

Pershing Elementary

March Newsletter

6402 Judson Street, 68507

Website: <http://wp.lps.org/pershing/>

Phone: 402-436-1160

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Around the World in 80 Minutes: Virtual Omaha Zoo Tour

We are excited to share that in partnership with our YMCA CLC, we are able to offer our Pershing families another virtual experience to replace our Around the World in 80 Minutes night.

On Thursday, March 25th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. the Omaha Zoo will hold a virtual Ocean Life learning experience for Pershing families via Zoom. More information will be coming in Thursday folders later this month.

We will be asking families to R.S.V.P. as we are limited in the number of zoom spots the Omaha Zoo can accommodate. Natalie will be reaching out to families that were on the waiting list for our first virtual night in January.

We are excited about this additional learning opportunity and hope to be able to enjoy these events again in person soon. We are looking forward to learning with families and can't wait to see you on Thursday, March 25th!

Sincerely,
Jamie Cook, Principal
Natalie Lord, Pershing CLC Site Coordinator



Upcoming Events

March 2 & 4

3:15: Virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences

March 8-12

Spring Break

March 15

First day of 4th Quarter

March 16

Early Dismissal @ 1:33 p.m.

March 25

6:00: Virtual Family Engagement: Omaha Zoo-Ocean Life

March 30

PLC Early Release @ 1:33 p.m.
No Preschool

A Message From.....

Mr. Koenig, Assistant Principal

Spring MAP Testing

In-Person Learners

The following are the Spring MAP Growth Testing Dates for Grades 2-3: March 2-4 & Grades K-1: May 4-7. Students will test for 1-3 days within this testing window and will complete this test in their classroom. A letter is sent home prior to testing to explain the MAP Test in more detail.

Remote Learners

Students may take the test at Pershing with other students who have chosen Zoom-in learning or with their class using the same health and safety procedures described in the LPS Pandemic plan. It may be possible to schedule individual sessions for Zoom-in students.

If you would like to arrange to have your student(s) go to school to take these tests, please contact Melissa Beaudette at 402-436-1160 -OR- mbeaudet@lps.org. We will follow up with those families regarding testing dates and times at Pershing for students currently participating in remote learning.

Mrs. Salomons, Coordinator

Special Education Progress Reports

If you have a student that receives a quarterly progress report from their case manager in addition to their classroom report card, you will not be receiving a paper copy anymore. These have been available through ParentVue all year. In the past, we have sent paper copies as well. Moving forward, these will solely be available to view online, mirroring our practice with classroom report cards.

Students that receive a "Narrative" Report Card from a case manager will still receive a paper copy, as these are not available online at this time.

If you have further questions on how to access these reports on ParentVue, you may contact the front office at 402-436-1160.

Mrs. Amen, School Counselor

Our end of the school year goal is to complete 1,410 random acts of kindness. So far we have completed over 400 random acts of kindness. Way to go Comets!

While it is important to be kind to others in person, it is important to consider digital kindness, as well. Technology is an amazing tool that provides us with the opportunity to connect and communicate in a different way. With the push of a button we are able to connect with others near and far. When posting anything in the digital world encourage your students to think about how their posts make others feel. Digital kindness is meant to help connect others, build relationships, build community, build trust, and an understanding. Encourage your student to think about whether or not their digital trail demonstrates these characteristics.

IMPORTANT! Arrival Drop off and Dismissal Pick-Up

When dropping your student off at arrival time you have several options for a safe drop off.

1. Pull up to the curb in the drop off spot leading to door #2. Please have your child ready to exit the curbside of the car. There is NO PARKING in this area
2. Pull in the cutout in front of the school and park. This is a good option if your child is not ready to get out of the car, you are early for drop off, or you want to watch/walk your child up to Door 2.

3. Pull around the corner of 63rd in front of the cone. Please be mindful of how far away from the corner you are. Stopping in the middle of the crosswalk is not safe and will create a major back up. Your help with the following procedures will help students start their day in a safe and efficient manner.

- **Students should arrive between 7:45 a.m.-8:00 a.m. if they are eating breakfast at school.** We must stop breakfast at 8:00 a.m. to get students to class on time and begin preparation for lunch.
- Students **not eating at Pershing** should arrive between 8:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m. School start time is 8:15 a.m.
- There is NO SUPERVISION outside prior to 7:45 a.m. Please follow these guidelines for arrival time to best support your student(s) at Pershing.

Remote Learning Material Pick Up Dates:

- **Friday, March 19th- 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m & 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**
- **Monday, April 5th- 11:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m.**



CLC Club Enrollment Information



First Day of CLC Clubs: Feb. 1st- May 7th

Pershing Online Book Fair

Pershing Families:

We are working hard to keep kids reading and raise critical funds for our school with our Scholastic Online-ONLY Book Fair from .

The Fair will connect your kids to notable books and inspiring characters- helping them become lifelong readers. And you'll love the new option to shop for Book Fair exclusives - directly from the interactive booklist.

Plus, enjoy these special online shopping features:

- Access to over 6,000 products
- All orders ship direct to home
- FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25
- All purchases support our school and earn 25% in rewards

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with online shopping:
<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/pershingelementaryschool>.

Thank you for continuing to support our school.

Happy reading!

Reading at Home

What is *comprehension*?

Comprehension is the ability to understand and draw meaning from text.

Comprehension is the ultimate goal of reading. Students who easily comprehend what they just read are more likely to enjoy reading. They are also more effective readers, which helps them academically and in their personal life.

Before Reading Activities

- ☐ Take a picture walk with your child. Have your child go page-by-page through the book and look at all of the illustrations, including the cover image. Ask your child what they think is going to happen in the book based on what he/she sees. Who does your child think the story will be about? What does he/she think is going to happen? How does your child think the story will end?

