

# Premier Charter School

5279 Fyler Ave. St. Louis, MO 63139

Premiercharterschool.org T: 314.645.9600

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"I will believe and achieve!"

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**March 31, 2016**

## Teacher Feature

### Ms. Crain- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

This edition of the teacher feature looks at another of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teachers, Ms. Crain. Originally from Philadelphia, and still a fan of the Phillies, Ms. Crain has been a member of our staff for three years now. She came to us by way of Teach for America, but has stayed here to put her knowledge to work for our students. She graduated from Penn State, and has a double master's in Educational Theory and Policy and Secondary Education. She has always been interested in education, as evidenced by her first job as a researcher at Education Week Newspaper in Washington D.C. We're glad to have her here sharing her knowledge and experiences with our students.

## MAP Testing

Please remember that spring summative assessments are beginning on MONDAY! 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be testing the week of April 11-15, 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be testing April 18 & 19, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be testing April 20 & 21. Please remind your son/daughters to get a good night's sleep the evening before they test, to eat a good breakfast in the morning and most importantly, to be at school on time. Testing will begin at 9:00am for most grade levels, and once testing has begun, students will not be allowed to enter the testing area.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Conferences

As you are aware, we have changed our conference format this year, having conferences at midtrimester instead of at the end of the trimester. This trimester, we will be holding scheduled conferences for those students who are experiencing some academic risk. If your son/daughter is in need of a conference, their homebase teacher will be contacting you in the next week or so. If you would like to meet your any of your student's teachers, and they are not currently at risk, you

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## Upcoming Events

### April 11-15

8th Grade MAP Testing- Everyday  
9:30am- 12:30pm

### April 13

PCS Family Night- 4pm- 9pm  
Boathouse in Forest Park

### April 15

Middle School Dance- 6pm- 8pm  
Middle School Cafeteria

### April 19

MS Trip Parent Meeting- 5:30pm  
Middle School Cafeteria

### April 18 & 19

7th Grade MAP Testing  
9:30am- 12:30pm

### April 20 & 21

6th Grade MAP Testing  
9:30am- 12:30pm

### April 20

Scheduled Conferences 4pm-7:30pm

### April 21

Early Dismissal- 1pm  
Scheduled Conferences 1pm-7:30pm

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may contact their homebase teacher to schedule a conference. Midtrimester reports will be sent home Wednesday, April 20.

## **Dismissal Time Change**

Please note that dismissal on April 21 will be at 1:00pm, instead of our usual 12:00pm.

## **Graduation Date Change**

Due to our snow days this year, we will need to make adjustments to our school calendar forcing us to change the date for 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 24<sup>th</sup>. Graduation will begin at 7pm and our venue is still TBD. Sorry for any inconvenience.

## **Graduation Slide Show**

If you've ever been to one of our graduations before, you know that the highlight of the evening, besides getting the actual diploma, is the slide show of current and past pictures of the graduates. We are beginning to collect those, so please send in digital pictures of your son/daughter. We really strive to have every graduate pictured during the slideshow, so we'd appreciate your help. Please send your digital pictures in .jpeg format to Mrs. Wright at [kwright@premiercharterschool.org](mailto:kwright@premiercharterschool.org).

## **Time Change Next Year??**

As we look forward to next year, we continually assess our school as a whole. Next year, we are looking to move up the start time and end time slightly... officially beginning the day at 8:25 and dismissing at 3:25 (beforecare and aftercare hours will not change). A window of time will still be provided at both the beginning and ending of the school day to ease drop off and pick up. Times for the drop off window would be from 8:10 to 8:25 and times for pick up window would be from 3:25 to 3:35. We would like to get your feedback on this possible change. Please email me with any comments. Thanks!

## **STEAM night is a HUGE success!**

Thanks to all the staff, outside volunteers and families who contributed to make STEAM night a fantastic evening. We hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed planning it for you. A big thanks to Mrs. Perrot and Mrs. Hussey who spearheaded the evening!

## **Summer School**

Summer school this year will run from Wednesday, June 1, through Tuesday, June 28, from 8:30am until 3:00pm. Attached to this newsletter, are the registration papers. Please return the completed forms to your child's homebase teacher or either office as soon as possible. Spots are filling quickly, and some grades are already at a waiting list status. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. McAdams or myself.

## **Middle School Trip to San Antonio- May 8-13, 2016**

There will be a parent meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30pm in the Middle School cafeteria to discuss specifics on travel times, packing lists, traveling money and chaperone groups. Please make plans to attend.

