



The Ponus Connection



2008-2009 Winter Edition

PRMS Weather Station

by Evan Murphy and Thomas Rainone

Mr. Lynch and Mr. DeBoer teach weather and climate in their 6th grade classes. When they looked in a science catalog during the 07-08 school year and they saw a weather station and they got the idea of making a weather station for Ponus. At the beginning of this school year they started building the weather station and knew they had to dig a big hole.

Mr. DeBoer: I dug that hole.

Mr. DeBoer: I dug that hole eight feet.

Mr. Lynch: More like one inch!

The weather station has the following tools:

1. Wind sock
2. Barometer
3. Thermometer
4. Psychrometer
5. Anemometer

Once the weather information is gathered each morning it becomes part of the school announcements. Students from both the Orange and Green Team read the weather report during announcements.



Go Green!

by Aylin Aristizabal



I can't believe I won Mr. DeBoer's help the environment poster contest! I knew this was going to be easy but I never thought I would win. The poster I did contains "go green" pictures and phrases. For example, pictures of "a giving tree we all take care of our planet" and "stop global warming". Also, I did pictures of the earth melting like an ice cream cone. I felt really great when Mr. DeBoer told me I had won, I felt like a famous painter, so cool!

New Years Resolutions

by Alexandra Claudio

At the beginning of a new year you hear people talking about promises they are going to try to accomplish. That is called a "New Years Resolution." A New Years Resolution is a commitment or a vow that will make a good change in your lifestyle. Some popular resolutions are losing weight, saving money, getting fit, and eating right.

People make these because they want to set goals for themselves in the new year. They want to see if they can make a change in their lifestyle and when they're done they feel good about themselves.

The first New Years Resolutions came from the Babylonians around 4,000 years ago. Their New Years Resolutions were usually about returning some kind of tool they borrowed. Not a long time after, the Romans started to make them too. If anybody has been wanting to make a New Years Resolution for a long time and haven't gotten the chance to, I suggest you start



Think it's too late to make a New Year's Resolution—you make a fresh start every morning when you recite the Ponus P.R.I.D.E. Pledge!

Perseverance

Respect

Intelligence

Diversity

Excellence



Geography Bee

by Dillion Quinlan-Huertas
and Mrs. Thomspen

In the beginning, the Geography Bee was only held on one team, then it went to all of the 7th grade and now all of Ponus Ridge participates. This tradition at Ponus Ridge has been going on for many years.

If you won the Geography Bee for your social studies section, you were able to participate in the finals which included students from all three grades. The winner of this round takes a test to see if they could continue and participate at the state level. For the past three years, Ponus Ridge has had a student participate in this state geography bee.

Dr. Sabia, the social studies teacher on the purple team, enjoys watching the students participate in the bee. One of her favorite things is when students show their knowledge of geography on topics that haven't been taught in school.

Congratulations to Bryce Zaremby, this years' Geography Bee winner.

STAFF VS. STUDENT BASKETBALL

COMING THIS SPRING -
LISTEN TO
MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS
FOR MORE DETAILS



Moon Bowling



With the Orange Team

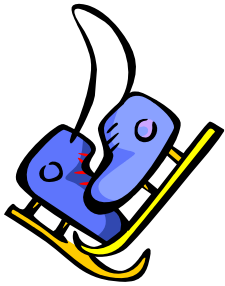
by Kelly Hayde

The ride to Nutmeg Bowl wasn't really long and I sat with my friend Emily on the way there. When we arrived at the bowling alley we got our shoes and went to our lanes. When everybody was settled, they turned off the lights and we started *Moon Bowling*. Moon Bowling is when the lights are out and the pins and your clothes glow in the dark. And, they had flashing lights. Pretty cool, huh? All I could hear was pins falling and clashing together. They played kid music and some kids sang to it. Even I did it. I think our lane was the first to finish our two games. When everybody was done we all filed back onto the bus. McDonald's was on the highway so there was no Dollar Menu. Even though there were other people in there eating lunch, I was at the beginning of the line and got my lunch quickly and ate with my friends Lauren and Jessica. We were there for a long time because people were still getting their lunch after we were almost finished. When we filed back on to the bus I sat next to Mr. G, he's really funny. He was making me crack up. I also had the giggles. Then when we got back to school we got to play outside for the rest of the day. (Well what I really mean is we were out there for a half an hour.) Still that was a lot of time and we had a great day. Mr. DeAndrade, Mrs. Rosen, Mr. G and Mr. Lynch went on the field trip with us, and that was the Orange Teams' trip to Nutmeg Bowl!!!!

My Favorite Winter Activity

by Jonette Colletti

Have you ever gone ice skating? Well, I have and you'll love it. If you're just learning to skate you may have some difficulty but once you keep practicing, the better you'll become! I like ice skating because it's a fun activity to do on the weekend.



Another reason why I like skating is because it gets me exercising. But, I mostly like skating because it's fun.



The Wizard of Oz

by Eisella Surapine

My first activity at Ponus Ridge was auditioning for the spring play - The Wizard of Oz. The Wizard of Oz is a classic tale of a young girl named Dorothy who finds herself in a place called Munchkin Land. Glinda the good witch tells Dorothy that the only way to get home is to go to the wonderful Wizard of Oz. On the way Dorothy meets new friends and all of them travel to see the Wizard in search of help.

I was nervous auditioning but I love to dance so when I became a ballerina I was very excited. It was an experience of a lifetime. Friends of mine, Chelsy and Amy tried out for the lollipop guild but received parts as poppies. They felt happy because they received a part and would be participating and not just watching the show.

Mark your calendar, you won't want to miss the show.

What a Book!

by Plinio Chavez

Title: The Lord of the Rings Trilogy

Author: J. R. R. Tolkien

This trilogy is very good for readers who enjoy fiction. This book is mainly about a ring that was created by the dark lord named Sauron. Soon after the ring was parted from Sauron, the ring fell into the wrong hands. It was given to a creature named Gollum. Gollum loved and hated himself because he loved and hated the ring. One day Gollum dropped the ring. Soon after that it was picked up by the most unlikely creature, a Hobbit, named Bilbo Baggins.

I would recommend this book because it has a lot of imagination and can help you improve your reading level.

Staff Guess Who



I've been a teacher for 17 years and have worked at Ponus Ridge for 11 years.

I'm a single female with 1 child.

Favorites

Book - *Second Brother*

Movie - *Touching the Void*

Color - Black

Season - Summer

Candy - Cadbury Mini-Eggs

In my spare time I like to write and garden.

One thing that you might not know about me is that I've been interviewed by Oprah.

Who Am I?

See Page 4 for the answer

Cyber Bullying

The topic of cyber bullying was discussed with sixth graders in connection with the Power to Learn program sponsored by Cablevision. The students learned valuable information through web quests, discussions and creating posters. The event ended when Cablevision came to Ponus Ridge to have a special presentation with selected students from each classroom.

When I heard that I was going to be picked for the cyber bullying presentation I was so excited. When I had my first cyber-bullying meeting my two teammates were Javed and Vasillia. First, we started working on a power point slideshow. We would explain our ideas and try to incorporate them into slides. When it was the day to go the library for the presentation, I couldn't wait. I was nervous about messing up and excited about being on TV. When I got on stage to present, I had a microphone, the lights were on and there was a camera on me too. I will never forget this fun and nerve racking experience. I hope I can help the future 6th graders to have as successfully a time as we did.

Aleigh Fitzpatrick



Staff Guess Who

Ms. Daley—Red Team
Language Arts teacher

Start by doing what's necessary,
then what's possible and suddenly
you are doing the impossible.

-- Saint Francis of Assisi



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