



PANTHER PRESS



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER September 2016

Erin Anderson, Partnership Coordinator

New Beginnings



Welcome to Putnam Heights if you are new to our school and welcome back to those of you who were here last year! As we return to school this fall, we will be welcoming many new staff members into our Panther family. I hope you have an opportunity to meet our new and outstanding staff throughout the school year.

Grade One: Jamie Dummer

Grade Two: Mandy Schrader

Grade Four: Charlie Mabie

Grade Five: Kathleen Brandser

Special Education Teacher: Sarah Duncan

Speech/Language: Emily Schweitzer

School Psychologist: Sheila Topper

Bilingual Education Assistant: Katie McCormick

Special Education Assistant: Allison Beaman

Special Education Assistant: Linda Gay

In addition to all of our new staff members, we also embraced the newest members of our student learning community with the addition of nearly 70 kindergartners and almost 40 new first through fifth graders. The building is filled with the exciting energy of four hundred and fifteen children all ready and eager to renew old friendships and make new ones, and who are also ready to spend the year playing, exploring and learning together.

It is certainly a year of new beginnings, and I must add that although many things change each year, there is one constant at Putnam Heights. We continue to work in an outstanding community with families who provide us with phenomenal support. All of you make our work and success possible!

Happy New School Year! **Kim Koller, Principal**

Celebrating our Partnerships:



Thank you again to **Culvers** for helping us with custard for our All School Ice Cream Social last week. We had over 400 people attend which was quite impressive.

On Friday, September 16, employees of United Bank will be helping Putnam with some landscaping projects as part of United Way's Day of Caring. We are so appreciative of their help and their desire to volunteer in the schools.

Thank you so much to all our Putnam families and staff who donated clothes for our Family Closet Open House. We received so many great items, and the families who used the Family Closet were very appreciative. I kept many of the clothes for our Family Closet, but there were too many for me to keep them all. The rest were donated to the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (1120 Cedar Street) which offers a free closet that ECASD families can use. They are open the fourth Thursday of each month from 2-7pm. They have clothes for infant-high school age children.



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Counselor's Corner:

PBIS News and Notes: We are off and running in the **First 6 Weeks** of school here at Putnam. The **First 6 Weeks** is a **Responsive Classroom** approach to a strategic school wide focus on building a positive culture for the entire school year. A great deal of time and energy is spent creating the conditions best for student learning, starting with the teaching of successful learning behaviors, safe and respectful play at recess, and expected behaviors in all areas of our community. Students are taught these skills in a variety of settings and from a variety of staff. Learning occurs through interactive modeling and practicing, games, morning meetings, literature, classroom conversations, closing circles and many other formats. Learning the social curriculum is as important to school success as learning the academic curriculum, and that is what **PBIS** is all about.

Social Curriculum = PBIS

To learn more about Responsive Classroom, The first 6 weeks or PBIS, visit our [school website](#) or contact our School Counselor - [Drew Brandenburg](#).

School Nurse News:

Vision Screening: The American Optometric Association recommends that all school- aged children have an eye exam by an eye doctor every two years and every year if they have glasses or contacts. Only an eye care professional can diagnose and treat a vision problem, but school screenings can help find children in need of a full eye exam. Vision problems can result in poor school performance or poor behavior due to frustration. The school vision screening for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year will include grades kindergarten, 2nd and 4th. If you have any questions please call your school nurse.

Head Lice in Schools

- Head lice can be a nuisance, but they have **not** been shown to spread disease.
- Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice.
- Transmission of head lice usually occurs through direct contact with the **head** of another infested individual.
- Lice cannot hop or fly; they crawl. Nits (eggs) are attached to the hair shaft with a glue-like substance and are very unlikely to be transferred successfully to other people. In-school transmission is considered to be rare.
- When live head lice are found on a student, the parent/guardian will be notified by phone. The student will remain in the classroom, and a letter with treatment information will be sent home with the student at the end of the day.
- When nits (eggs) are found on a student, the student will remain in the classroom, and a letter with treatment information will be sent home with the student at the end of the day.
- Parents are asked to treat for head lice and remove all nits (eggs) before sending their child back to school. Most lice treatments do not kill nits, so it is important to remove all nits to prevent them from hatching into live lice.
- Treatment for lice is **not** recommended unless the child actually has lice. Parents are encouraged to make checking for head lice a part of routine hygiene, as lice is present in the community at all times of the year.
- Lice cases are tracked, and letters to parents notifying them of lice in the classroom will be sent out on an as-needed basis as determined by the school nurse and administrator.
- ECASD procedures for head lice management are based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of School Nurses, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and the ECASD Medical Advisor.
- Contact your child's school nurse with questions. **Beth Passint- School Nurse**



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Club News:

- We will continue to have UWEC Blugold Beginning mentors offer an afterschool program for 5th grade students. They will also be running 3 week long clubs this fall and again this spring. They are Art Club, STEM (Science Technology Engineering, Math) Club, and Robotics Club for 3-5th grade students. Forms for Art went home this week, and it will run October 3-7. We have a limit of 30 students.
- We are lucky to have Club Invention return to Putnam this fall. Tammy Schmitz will be running this club, and we will have two sections, one for 1-2 grade and the other for 3-5 grade. Those forms also went home this week. There is a limit of 22 per club, so please return your forms soon.
- There will be no Running Club this year. This was run by UWEC students as part of a class, but it will not be continuing this year due to changes at UWEC.

Click here: [PTO September Newsletter](#)

Messages from the PTO:

Please join us for Muffins for Mom on Thursday September 22 from 7:45am to 8:45am. Muffins, juice, and coffee will be available for students and their special family member.



RCU School \$ense 2016-2017

Royal Credit Union and your school have partnered to make saving each week **fun** and **easy** for your child. Starting **October 20**, students can save each **Thursday** at school!

Why should we save with RCU School \$ense?

Saving at school is **fun**!
 Kids earn a **prize** for every fourth deposit!
 It's **easy** to bring a deposit to school each week!
 It's a great way to raise **money for the school**!



How does saving at school help raise money for Putnam Heights? Your school earns \$250 for every 500 deposits. Last year Royal Credit Union donated **\$250** to your school, because of student deposits!

How can I get my student started saving at school? There are two easy ways to get started: **Open accounts online** by using this link <https://www.rcu.org/youth-and-community/school-sense> and clicking *Apply Now*. **-or-** **Stop by any Royal Credit Union office**, and our friendly team members will be happy to help! **Bonus!** When you sign your child up for a new School \$ense account, **Royal deposits the first \$5!**

If my child already has a Royal Credit Union account, how can they start saving with School \$ense? Good news – your student is ready to save at school! Just email us at schoolsense@rcu.org with your student's full name, and we will send a Super Saver pouch to the address listed on your student's account.

How much money does my child need to bring each week? Our goal is to instill a **lifetime habit of saving**, so no amount is too big or too small!

We welcome your questions about Royal School \$ense and how you can get your child started saving at school. Please contact me, Emily Hanson at: emily.hanson@rcu.org