

# Premier Charter School

5279 Fyler Ave. St. Louis, MO 63139

Premiercharterschool.org

T: 314.645.9600

"I will believe and achieve!"

Friday, October 13, 2017

Welcome to our PCS alumni to my weekly newsletter! PCS is 18 years old this year, and we are beginning to service our 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of PCS students. We are also beginning to have some of our graduates coming back to work at PCS, with a number of office, support staff and before/aftercare employees ranking among our alumni. We are so excited to see them and their families and have them as members of the PCS community. I recently had a graduate approach me with some ideas to create a network of alumni to come and give back to PCS, and in doing so, she compiled an extensive list of names and contact information. I have added them to this email's distribution list and encourage them to reach out to us in the coming weeks to let us know how they're doing. Thanks to Mercedes Brown for all her work getting this alumni effort off the ground. #thatsPCS #PCSproud

## MS Shoutouts from This Week

Mrs. Hartig would like to shout out Kyan Clymer for being very brave during 5th block on Friday. You are awesome!

Mrs. Reddic would like to give Muhamed Al-Yasseri a shout for working so hard in Social Studies. I am so proud of your hard work and effort!

To Ruby for helping guide her classmates to correct answers, thank you for helping and not telling!- From Ms.McAdams

Ms. O'Brien would like to give a shoutout to Ahmad Al-Nafisi for being extremely thoughtful while editing his writing. Keep up the great work!



## Upcoming Event

**October 17- End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

**October 18- Mid Term Conferences**  
4:00 pm- 7:30 pm

**October 19- ½ Day**  
12:00 Dismissal

**October 19- Mid Term Conferences**  
12:00 pm- 7:00 pm

**October 20- No School**

**October 21- PCG Rockin' Fundraiser**  
Rockin' Jump- Kenrick Plaza  
Elementary 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm  
Middle School 9:00 pm- 11:00 pm

**October 27- No School**  
Teacher PD Day

**November 3- Middle School Dance**  
MS Cafeteria  
6:00 pm- 8:00 pm (promptly)

**November 10- Veteran's Day Assembly**  
PCS Courtyard  
2:00 pm- 3:00 pm

**November 17- ½ Day**  
12:00 Dismissal

## Give a LIKE to PCS's Facebook Page...

Our Facebook page is a great way to see all the awesome things happening at PCS!

## Follow Us on Twitter:

@kimwrightpcs  
@kgdoyle4

Mr. Ashpole would like to give a shoutout to Lazaro for being responsible by finding a student's lost binder and making sure it was returned to that student! Keep it up, Lazaro!

Ms. Berwick would like to thank Kaden Scola, Matthew Weiss, and Kennaya Bailey for staying after yesterday to put away the computers and stack all of the chairs. You all help me so much and show great maturity!

Mr. Doyle would like to recognize Wyatt Gottschall for making a very mature choice and reporting a concern that he had. Way to embody our values of Respect, Responsibility and Caring.

Ms. O'Brien would like to give a shoutout to Dominique Cotton and Ahmad Smith for taking the time to be sure their presentations were done well. Thanks for being responsible!

## **The Story of PCS**

Please join us to tell your story!

We will be collecting your stories throughout this school year to compile an incredible video that we will share at our Multicultural Fair & Spring Peace Rally.

Not sure what to say? Do you have a favorite memory, trip, teacher, project, event from the school? Have you made lifelong friends? Gather your family and friends to share these stories with us. You can plan out your story or talk from the heart.

### **Recording Dates & Times:**

Conference Dates:

October 18th, 4:00-6:00 PM October 19th, 12:30-4:00 PM

March 14th, 4:00-6:00 PM March 15th, 12:30-4:00 PM

### **Event Dates:**

Literacy Ball November 16th, 6:00-8:00 PM

Board/Parent Coffee February 28th, 7:30-9:00 AM

STEAM Night April 26th, 5:30-7:00 PM

## **Conferences Next Week**

The end of the first quarter is on Tuesday, October 17, and mid-term conferences will be on Wednesday and Thursday, the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Your child's teacher has sent home notes with the specific times that the teams will be available on those days. Unlike our initial conferences of the year, our mid-term conferences are held in an open house style, with the teachers from each subject available to discuss your student's progress in their content area. We will also be distributing Spring MAP scores at these conferences, so we hope to see you here.

## **PCS Soccer Team**

This past Saturday the PCS soccer team played against the Nipher Knights. The team did a great job, and really showed their talents out on the field. MJ Harun and Brendon Muhaj each scored a goal, and Mo Saadi had a whopping 7 goals to finish off the game with a score of 9-0. The team plays again this Saturday 10/14 against the Kirkwood Panthers at 10:15 at North Kirkwood Middle School. We hope to see you there!

