

PICKETT POST

Volume 2 Issue 2

1st Quarter, 2016

FRANCES BRANDON PICKETT ELEMENTARY

Principal's Post

Dear Pickett Families,

Thank you for a wonderful start to the new school year. It's been a busy 1st quarter and the students did a great job of learning their grade level standards and participating in a variety of activities.

Grandparents' Day was held on September 9 and was a big hit! The classrooms were buzzing with fun activities for students and their grandparents. After spending time in the classrooms, students shopped at the Book Fair with their grandparents. Thank you to all the Pickett Grandparents who stopped by on this special day.

Parent-Teacher conferences are being held the last several days of the quarter. Teachers are able to provide parents with important information on student progress in the classroom, as well as benchmark assessment results. Please take a minute to schedule some time with your child's teacher. If you're unable to attend this quarter's conferences, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a

meeting or phone conference.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to FBPE through the Arizona tax credit program. Arizona tax credit is a dollar-to-dollar reduction, which allows you to reduce the amount you owe in state taxes (or if you are getting a refund would increase the amount you receive). Tax credit monies are used for extracurricular activities, which include field trips, clubs, music and art programs, tutoring, and character education. If you are interested in making a contribution to the tax credit program please see Ms. Connie in the office.

To ensure that everyone is aware of our expectations, we ask that you take time to review the rules established to keep all students safe at school. In advance, thank you for following these rules.

- * Use the crosswalk when crossing the street:
- * Obey the directions of the crossing guards
- * Drive the speed limit (15 mph) while in the school zone
- * Refrain from using cell phones/ texting while driving on campus

- * Walk bikes and scooters on campus
- * Leave your pets at home unless a visit has been arranged with the classroom teacher
- * AM Parent drop off in the front of the building is for kindergarten students only (siblings can be dropped off with kindergarten students), all others need to be dropped off on the south side of the school at the student drop off point
- * Beginning at 2:45 each day the south entrance/exit of the parking lot becomes an exit only
- * No traffic should go through the middle lane of parent drive-up
- * The staff parking lot is to be used for staff parking and buses only

Follow FBPE- on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram!](#) Social media is a great way to connect with the school and PTO! Out of town family can follow us too to keep up with what's happening at FBPE. By the way, all our new followers will be put into a drawing for a free yearbook!!

Wishing you a wonderful October Break!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Towns

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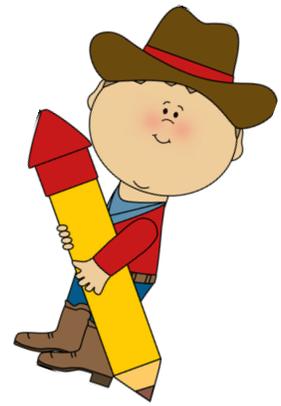
Kindergarten Scoop

Mrs. Adolph, Mrs. Blueeyes, Mrs. Litle, Ms. Romero, Mrs. Schiermyer

The kindergarten classes have been working very hard to add to their letter recognition, letter sounds, and even more words this month. We are really starting to accumulate a lot of words at this point. So, please don't forget to practice flashcards with your child, daily, as this is helping them turn into great readers!

The children have also been learning to recognize numbers to 20, write numbers to 20, and make groups of objects through 20. They have been working on recognizing color words.

Ms. Romero, Mrs. Adolph, Mrs. Litle, Mrs. Schiermyer, and Mrs. Blueeyes are very proud of all their hard work and are looking forward to watching them continue to grow.



First Grade News

Mrs. Caspersen, Mrs. Cope, Mrs. Gettens, Mrs. McLean & Mrs. Paul

September was filled with new learning for first grade. We have settled in wonderfully to our new routines. We also learned about place value, comparing numbers using place value, and representing a number using base ten blocks. So be sure to ask your child how many hundreds, tens, and ones are in a number and be prepared to be amazed. In ELA, we worked with short vowel sounds and digraphs, and used them to blend new words together. Have you noticed that your child has become a great digraph detective while reading stories? Watch for them in the stories read at home. Our month of September ends with parent teacher conferences. Your child's teacher loves to share your student's success with you. Have an enjoyable fall break!



Super 2nd Graders

Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Lemons, Mrs. Mesman & Mrs. Sommer

We can't believe the 1st quarter is already coming to an end! In the month of September, students have been learning about even and odd numbers, skip counting, mental math, and addition with and without regrouping including money. In language arts and reading, we have been learning about story elements including characters, setting, and plot. We have also been learning that author's purpose is all about P.I.E.: to Persuade, to Inform, and to Entertain. We have all been working hard to prepare for the 1st quarter benchmark assessment.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, September 28rd and Thursday, September 29th. Be sure to contact your child's teacher to sign up for a conference time.

Grandparents' Day was a huge success! Students enjoyed singing to grandparents, sharing a video, playing games, and showing off their classrooms to their grandparents.

Enjoy your fall break! We look forward to seeing you back in the second quarter!

Terrific 3rd Graders

Ms. Campbell, Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Sanchez & Mrs. Skon

As first quarter comes to an end, we'd like to thank all of the parents and students for working so hard this quarter. We started the year running and the students are doing a great job daily with routines and classroom rules!

