



March/April 2017

# Peru Elementary School - K-2 House

Michelle Rawson, *Principal*

## Dear K-2 Families,

Happy Spring! The teachers and students have been working diligently in their classrooms as we head into our last trimester. We have been busy celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday, working towards our reading challenges, writing using details, and much, much more!

We had a great turnout for Parent Conferences for the 2nd trimester! I want to thank all parents who attended. It is so important that the school faculty and staff and each student's parents work together to ensure his or her success. If you did not have a chance to meet with your child's teacher during conferences, please don't hesitate to schedule time with your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress.

NYSSBA, the New York State School Board Association, came to the K-2 House to conduct interviews and take video footage about our "Buddy Bench" and our character education program.

The video is posted on their web-site and can be seen by going to: [http://www.nyssba.org/index.php?src=directory&view=NYSSBA\\_News&srctype=NYSSBA\\_News\\_lister\\_embed\\_current](http://www.nyssba.org/index.php?src=directory&view=NYSSBA_News&srctype=NYSSBA_News_lister_embed_current)  
It's an honor to be an exemplar for other schools!

Through our new PSET (Positive School Environment Team) initiatives, we have been continually working towards emphasizing



## Peru Positive School Environment

Peru Elementary wins award at the 2017 ISAB Video Contest  
Peru Elementary's K-2 House was recently honored with the 2nd place award for "Best Elementary Video" at the 2017 ISAB Video



Awards which were held on March 9th at the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium at SUNY Plattsburgh. The "Self-Control" video claimed 2nd place and our "Compassion" video claimed 3rd place! Way to go, Peru K-2! We have a beautiful trophy displayed in the K-2 office!

Stop by to see it!

For the months of April & May, we will focus on the character trait of citizenship. Please visit:

**<https://www.perucsd.org/Page/5144>**  
to view our latest video episode about teaching citizenship!

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## From Kindergarten:



Kindergarten celebrated the 100th day of school in February. Children dressed up like they were 100 years old and enjoyed a reading of 100th Day Worries, by Mrs. Rawson. It is amazing to see the growth these little ones make in just 100 days of school. They truly are 100 Days SMARTER!!!!



## From 2nd Grade

Grade 2 has been very busy..... The month of March was reading incentive month in the K-2 House. The students had fun celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday by participating in the Dr. Seuss themed days.

The students also participated in a "home" project creating leprechaun traps.

Each student collaborated with their families to figure out how they could catch the little green, pesky, intruder.

Although we know he was around we were not lucky enough to catch one... We know he will be back again next year and we will be waiting.



## From the K-2 Nurse

The 7th annual Health Fair was a success! Students in the K-2 building enjoyed a busy day on Friday, April 24th when they rotated to 7 stations to learn about healthy and safe choices.

The stations included: Bike safety with Deputy Malcolm from the Sheriff's Department, Dental care with Colleen Lacombe-Senecal from High Peaks Dental, Dancersize with Danyelle Breliia, Villari's Martial arts with Master Boise, Healthy snacks with Kari Lamkins from Cornell Cooperative Extension, 911 safety with John Stafford from Peru Fire Department, and GoNoodle with Kristen Lukas.

The Health Fair committee includes: Kelly LaFranca, Kellee LaValley, Katie Clark, Danyelle Breliia, Lori Warner, Lori Wood, Courtney Rock, and Kristen Lukas.

The Health Fair committee encourages all of our K-2 student to keep traveling the path of healthy and safe choices. Go Healthy! Go Safe! Go Blue!



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compassion and self-control. The 3rd episode has been shared and stars our very own 2nd grade actors and actresses! During the months of April and May, we will focus on the character trait of citizenship. To view our teaching video and meet our new K-2 superhero, Citizens Prime, please visit <https://www.perucsd.org/Page/5144>. We will continue to remind students about the three B's: Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible, but also continually remind them to show compassion and self-control as well.

Several safety concerns have been reported to the main office related to student safety in the morning. I want to send a friendly reminder to parents that beginning April 18th, 2017, please be sure to walk your K-2 students into the building and sign them in at the K-2 office when bringing your child to school. This will help to ensure the safety of all our students being brought to school in the mornings.

Spring break is upon us next week. Please encourage your child to read every day. This reading practice will improve your child's fluency. Also, talk to your child about what he or she is reading to help improve vocabulary and comprehension skills. These are foundational skills that will help to build a strong academic base.

Thank you for your continued support in our efforts to continually strive to create a school environment that fosters communication and collaboration and maintaining a school environment that is safe. Our partnership is essential to improving student achievement and creating a learning environment that is engaging for all students.

*Michelle Rawson*



## Upcoming Events:

April 7	Early Release 11:30 am
April 10-17	No School Spring Break
April 18	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 pm
April 19	PTO Meeting K-2 Library 6:00 pm
April 25	McTeacher Night 5-7 pm
May 9	Board of Education Meeting & Public Hearing on Budget 7:00 pm
May 16	Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election 12:00-9:00 pm
May 17	Early Release 11:30 am for Students
May 23-25	Kindergarten Screening
May 29	Memorial Day No School
June 1	Kindergarten Readiness Night 5:30-7:30 pm
June 2	K-2 Field Day
June 7	2nd Grade Flag Day Celebration 6:00 pm
June 9	Kindergarten Beach Day (Raindate: June 16th)
June 13	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 pm
June 13-15	Kindergarten Graduation
June 15	PTO: Ice Cream Social 5:30-7:30 pm
June 19-20	First Grade Readers Theater
June 19-22	Elementary Early Release at 11:30 am
June 21	Report Cards Distributed K-6
June 22	Last Day of School

## Report Cards Distribution Dates:

3rd Trimester: June 21, 2017

## Drop Off/Pick Up Times:

Student Arrival

Doors open to students at 8:55 am

Student Dismissal

Doors open for parents/guardians at 3:05 PM

## From First Grade



Happy Spring from the first grade classes! We haven't seen the warmer weather very often yet so the children have been using their inside recess time designing and building STEM projects. STEM stands for Science,

Technology, Engineering and Math.

