

October 5th, 2012
Issue 2

The Panther Pride

Princess Anne Middle School

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Mark Your Calendars

October 8:
6th Grade
OPEN HOUSE 6pm

October 10:
PTA Meeting
PAMS Library

October 12:
Progress Reports

October 13:
Walk for the Cure

Distributed by the Princess Anne Middle School PTA

"Success comes when we all pull together"

Principal's Corner – October 2012

Dear Parents:

Join me in celebrating Princess Anne Middle's most recent accomplishment, meeting all requirements for both state and federal accreditation. Worthy of note is our SOL achievement among the division's schools. Princess Anne Middle's current SOL scores rank number one among the 13 traditional schools in the division in Grade 8 Science and Grade 8 Reading. Princess Anne ranks number two in Grade 6 Reading, Grade 6 Math, Grade 7 Reading, Grade 7 Math and Grade 8 Math, and number three in Grade 7 History and Grade 8 Writing. It is evident the Princess Anne community values education and student achievement.

As we embark on the 2012-13 school year, I encourage you to take an active role in your child's education. *Make sure your child knows that his or her academic progress is important to you.* On a daily basis, engage in conversation with your child regarding what was learned in school each day (Do not accept "nothing" for an answer. Continue to probe with questions regarding each subject area). Attend Open Houses, parent conferences, and sporting events. Know when each grade reporting time occurs, and if you do not see progress reports or report cards, contact the school without delay. Ensure you are registered to access Parent Portal. Parent Portal will give you access to your child's grades and absences 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. To register for Parent Portal, go to www.princessannems.vbschools.com and click on the Parent Portal link on the upper left hand corner.

Be available to help and guide. Examine your child's planner. Your child should keep a daily record of homework assignments. Review your child's homework and ensure that your child is completing his or her A-day homework on A-day and B-day homework on B-day (keeping this consistent pattern will prevent your child from falling behind on assignments). Set aside a regularly scheduled time and a quiet study area at home and monitor your child as he or she studies, providing assistance as needed. Don't give more help than is wanted. Keep in mind it is your child's responsibility to be organized, to get homework done, and to prepare for tests. Ensure that the telephone, television, and other distractions are eliminated during study time. Also, examine the planner passes located on each week of the planner. This will provide you with a record of your child's time out of the classroom. Of course, it is important that time out of the classroom be minimized.

Principal's Corner (continued)

Maintain regular communications with teachers through written communication (notes or email), phone calls, and/or conferences. Progress reports will be issued on Friday, October 12, 2012. If your child is experiencing difficulty in his or her academics, contact your child's guidance counselor to arrange a conference. You will find an email link for all of our teachers, counselors, and administrators on Princess Anne Middle's website www.princessannems.vbschools.com. You may also wish to contact Mrs. Bell (formerly Hollingsworth), School Improvement Specialist, to discuss opportunities for additional assistance through SOL tutoring. Our before and after school tutoring programs begin in October, and our AM and PM Homework Centers have already begun. Should a Princess Anne Middle School student receive below a 70 in a core course (English, math, science, social studies) at the end of any nine week period, the student will be removed from an elective and assigned to an academic support bell with the core teacher. Send your child a message that learning is not an option.

"Keep your dreams alive.
Understand to achieve
anything requires faith and
belief in yourself, vision, hard
work, determination, and
dedication. Remember all
things are possible for those
who believe."

~Gail Devers

To keep open communication between home and school, Princess Anne is continuing with our weekly electronic mail service (My School Mail) for our parents. This service provides parents, via email, school specific information such as announcements of important dates, special events, and volunteer opportunities. Please subscribe to this service so we can keep you up-to-date. Subscription directions are available on our school website at www.princessannems.vbschools.com.

Dates for our SOL testing have been established. While detailed information will be released to you in the Spring, note the dates for testing and avoid scheduling appointments or other events which would preclude your child's attendance at school. SOL Writing for grade 8 students will be administered March 12 and 13, and Spring SOL testing for all grades will be conducted May 15 – June 6, 2013.

As always, please call on any member of the Administrative Team or me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

D. Alex Bergren
Principal





“The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.”

~Confucius

“The Magic of the Moment!”

Have your child start to think about their most magical moment and begin working on their PTA Reflections project!!!

Celebrate your talents through photography, musical composition, visual arts, literature, dance choreography, and/or film production. All entries will be due back to school by **October 12th**!

Be Happy, Get Creative!

For more information, contact Kristin Sprauer at kasprauer70@yahoo.com or visit the Virginia PTA website at www.vbpta.org for rules and regulations.

PAMS Parent Lunch Bunch

The PAMS Parent Lunch Bunch will meet on **October 25, 2012 from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM.**

Our topic is *The Expanded Goals of the VBCPS Gifted Program*—As our children’s future changes, so too do the programs that prepare them. Come find out how the gifted program has expanded and fine-tuned its program goals and what this means for your gifted child’s education.

Parents who intend to come to the workshop are asked to RSVP to PAMS Gifted Resource Teacher Ms. Cathy Peterson at Cathy.Peterson@vbschools.com by **October 24th** so enough materials may be prepared.

Kellam High School Dedication Brick

Forever be a part of Kellam High School and its history!

The building is under construction right now and the bricks are planned to be a part of the front entrance. We are very excited about this project. It’s been a long time coming waiting for more space...nice space....MODERN space.

Buy a personalized dedicated brick to be installed in the new Kellam High School!

The profits will go to help as many clubs within the school as we can. Funding will be provided for groups such as SCA for a student workshop and to our Gradfest (a party the night of graduation in a safe environment with chaperones and lots of activities all night long).