Students have focused on solving word problems, using fact families, and solving equations with an unknown variable this month in Math. In the next week, your student will be taking the Quarter 1 Math Benchmark. This benchmark will be a combination of all math standards taught so far this year! In reading, students have been learning about figurative language, finding the main idea of a text, and locating supporting details. The Quarter 1 Reading Benchmark will also take place in the upcoming week. We are excited to see the stu-

dents apply their knowledge on this benchmark!

Thank you to those parents who have paid the \$5 subscription fee to Scholastic News! This is a great resource to support our curriculum in Science and Social Studies! If you have not done so already, please be sure to submit the \$5 Scholastic News subscription to your student's teacher!

The 3rd grade team appreciates your support with signing agendas, communicating through the week at a glance, and ensuring student's homework is turned in! It is important that your child start practicing their math facts nightly as this mastery will greatly help them in all areas of math this year! As always, please be sure to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions! We hope you and your family have a relaxing fall break! See you in October!



Fabulous 4th Grade

Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Taylor & Mrs. Waddington

Fourth graders are busily preparing for our benchmark testing. Testing will take place the week of September 19, so please be sure to have your student to school on time.

We've had an exciting quarter and we learned so many new objectives. Students were taught strategies for multiplication and division, theme, and the difference between poetry, prose, and drama. We also completed our first literature study: Love That Dog. Students seemed to enjoy a different style of writing which engaged and kept their interest.

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for September 28-30 (also early release days). This is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and to discuss your child's progress. We will have our quarterly awards ceremony on Friday, September 30 at 9:25 a.m.

We hope everyone has a wonderful fall break (Oct. 3-14)!



Fantastic 5th Grade

Mr. Clark, Mrs. McGarry, Mrs. Miller & Ms. Smith

Fifth grade is off to a great start switching classes this year! It has been a bit of an adjustment, but they will be better prepared for next year when they will be rotating to a new teacher every class period.

We have also just finished up our novel study on Esperanza Rising. Students used this novel to study plot elements, compare/contrast characters in a

story, analyze how point of view influences writing, citing evidence to support inferences, and determining themes in stories. In math they were hard at work with reading/writing/comparing decimals, adding/subtracting/multiplying decimals, multiplying & dividing whole numbers, and rounding decimals as well. The 5th grade end of quarter one benchmarks tests are the last two weeks before fall break.

Battle of the Books has begun for the 5th graders with 5

teams of 2-3 kids per team. They will be reading 4 novels that they will answer questions on in a battle on Nov. 8th. We'll be posting the names of the winning team in our newsletter following the battle.

Coach's Corner
Coach Webster

As we wind down the final weeks of 1st quarter we will be focusing on the Climbing Wall and doing a variety of challenges and activities both individually and as a group on the wall.

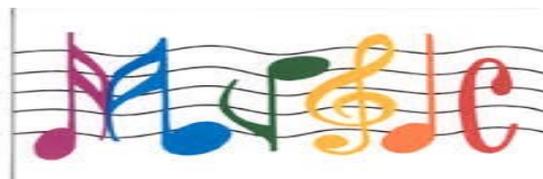
Remember the 11th Annual Staff/Parents vs Students Dodgeball game will be from 3-4 pm on Thursday September 22nd in the gym for those that are already signed up.

Fall Camp flyers went home for 4th and 5th grade students. If you did not receive one or are still interested please contact me for more information. It will run during the first week of break M-F from 8:30-11:30 am.

2nd quarter after school Intramural will be Fitness Training. Look for information and a flyer to go home when we return from Fall Break.

***Music Notes***
Mrs. Edwards

I can't believe we are almost to the end of the first quarter. Students have been going to after school hand bells and choir getting ready for performances in December. We can always accept more. If you are interested see the office or come talk to me. First grade will soon be getting started on their grade level performance. Be looking for more on that. We are ending the quarter with rhythm and pitch and will be ready to go strong again when we return in October.





September 22: Staff/Parents Vs Students Dodgeball
September 28 & 29: Parent Teacher Conferences
September 30: End of Quarter Awards Assembly, 8:30 am (K-2);
9:25 am (3-5)
October 3-14: Fall Break
October 17: School Resumes
October 21: Fall Picture Retakes
October 26: Spirit Night @ Chipotle 4-8 pm
October 27: Don't Be A Monster– Anti-Bullying Presentation,
4th & 5th Grade students 1:00pm

Find us on 

Nurse's Updates– Dana Sandlin

Flu shots are now available in Arizona. Check with your health care provider about getting your child a flu shot this year. It is especially important to get the shot early before the flu season starts because it takes about two weeks for it to be effective. Flu season usually starts in October and peaks in January and February.

Cold and flu season usually start in the fall. Please keep your child home for a fever of 100 or higher, chest congestion and frequent coughing with or without a fever, sore throat, rash, or vomiting and diarrhea. A child should be fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school. Also they should not have vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school

I will be continuing hearing and vision screening for all K – 2 grade student's and new students. If your child doesn't pass a second screening you will be sent a referral. Please let me know the outcome of the referral and return the paper completed by the medical provider.

We need gently used clothes for both boys and girls in sizes 5 to 12 . Any donations are appreciated. If your child has borrowed any clothes for the health office please return them .

If you have any questions or concerns please call the health office at 480 987-7424 . Have a safe and fun fall break!