## **St. Louis Walk Now for Autism Speaks**

For several years now, PCS has fielded a team for the St. Louis Walk Now for Autism Speaks, which takes place this Saturday, in Forest Park. Please join the Premier Charter School team this Saturday. There is a flyer attached to this newsletter with more information. Students and staff who participate in the walk and/or donate \$1 can earn a dress-down day for Tuesday, October 17. Student donations will be collected on Monday and Tuesday.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Graders: Time to Make Your Choice**

Online applications for Saint Louis Public Schools opened earlier this month, and many of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have already been seeking recommendations from their current and past teachers, as required by SLPS. We encourage you to get online and apply for your child's school of choice as soon as possible. Copy and paste this link: <http://slpsmagnetschools.org/site.php> into your browser. The initial registration period ends on November 3. The first lottery pull is on November 17, and acceptance notices will be emailed out on November 22. Attached to this newsletter is a comprehensive document, thank you Mrs. Lydon, detailing the registration process for high schools in the St. Louis area.

If you are still unsure about which high school to choose, I would encourage you to plan a day to have your son or daughter shadow at a high school. Most area schools will arrange to place your student with a current student and shadow them for a day. It is a great way for your child to get a "feel" for the school, and you can do this at more than one school. These days are counted as excused absences, as long as you bring in some type of documentation from the school of your child's visit. That documentation could be a note from their office or even a visitor pass. Just turn that into Ms. Zamudio in the Middle School office.

## **High Schools Want PCS Students**

This Monday, October 16, representatives from St. Louis College Preparatory High School will be at PCS to present information to our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in hopes of having them look into their school as an option for the 2018-19 school year.

## **SFE Update**

If you're a regular reader of my weekly newsletter, you're probably aware that I usually include the monthly menus for the school cafeteria. In addition to attaching the menus, here is a link to school menus-it's super quick and easy to use. It works on your phone and computer and both super user friendly. It even provides nutrition info. Copy and paste this link into your browser:

<http://premiercharterschool.nutrislice.com/>

## **Middle School Choir Is Back**

Attention middle schoolers! Do you like to sing? Are you thinking of joining a choral program in high school? Do you want the opportunity to perform around the city or maybe just enjoy singing with friends? If so, be sure to attend the first choir meeting of the year for the all new and improved, PCS School Choir! It is open to all interested middle school students.

Please prepare to stay after either Monday or Tuesday of next week. The dates are October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Come prepared to perform a piece of music that you enjoy. We will meet in Ms. Boone's music room promptly from 3:40-4:15. If you can't stay both days, pick one that works for you. Stop by to see Ms. Boone with questions. See you there!

## **Important note about dismissal and the YMCA**

We are kindly asking parents and students to be respectful of our neighbors at the YMCA. Their building and grounds are not meant to be used as a pick up point for students as they have membership rules and regulations regarding their building and grounds use.

Their policy is that MEMBERS under the age of 13 cannot be present at the YMCA without a person 18 years or older to supervise them. They especially cannot allow NON MEMBERS under the age of 13 to be there either. Also, 13 year old NON MEMBERS can only be in the building with a signed waiver from a parent and they are

only admitted on a guest pass 2 times per calendar year. The YMCA is for members only afterschool and their lobby is not a place for students to "hang out". The parking lot is also not a place for parents to pick up their children after school.

If you need a place for after school care, please check out our Aftercare program. Payment is on a sliding scale and is affordable. It offers a safe and engaging program for our PCS students!. For more information contact Josh Lydon at [jlydon@premiercharterschool.org](mailto:jlydon@premiercharterschool.org).

## **Middle School Trip 2018: Washington D.C.**

We hope everyone was able to get up to school to pick up your TJ's Pizza Fundraiser goods today. This was a great fundraiser for our students, with over \$14,000 in items sold. That comes out to over \$5,500 in proceeds towards individual students for the trip to Washington in the spring!

If your child would like to attend the trip, we are at a waiting list stage, but I still encourage you to complete the paperwork and submit a deposit. Openings will be filled based on the order of students on the waiting list, and there are always students who have to drop off the trip, making openings for those on the waiting list. Contact Ms. Rhine or Ms. McAdams for more details.

Lastly, by now, if you are registered for the trip, you should have been contacted by the travel company, as the first payment is due later this month. If you have not be contacted by AST, please let me know.