Alternate version: If you are reading a non-fiction text, have your child look at the different text features to help him/her make predictions about the text.

- ☐ Read the title of the text to your child. Ask him/her what the title makes them think of – a movie, a television show, another story, or an event from their own life.
- ☐ If you are reading a non-fiction text, have a discussion with your child to learn what he/she already knows about the topic. Ask your child if there are any questions about the topic they hope to find answers to as they read the book.
- ☐ Set a purpose for reading. It might be to learn something new or to enjoy a story together. Having a reason for reading can encourage reluctant readers to open a book!
- ☐ If you are reading a chapter book with your child over several days, have your child give you a recap of what has already happened in the story before starting the new chapter.

What is *non-fiction*?

Writing that is based on facts, real events, and real people, such as biography or history

What is *fiction*?

stories that describe imaginary events and people

What are *text-features*?

Text features are all of the parts of a story or article that are not the main text. They include the table of contents, index, glossary, headings, bold words, sidebars, pictures, captions, and labeled diagrams.

Resource from *NDE At Home Reading Plan for Success*- [LINK](#)

****Additional Information****

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) at Pershing

Research indicates that you can improve behavior by 80% just by pointing out what someone is doing correctly. Acknowledgement is paying attention to and recognizing appropriate behaviors. There are many ways that you can acknowledge appropriate behaviors you see. At Pershing Elementary, we provide specific positive feedback to let students know exactly what they have done correctly, and we sometimes pair that feedback with a ticket from our acknowledgement system, a Comet Ticket.

When we give specific positive feedback we know it increases the likelihood that appropriate behavior will happen again. We try to acknowledge positive behaviors four times more often than correcting inappropriate behavior. Outside of school, consider using specific positive feedback to shape the behavior you would like to see repeated.

Boys Town Social Skills: Below are the following social skills we have been teaching, practicing, and reinforcing. These are great skills you can teach, practice and reinforce at home as well.

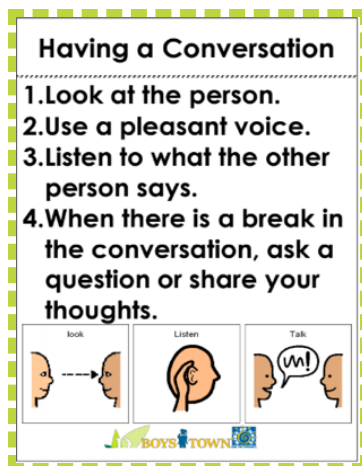
Accepting Compliments

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Say "Thank you".



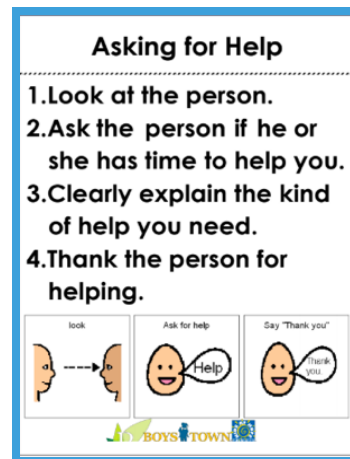
Having a Conversation

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Listen to what the other person says.
4. When there is a break in the conversation, ask a question or share your thoughts.



Asking for Help

1. Look at the person.
2. Ask the person if he or she has time to help you.
3. Clearly explain the kind of help you need.
4. Thank the person for helping.



****More News & Important Information****

Support for families

We know this year has been unlike any other. It is important to know that there are people who can help if you or a family member is struggling. Here are some resources you can contact any time of the day or night, any day of the year:

- CenterPointe Helpline (Lincoln): 402-475-6695; Youth and Family Services 402-475-5161 ext. 547; email: youthandfamily@centerpointe.org; walk-in services at 1000 S. 13th Street.
- Bryan Health: bryanhealth.com - search Counseling
- Nebraska Family Helpline: 1-888-866-8660
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255
- **Your Life Your Voice (Boys Town)** 1-800-448-3000 or text VOICE to 20121 (text charges from your phone carrier may apply)
- Lincoln Police Department: Emergency: 911; Non-Emergency: 402-441-6000
- MyLink is a website (<https://mylnk.app>) and a mobile app (for Apple and Android - search MyLink) that has information about community resources. It can be downloaded in a wi-fi environment and then used when wi-fi is not available. Translations are provided in Arabic, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.
- Mental Health 101 recordings from Blue Valley Behavioral Health - [accessible by clicking this link](#).

There is a great deal of information online. As you search for topics of interest, remember to consider the source and make sure you are getting information that is accurate and reliable.

Remote Learning

- The Remote Learning Request Form is on our website while we are in Red. Families can choose - now or any time - to move to 100% remote learning for their child. After filling out the form, the school will call to confirm your request.
- Please allow two school days for staff to prepare and get your child the materials they will need to begin remote learning. The school will communicate with you when remote learning will begin for your child.
- Families, please weigh this option carefully, as continuously moving back and forth between in-person and remote learning creates a major disruption in your child's learning experience.
- To access the request form:
 - K-12 Remote Learning Request- Click [HERE](#) for link
 - Early Childhood Remote Learning Request- Click [HERE](#) for link

Backpack Food Program:

- The Food Bank is currently operating BackPack and Food Market Programs in rural communities, but not in Lincoln. Daily mobile distributions have continued to be their main method for serving families in Lincoln and this will remain the path followed through the school year in May. The LPS Emergency Pantry will remain closed as well.
- Please visit <https://www.lincolnfoodbank.org/get-food/food-distribution-schedule/> to see their Food Distribution Schedule.