Search for
Princess Anne Middle
School PTA

Games for Students

The Guidance Department is in need of some donations. We would be so grateful for gently used, but preferably complete, chess boards and pieces, checkers boards and pieces, complete Uno decks, puzzles, or any other complete game contributions. Beginning the first week in October the Guidance Department will host game days for interested students from each 7th and 8th grade core one or two days per week during their lunch. 6th grade groups will be added after semester.

This is a great opportunity for students to take a break from the cafeteria and form connections with students they may not otherwise encounter during their school day. The Guidance Department implemented Game Day for 7th graders last year and it proved to be a huge success!

Thank you for your contributions to this cause.



PAMS Food Bank Needs Your Help!!!!

The Guidance Department would like to remind parents, staff and community members that the Guidance Department operates a food pantry for students/families in need. Many students whose families do not qualify for free/reduced lunch, but who may still experience financial hardship, can utilize guidance as a resource for emergency sundries.

We take any and all food donations all year long; however, we love the quick and easy (and preferably healthy) snacks and lunch items that students can readily eat when they are hungry. Examples would be: microwaveable macaroni and cheese single serving cups or Chef Boyardee single serving cups, single serve apple sauce, fruit, granola bars, Luna bars, water bottles, etc.

Last year we were able to feed many hungry students. During the holidays, the Guidance Department in conjunction with Helping Hands for the Holidays, were able to provide approximately 20 families with meals and gifts.

Thank you!



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone."

~Ronald Reagan

Gifted Identification Testing

Dates for the Gifted Identification testing at Princess Anne Middle School for the 2012-2013 school year are as follows:

- November 29
- February 15 (Kemps Landing testing)
- May 13

Virginia Beach City Public Schools uses the “profile approach” in determining whether a student is in need of a differentiated education beyond that offered by the school’s regular curriculum. Students may be referred for testing by staff members, parents, other students, and the student himself.

Once a request has been submitted, the Gifted Resource Teacher (GRT) will begin the paperwork necessary for the referral to be processed. Parent input, teacher narratives, grades, scores on standardized tests, and student work samples are reviewed by the committee. A determination is made by the committee for placement in the VBCPS gifted program.

Referrals for testing and a completed Parent Information Form are due to Ms. Cathy Peterson (GRT) two weeks prior to the testing date.



Walk for the Cure

Dear Friends and Family,

This year is our 5th annual Susan G. Komen Tidewater Race for the Cure®, which helps to raise much needed funds that support the promise of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Remember how much fun we had last year? I'm asking you to join me again this year as **PAMS PANTHERS POUND OUT CANCER!** Now is the time to get involved with the October 13th Komen Tidewater Race for the Cure and be a part of something much bigger than you and me. Be a part of our community's commitment to a world without breast cancer.

This newsletter is your invitation to join the Race and be a part of our team! Just go to www.komentidewater.org and join PAMS Panthers! It only takes a few minutes to sign up, and your participation can enrich lives forever. It's that easy! There is a link on the PAMS Home Page or click: <http://www.princessannems.vbschools.com/>

Thanks so much,

Shellie Roan
www.komentidewater.org

“Leadership and learning
are indispensable to each
other.”

~John F. Kennedy



SCA Collective Drive

In October, the National Junior Honor Society will be sponsoring a personal items collective drive to benefit Samaritan House residents during **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. Start locating all those unopened bottles of shampoo and bars of soap from your summer vacations!



More information will follow!

Hunt Club Dance and Haunted Hallways



Hunt Club wristbands will be sold at all lunches from Oct. 15th through Oct. 26th. The wristbands will cost \$20 each (cash or check made payable to PAMS) and are good for all haunted activities at Hunt Club. They can be used any night the Hunt Club is open.

We will also offer dance tickets for the Fall Dance and our own "**HAUNTED HALLWAY**". Those tickets will be on sale Mon. Oct. 22nd through Fri. Oct. 26th. To purchase a dance ticket you **MUST** have a signed permission slip. Dance tickets will be \$5 and include one trip into the haunted hallway!

If students are interested in visiting the haunted hallway, there will be two opportunities to visit.

Thurs. Oct. 25th: this date will be a toned down less scary version, allowing students from neighboring elementary schools to participate. Tickets will be \$1 for students and \$2 for adults for one trip through the haunted hallway.

Fri. Oct. 26th: on this night, students **MUST** have purchased a dance ticket and must attend the dance to enter the haunted hallway.

Labels for Education & Farm Fresh

We are collecting "Labels for Education" and Farm Fresh receipts!!! This program helps the school to purchase additional supplies that are used to help further the learning process of all students at Princess Anne Middle School.



Please make sure to save these items and send them to the office. Every receipt and label helps!



"A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work."

~Colin Powell



"Like" our page at:
www.facebook.com/PAMSPTA
 or search for **Princess Anne Middle School PTA**

Check Out Our New Website!!!



Visit Princess Anne Middle School
PTA's new website for PTA News:
www.pamsptavb.com

Want to try a Free Workout?



iNLeT Fitness is one of our new business partners and they would like to invite all Princess Anne Middle School students and their parents to workout out for **FREE** the month of October!! There are tons of fun classes including Zumba, spin, yoga, and strength-building that you can take advantage of. There will also be awesome joining specials!

Email Chelsea@inletfitness.com more information.

Have Something to Say?

Do you have any questions or comments concerning the newsletter?? Or perhaps there is something you would like to see included?? I would love to hear from you!



The next deadline to submit an article is **October 26th**. Email Tiffany Jones at:
jonesfamilyfour@live.com

Volunteers....



We need **YOU**!!!!

If you would like to volunteer in various areas of our school throughout the year and have not signed up yet, please send an e-mail to Bobbi Vinsand (Volunteer Coordinator) at vinsand@cox.net

Princess Anne Middle School PTA

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