center.

Must complete criminal background check.

Let Me Run club coming again this Spring!

Let Me Run is a running club that promotes character for 4-8th grade boys.  The group meets twice a week for eight weeks, and the season culminates with an exciting 5K.  More information can be found at the following address: [http://www.letmerun.org](http://www.letmerun.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank). If your son is interested, please contact Ms. Mijatovic for more information.

Don't forget to "LIKE" our school's Facebook page.  Great way to see all the great things happening at PCS!

Have a great weekend!

Dana Leesman, PCS Elementary Principal

**REMINDERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PCG Update:**Pancakes in PJs breakfast is just around the corner.  RSVP forms are due today so stop by the office at dismissal to fill one out if interested in attending!  Also, i f you are interested in coaching basketball or know someone who would be, please contact Lisa Simon.  We have coaching spots open for all age levels.  Without coaches, we can’t have teams.  Please give it some consideration.

**Eagle and Eagle Jr Choirs Winter Concert:** The Choirs' Winter Concert will be at Central Visual and Performing Arts school's theatre on December 19th from 6-7 PM.

**Drop off & Pick up:**  Please be aware that all students dropped off BEFORE 8:10must come in for Beforecare supervision .  We have seen an uptick in students being dropped off before the 8:10 time and left unsupervised.  Thanks for your cooperation.

**Box Tops for Education:**Keep collecting!!  See the attached flier for additional ways to earn money for the school through this program.

**IC Parent Portal Page:**  Please contact your child's teacher if you need your log in information for the Parent Portal Page.  Great way to stay up to date on grades, account balances, etc!

**Amazon Smile Program:** Our school has linked up with the Amazon Smile Program in which we get a percentage of an order placed that is "smile eligible" (it will say on the item by the price if it is or not). The easiest way to do this is to type "Amazon Smile" into the search bar on Amazon.com.  It will then automatically link you to the Smile program.  Then type in "St. Louis Charter School" (and look for St. Louis Charter Schools) to select us to be correctly linked with in order for the purchase percentage to go to us!

**Lost & Found:**Please mark all items with child's name for easy return if lost.  All items left in Lost & Found will soon be donated - please check for any missing items.

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

**12.17.16:** Pancakes in PJs breakfast

**12.21.16:**Winter Break begins

**1.4.17:**School resumes

**1.5.17:** Mid Trimester 2

**1.11.17:**Mid Trimester 2 conferences (beginning at 4:00)

**1.12.17:** Noon dismissal - Mid Trimester 2 conferences (beginning at noon)

**1.13.17:**No School

**1.16.17:**No School - MLK Day

**DID YOU KNOW??**

Over the past few years, PCS has established a great relationship with UMSL's College of Education and their teacher preparation program.  Each year we host many studio school students (student teachers) and in fact have hired some to come on as full time teachers after their graduation!