### **Please Help:**

Please help the Middle Schoolers in a service learning project to Support Our Soldiers. Bring in the following items and place in the box in the middle school foyer. Items needed include: trail mix, mixed nuts, beef jerky/slim jims, non-perishable meals (I.e. Ramen noodles, mac n cheese), and twin sheet sets. Please bring in all items by Friday, April 29. Thank you so much for your support!!

Creative Communities is still looking for empty Altoid-type containers, and they only need about 15 more. Please send them to room 126.

Makerspace is still collecting your "Junk". Examples of what they may be small broken electronics such as remote controls, foil, tape, old building materials such as Legos or K'Nex, pipe cleaners, crafting supplies, paper towel rolls, and circuit materials such as snaptricity sets or arduino boards. Please drop any items off with Mrs. Gold, the Quest teacher.

All grade levels would gladly accept tissue paper, paper towels and Clorox wipes. We realize that many of you already brought those items in at the beginning of the year, but if you are able to pick up one of these items, they would really appreciate it.

## Book Fair Time!

Our Spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming April 18th-21st. We would love to have your help! If you are interested in volunteering (setting up, decorating, cashier) please contact Vera Ramsey at [vramsey@premiercharterschool.org](mailto:vramsey@premiercharterschool.org).

## Girls on Fire

Girls on Fire is in need of your help to make this year's program amazing. Girls on Fire is a program for 8th grade girls at Premier Charter School that focuses on developing our girls in to confident young women who have the tools to reach their highest potential and inspire others to do the same. We are planning an event in May that require help from the community. We are looking for professional women to make our upcoming events successful. Please look at the details below to offer assistance with the upcoming events.

We are open to having mentors from a wide range of professions; however, the girls have expressed interest in the following careers:

Acting/Modeling	Law
Therapy/Psychology	Medicine/Pediatrics/Nephrology
Fashion Design	Education
Engineering	Business
Professional Gaming	Makeup Artistry
Veterinary Medicine	

## Notice to 7th grade parents

The state of Missouri has mandated that all incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade students need both Tdap and Menactra vaccines to enter 8<sup>th</sup> grade this coming fall. If your 7<sup>th</sup> grader needs either or both vaccines, he/she should have brought home a copy of his or her current school vaccine record showing which vaccines are needed to attend 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Free vaccines are always available at People's Health Center, 5701 Delmar, 63112. Call 314-367-7848 for walk in hours—no appointment needed.

After receiving the needed vaccines, please have your child bring a copy of his or her up to date vaccine record to the nurse.

## Uniform Update

Please remember that students should be adhering to our dress code at all times while in the building. Navy blue knit sweaters and PCS sweatshirts (hoodless) are acceptable items to be worn at school when it is cold out. White or navy long-sleeve undershirts may also be worn under a uniform shirt. Girls may wear leggings, but they should be solid navy, tan or white. Please contact your child's Homebase teacher, Mrs. Wright or myself if you are interested in purchasing school approved PCS spirit wear from the PCG.

This year on Fridays, students may wear any color PCS logo shirt or sweatshirt. The top must have PCS on the shirt but can be any color. If by chance we do not have school on a Friday, students may wear their spirit wear on Thursday of that week. I have attached a PCG order form for spirit wear to this newsletter for your ordering convenience. Please turn in all orders to the office in an envelope that is clearly marked for the PCG.

## **Lost and Found**

Please remember, if your son or daughter is missing any coats, gloves, hats, etc...the lost and found is located by the finance office in the hall going to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade pod. If it's glasses your missing, we collect those in the main office behind Mrs. Zamudio.

## **Infinite Campus**

Please remember to sign up on Infinite Campus's Parent Portal. Here you are able to get great information such as grades, schedules, and lunch account balances.

## **Amazon Smile Program**

Our school has linked up with the Amazon Smile Program with 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). You have to sign into it to link your account to the program. In order to do that, type Amazon Smile into the search bar on Amazon.com...it then automatically links you to the program. We are listed as St. Louis Charter School. So, if you order through Amazon occasionally or a lot, look for the "smile eligible" items and support PCS!

## **No Child Left Behind**

It is a state requirement that schools annually disseminate No Child Left Behind Complaint Procedures to the families that they serve. Please copy and paste following link into your search browser to view those procedures which can also be found on our website—thank you.

[http://images.pcmac.org/SiSFiles/Schools/MO/StLouisCharterSchool/PremierAcademy/Uploads/DocumentsCategories/Documents/NCLB\\_Complaint\\_Procedure\\_from\\_Website.docx](http://images.pcmac.org/SiSFiles/Schools/MO/StLouisCharterSchool/PremierAcademy/Uploads/DocumentsCategories/Documents/NCLB_Complaint_Procedure_from_Website.docx)

## **Permission to Publish**

If you are not interested in having your child's pictures published, please see the office to obtain a form that must be signed and on file.