## **Library news**

Save the dates for our **Scholastic Book Fair** coming to the library November 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> after school and during the Literacy Ball! Volunteers make a difference and we need your help to pull off the best #pcsbookfair ever (coming November 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>)! Even an hour of your time would help! Sign up here: <https://volunteer.scholastic.com/#/signup/blr2hPSxw>

### **Visit our online catalogue:Destiny Discover!**

You can search our library shelves from any computer or device. Simply visit [www.Gofollett.com](http://www.Gofollett.com) or download the Destiny Discover App! You can see a list of new books and popular books, search for books, see what books are checked out and when they are due, and more!

Your child's login is:

Username: (your child's lunch number)

Password: (your child's first name)

Feel free to contact me if you need your child's lunch number. ([vramsey@premiercharterschool.org](mailto:vramsey@premiercharterschool.org))

Follow what's new in the library on:

twitter @pcslibrary Instagram @pcs\_library

## **From Nurse Gerwitz**

### **Healthy Kids Express Asthma Van Visits PCS Monthly**

The Healthy Kids Express Asthma Van, supported by St. Louis Children's Hospital, visits PCS monthly to give FREE onsite asthma services to PCS students who have signed up for the program. Those services include visits and phone calls with an Asthma Nurse Specialist, asthma education for both students and their parents, & asthma equipment including mattress covers for your child's bed and albuterol spacers.

If you would like your child to participate in these services, call the PCS nurses at [314-645-9600 extension 156](tel:314-645-9600) or extension 238 or stop by either nurse's office for a packet of information and a consent form.

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Instead of throwing it away, put that trash to good use! Mrs. Perrot is looking for recycled materials for inquiry projects! These can be brought in throughout the year and will be used by classrooms for modeling and building. You can send them to your child's teacher or drop them in the front office. Some examples of things are below (please make sure food containers are clean):

plastic lids of all shapes and sizes  
plastic bottle caps  
paper towel tubes  
Yarn, ribbon, and string  
plastic tops from fruit pouches  
Styrofoam balls  
Buttons  
Thread spools  
Empty Play-Dough containers and fruit cup containers  
Two liter soda bottles

## Free/Reduced Meal Status 2017-2018

As a reminder, Free/Reduced lunch statuses from the previous school year are expiring at the beginning of next week. If you have not filled out an application for this current school year, or are interested in turning one in for the first time, make sure that you do so and turn it into the front office ASAP! If you do not turn in the application your student will start to be charged full price for meals as well as before/aftercare. If you have any questions feel free to contact Ben Huebner at [bhuebner@premiercharterschool.org](mailto:bhuebner@premiercharterschool.org)

## PCG Update

PCG hosts family nights monthly at various restaurants around the city. It is a great way to meet other PCS families, enjoy a night off of cooking, and support PCS! Check out the calendar on the first page for upcoming dates and come out and join in the fun!

The Tom Evans fall fundraiser items will be delivered on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> and will need to be picked up IMMEDIATELY AFTER SCHOOL (3:30 – 5:30) IN THE PRIMARY CAFETERIA. There is no space to hold any items, so please make arrangements to get all items picked up on this day. Thank you!

You may have seen in previous newsletters a date for a PCG family night at Fuddruckers later this month. That event has been canceled and been replaced with the Rockin' Fundraiser at Rockin' Jump at Kenrick Plaza on Saturday, October 21. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Finally, attached to this newsletter is an order form for PCS Spirit Wear. Please make sure that all orders and payments are turned into the office by Tuesday, October 24.

## Lost and Found

We are hoping to keep this small this year! Please make sure to mark your child's lunch box, jackets, coats, sweatshirts, etc with their name so any lost items can be returned to them!

## 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!

## Family Fun Around the STL

### Arch Bark

**Sat., Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

A new signature dog-centric event is coming to the Gateway Arch, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, this Fall. Arch Bark, presented by Royal Canin, will be the first event of its kind at the Arch park and invites St. Louisans along with their furry family members to enjoy the newly renovated park. The free event on Saturday, October 14, celebrates the dog-friendly nature of the expanded Arch park grounds with a variety of activities for dog lovers and their four-legged companions such as dock diving, agility course, K-9 demos, dog experts, veterinarians, live music and food trucks. Free

