



MISSION

At Petersen we build student success through academic rigor, character development, and urgency.

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6-20-14

To our "Name that Book Team" for winning third place in district.

&

To our Librarian, Ms. Hall for coaching that team.



TIGER PRESS

Petersen Elementary Newsletter

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APRIL 2014



From the Principal's Desk by Mr. Ferguson



Greetings Parents, We are getting excited as well as the students, who are getting even more excited about the STAAR test. They will take the test this month, April 1, 2, 22 & 23. It is important that students arrive to school by 7:30 am every morning prepared to do their very best. Our teachers have put in long hours after school and also giving up their Saturday's to tutor our students.



Make sure you extend a BIG thank you when you see your child's teacher.



We are shooting for the STAAR's in April and we need your help to make sure all students are in school every day. Our school attendance goal is 98% and we have fallen short of reaching our goal several weeks. We will be introducing a new incentive this month to boost students attendance from now until the end of the school year, so stay tuned for that update.



At our last coffee and donuts meeting held on March 27, 2014

I discussed a proposed uniform change for next school year. The SDMC committee approved this change and now we will be scheduling parent meetings to discuss this proposed uniform change even further. This change will provide more structure, organization, and safety to our campus and students. If you are interested in joining me for more discussion about next year I will be sending out an invitation the second week in April. I am excited about the changes and a "New Petersen"!



Reading by Mrs. Rios, Literacy Specialist



Reading is "Fund"amental for your child to succeed in school and in life. Last month I shared ways you can help your child at home. This month I am sharing the next five .

6. Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, song books, poems, and information books.

7. Set aside special reading time (and a special reading place). Setting a designated reading

time helps in several ways. First, it allows a parent to plan their day more effectively and make time for reading. It also helps the child, especially reluctant readers, to think of reading as a normal scheduled daily activity.

8. Read with emotion. Reading with emotion draws a child into the story in a way that is much more memorable and enjoyable. It also helps them to better understand how words can describe something sad, happy, or exciting.

9. Let your child turn the pages. Besides, being enjoyable, this activity helps more active children stay focused on the book.

10. Take your child to the library to check out books. Most popular Children's books are available at the local library. This is an affordable way to give your child access to a wide range of books. Taking your child to the library also turns reading into a special occasion.



Math by Mr. Unger, Math Specialist



Math is an important skill that we need for our daily lives. When children have difficulty in math, parents are a great resource in helping them succeed. Here are a few ways to help them :

Be positive about math!

1. Let your child know that **everyone** can learn math.

2. Let your child know that **you** think math is important and fun.

3. Point out the ways in which different family members use math in their jobs.

4. Be positive about your own math abilities. Try to avoid saying "I was never good at math" or "I never liked math".

5. Encourage your child to be persistent if a problem seems difficult.

6. Praise your child when he or she makes an effort, and share in the excitement when he or she solves a problem or understands something for the first time.

IMPORTANT DATES

April 1&2– STAAR Grades 4 writing & 5 Reading/
Math

April 7-30—IStation End of Year Assessment

April 15, 16, & 17— PreK & Kindergarten Round-
up(see below for information)

April 16– SDMC

April 18– School Open

April 21– High Frequency Word Test-End of Year

April 22&23- STAAR Grades 3&4 math & read-
ing & 5 Science

May 5-16– Stanford test Grades 1-5

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May 26– School Open

May 29– Last day of school



STAAR STRATEGIES



Math:

Have your child show their work when they are solving problems. Do not let them just give you an answer.

Reading:

Have your students summarize what they have read. If they are doing STAAR passages at home they are to write on the side of each paragraph main ideas of the paragraph. They are to bag and tag evidence in the text for the answers to their questions.

Science:

Have them explain what the question is asking of them in their own words.

Remember that you child needs:

1. a good nights rest,
2. come to school on time and
3. think positive thoughts about their success on the test.

Empowering our TIGERS' PRIDE



Positive, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Excellence



Dear Parents,

As the school year is ending students are having many thoughts go through their minds.

- They are thinking about state and district assessments.
- They are getting excited about moving to the next grade level.
- They are also forgetting the rules and expectations set before them.

Please remind them that they are expected to perform each day in a respectful and safe manner. Students are also supposed to come to school in their uniform.

We need you to help us ensure that your child follows school rules as well as do their best every day.

PreK & Kinder Round up

Children ages 4 & 5 on or before September 1, 2014.

From 9am to 1pm

(First come first served/ limited space)

The following is needed for registration:

Birth certificate, social security card, immunizations,
parent identification, proof of residence.

Flyers have gone home and will go home again before
registration



WE ARE TIGERS



Teachers who Inspire, Guide, Enrich and Empower Respectful, Students
&

Talented, Innovative, Goal Oriented, Empowered, and Respectful, Students