They use the building toys in each class to make tall towers, vehicles, houses or even communities! The children have started learning more about animals by doing research online at Pebble Go in the Computer

Lab. Many of the students have already completed animal reports! The children have been learning about what having a positive mindset means.

Some chose what they felt was the best part of themselves and wrote about it. (eyes, mouth...) They have also been learning new math and reading skills. They are learning strategies to help them add and subtract double digit numbers.



They have been working hard to learn the sounds specific vowel combinations make and are increasing their fluency!

## From K-2 Cafeteria - Pay for Student Meals Online

Peru Central School District offers MySchoolBucks®! This online payment service provides a quick and easy way to add money to your student's meal account using a credit/debit card or electronic check.

You can also view recent purchases, check balances, and set-up low balance alerts for FREE!

MySchoolBucks provides:

- Convenience - Available 24/7 on the web or through our mobile app for your smartphone
- Efficiency - Make payments for all your students, even if they attend different schools within the district. Eliminate the need for your students to take money to school.
- Control - Set low balance alerts, view account activity, recurring/automatic payments & more!
- Flexibility - Make payments using credit/debit cards and electronic checks.
- Security - MySchoolBucks adheres to the highest security standards, including PCI and CISP.

Enrollment is easy!

Go to [www.MySchoolBucks.com](http://www.MySchoolBucks.com) and register for a free account.

Add your students using their school name and student ID.

Make a payment to your students' accounts with your credit/debit card or electronic check.

A program fee of \$1.95 applies. You will have the opportunity to review any fees and cancel if you choose, before you are charged.

If you have any questions, contact MySchoolBucks directly: [support@myschoolbucks.com](mailto:support@myschoolbucks.com)

1-855-832-5226

Visit [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com) and click on Help

Thank you, Jeannine Kerr, School Food Service Director, [jkerr@perucsd.org](mailto:jkerr@perucsd.org), 643-6026

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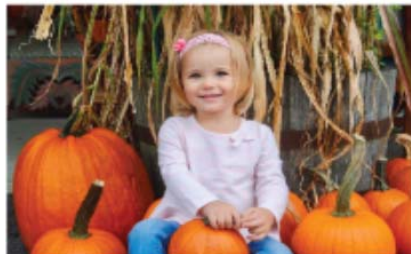
# Welcome Mr. Wheatley to the K-2 House Physical Education Department

Hello Peru Elementary!!! My name is Mr. Wheatley and I am excited to say I will be joining the Peru Elementary Physical Education Teaching Team the week after spring break. Actually, I used to teach in the elementary school so I will be returning from the Jr-Sr High where I have been teaching the past 3 years.

I am looking forward to meeting all of my new students and their families in kindergarten, first, and second grade. I know we will have so much fun in PE and being active together!

I love being active, the outdoors, my family, my pets, and of course teaching PE and working with kids. Here is a picture of me and my family at the pumpkin patch so that you can know what we look like. If you happen to see me between now and then I hope you come and say hi!

See you soon!!!



## From K-2 Physical Education

Hello Peru Families!

Although the weather has been cold and snowy over the past few months, we have been staying very busy with a lot of different activities in the gymnasium for our physical education classes. We have competed activities such as gymnastics, floor hockey, bowling, project adventure, and many more.

Ms. Schaefer has also implemented sign language into her PE classes to help our students understand some of the challenges that people who are non-verbal on a daily basis. Together we are constantly encouraging our students to stay active outside of school. Our goal is to provide enough variety in physical education so that your child finds activities that he or she can participate in at home with family and friends. As the weather gets warmer and

the ground dries up, we will begin taking our classes outside for PE. We would also like to remind all parents and guardians to please pack sneakers for your child if he or she is wearing boots on a PE day! If that is an issue, please feel free to contact Natalie or myself and we can make arrangements. We hope you all have a wonderful and healthy spring!

P.S.

Our end of the year field day will be approaching quickly so I am looking for parents who are willing to help out and volunteer! We do not have a date set for the field day but the field day committee will be meeting soon to discuss details and dates. This is a very important day for all of our students and we are excited to be able to do this every year. The more help we have the better! Thank you for your support.  
Steve Komanecky

## From the Math/Reading Interventionist

Happy Spring! Here are some Spring Math Tips to help you work on math with your child:

**S**tudy your math facts often – flash cards can make it like a game! The more your child has their math facts memorized, the easier and quicker they will be able to work on math topics.

**P**rove your answers! Have students realize that you're not just solving a number sentence - you are trying to provide evidence for your answer. That is why it is always best to show your work instead of solving in your head.

**R**ead directions 2 times CAREFULLY – often children make mistakes because they don't read the directions and problem carefully.

**I**dentify areas where you, as an adult, use math. Sometimes children have difficulty with math because they feel like they will not use it in the real world. Mention how you use math to cook, measure laundry soap, sew, or do household construction projects. Having real world context helps! Have them help you with these chores that incorporate math.

**N**ote areas of success – don't focus on their failures. Math is a subject that many people struggle with and children often get the stuck mind set that they're just not good in math. By celebrating their success and how hard they are working, this is less likely to happen. They may not be great at math YET, but they will be!

**G**eometry is math too! When the opportunity arises, have your child tell you the shapes of objects, talk about the number of sides it has, how many corners, is it three dimensional or two dimensional? Having this background knowledge will strengthen your child's geometry skills.