<http://www.archbarkstl.com>

### Small Press Expo

**Sat., Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

Back for its fourth year, the St. Louis Small Press Expo once again returns to the central branch of St. Louis Public Library ([1301 Olive Street](#); [www.stlouissmallpressexpo.com](http://www.stlouissmallpressexpo.com)) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, October 14. More than 80 vendors selling comics, art, literary magazines and traditional books are scheduled to attend, providing an in-depth look at the small-press scene. A host of informative seminars and classes will also be on offer — everything from a creative writing workshop for kids to a seminar on copyrights. The library's Creative Experience area also gets in the act, with a digital drawing demo by Marie Enger and an intro-to-podcasting session. Admission to all of this is free, but bring your funds for that vendor room. Free admission

### **Author Meet and Greet at the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site, [7400 Grant Road](#) off Gravois Road across from Grant's Farm**

**Tuesday, October 17 at 7 p.m.**

Author, Charles Calhoun will discuss and sign copies of his new biography, *The Presidency of Ulysses S. Grant*, which highlights Grant's emphasis on developing strong relationships with congressional leaders to enhance executive influence over legislation. Free but reservations required by calling [314-842-1867 Ext. 230](tel:314-842-1867)

## ON-GOING EXHIBITIONS

### Invent a Musical Instrument: Selections From The Sheldon's Hartenberger World Music Collection

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wednesdays-Fridays, 12-5 p.m. and Tuesdays, 12-8 p.m. Continues through Jan. 27, 2018

 [314-533-9900](tel:314-533-9900)

This exhibit features a selection of inventive musical instruments by students from area schools made during The Sheldon's SOLID (Science of Learning Instrument Design) program in 2016 and 2017. A collaboration between The Sheldon, the St. Louis Science Center, St. Louis Public Schools, St. Louis Archdiocesan Schools, Grand Center Arts Academy and Boeing scientists, the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) program, funded by Boeing, takes students through a design and build process using found objects and recyclables. Free

### The World of Spectacular Strings

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wednesdays-Fridays, 12-5 p.m. and Tuesdays, 12-8 p.m. Continues through April 28, 2018

 [314-533-9900](tel:314-533-9900)

Drawn from The Sheldon's Hartenberger World Music Collection, this exhibit features over 100 unique stringed instruments from around the world including Europe, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East

and Asia. Instruments from the United States include a rare double bass and violin made from matchsticks, a harpsichord owned by former St. Louis resident comedienne Phyllis Diller, a Gibson guitar signed by B.B. King, and a special edition KISS logo Gene Simmons "Axe" bass. Free

### **#1 in Civil Rights**

Mondays, Wednesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through April 15, 2018

St. Louis' history as a wellspring of civil rights activism is deep and impressive. Dred and Harriet Scott's legal fight to be free, Mary Meachum's bold actions leading slaves to freedom across the Mississippi River, the Jefferson Bank protesters organizing to get access to better jobs, Percy Green and the daring VP Ball invaders who challenged St. Louis' powerful elite and the exclusionary nature of their private party — all of these people fought the good fight in St. Louis. #1 in Civil Rights, the new exhibition at the Missouri History Museum (Lindell Boulevard and DeBaliviere Avenue; [www.mohistory.org](http://www.mohistory.org)) chronicles the history of the civil rights movement in the metro area through artifacts, historical photos, oral histories, art work and actors' performances. Every key moment in the black struggle for equality is covered up to the present day, with artifacts collected by the museum staff following the killing of Michael Brown and the resulting civil unrest in Ferguson playing a major role in the exhibit. #1 in Civil Rights opens on Saturday, March 11, and continues through April 15, 2018. Admission is free.

### **Mission: Mars**

Mondays-Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

NASA is currently working toward the goal of putting humans on Mars in the 2030s, which is not as far away as it sounds. The space agency just last week opened the astronaut application process for the class of 2017, which indicates a certain urgency. If you're eager to see what the future holds, the Mission: Mars exhibition at the Saint Louis Science Center ([5050 Oakland Avenue; 314-289-4400](http://5050OaklandAvenue.com) or [www.slsc.org](http://www.slsc.org)) is the place to be. This interactive display is developed by the science center, Washington University and NASA and is divided into two parts. Mission Control gives you the chance to program and remotely drive a simulated Mars rover, complete with the time delay caused by the signal transit time between Earth and Mars. Mission Mars — Base lets you take on the role of an explorer on the Red Planet in the year 2076. You'll conduct scientific operations at key points using one of the science center's two rovers. Mission: Mars is open daily, and admission is free.

## **St. Louis Police Department Explorer Program**

Please see the attached flyer about the Explorer Program sponsored by the SLPD. There will be an introductory application night on Tuesday, October 17 from 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm. This looks like a nice program for students age 12 and up to find out more about law enforcement and community service.