



The Pirate Times

845-620-3870

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Pearl River, NY



Principal's Corner

Ms. Paese!

By Dani C. and Maggie T

Have you ever wanted to know more about our school principal? Well, now you can. We had the chance to meet with Ms. Paese and ask her some questions! We met with her on a google meet to find out all the details on what it's like to be the middle school principal. It was pretty fun and we are lucky to have her as our principal!

When we met with Ms. Paese we wanted to get to know her a little bit more. So we asked her some simple questions about her hobbies, interests and career as a principal. Ms. Paese loves being our school principal but she also enjoys a lot of things outside of school. She likes to read, play board games, and do puzzles. As a child and teenager, she did a lot of bowling with friends. She cares a lot about her family and friends!

When we asked her what her greatest accomplishment was as our principal she said that she loved working with other teachers and staff to make the PRMS a better place for all. She constantly works to improve the school program. Especially this year.

She and her staff and faculty are trying to make this year like any other year by coming up with fun activities that follow the covid regulations and rules. If you have been keeping up there have been lots of contests like the ugly masks, pumpkin carving, Snowman building, and many more. There was also a scavenger hunt all around town. We think it is pretty great that we were able to have all of these extra fun things during a time like this!

As you can imagine, there was a lot to cover on the pandemic and how it is impacting the school year. We started by asking her what she thinks has been the biggest challenge for our school during the pandemic. She explained that the hardest thing is trying to keep the connections between staff and students and staff to staff. We think that would definitely be a challenge especially when sometimes we are only learning remotely.

Lastly, we asked what her greatest highlights were here at the PRMS. What she told us was so heartwarming and sincere it brought a smile to our faces. She said that it is seeing the growth of the students from 5-6-7. Then again at 12th-grade graduation and seeing how everyone has grown and what they have achieved.

We wanted to know what her advice would be to everyone here at PRMS. She wants us to remember that our best is enough and to live life to the fullest.



Spotlight on MS. BENITEZ!

By, Gianna & Kara

Have you ever wondered about the band teacher at PRMS? Well, her name is Ms. Benitez. We had the opportunity to interview Ms. Benitez and ask her questions that we thought other middle school students would be interested in learning about.

When we met to interview Ms. Benitez, we did it over a Google Meet. We were really curious to learn about how you teach band virtually! We hope you have fun learning a little bit more about Ms. Benitez!

Q: How do you feel about teaching music virtually? Do you find any challenges, or things that you like about it?

A: I think teaching music virtually is very difficult. I can't hear my students play the way I'm used to hearing them, and we can't play all together. I'm thankful that we can at least still make music, even though it's different, and I'm looking forward to seeing things being normal again.

Q: When you were a kid, did you always want to be a band teacher?

A: Yes! In 7th grade I decided I wanted to be a band teacher, and I have not wanted to do anything else since then.

Q: What is your favorite instrument and why?

A: My favorite instrument is the trumpet, and it's my professional instrument. I love it because it can be powerful and loud-sounding, and it can also be beautiful and sweet. My other favorite instrument that is not my professional instrument is the French horn because it's just so fun to play.

Q: What do you enjoy most about teaching?

A: My favorite thing about teaching is getting to know my students, and being able to create relationships with them.

We learned more about our band teacher Ms. Benitez and we hope that you did too. Stay tuned to see who our next teacher is for teacher spotlight!



All About Professional Basketball and Football

By, Danny & Liam

Are you a big sports fan? Well we are and we want to tell you all about basketball and football! Let's get right to it and start with basketball.

All about Pro Basketball

First up: Who is the best player in the NBA right now? Well in my opinion the best player is LeBron James. I know many of you might think differently, but there are so many reasons why he can be called the best player. I am sure many of you LeBron James fans would agree!

Interesting Facts about the NBA

1. Shaq only scored one three pointer in his whole career
2. Jordans were once banned from the league
3. Kobe Bryant's first contract was co-signed by his parents
4. Shaq challenged Hakeem to a one on one

Let's see how much you know about sports. Click the link below to answer a bonus question!

[NBA Question](#)

All about Pro Football

This season has been crazy in the NFL! Here are some interesting things from this season.

Interesting Facts

- There have been a lot of injuries this season. The San Francisco 49er's and the Seattle Seahawks have the most injuries in the 2020 - 2021 season
- Tom Brady has the most Super Bowl wins for a quarterback
- The NFL is over 100 years old
- Walter Camp invented football
- NFL players were not required to wear helmets until 1943

[NFL Question](#) - Who do you think is the best NFL team right now. I think the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are the best team currently. Answer the question with the link down below.

Movie Reviews

By, Ellie

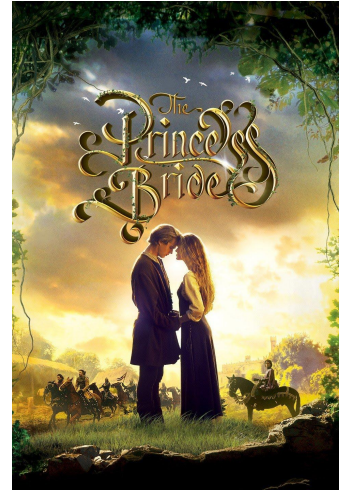
Movies. If executed right can be beautiful. Life changing. Glorious. Movies old and movies new, can be great. Here's some reviews of 3 amazingly executed movies from the 1980s, 90s and 2000s.

The Princess Bride is a 1987 satirical romance/fantasy. The movie follows the story of Buttercup and some friends she meets while on a crazy journey before her wedding to a man she doesn't love while just a few years prior she lost the love of her life to pirates. Don't worry though, this movie isn't just a romance it's for everyone. The movie has everything from romance, to comedy, to magic and even some intense action. A must see for anyone who likes to watch movies, *The Princess Bride* will bring you on an exciting adventure that you'll never forget. Full of jokes, excellent acting, screenplay, and action this is a must on your watch list.

Rolling in for the 90s is the 1996 comedy *That Thing You Do!* following the story of a band from the 60s and their rise to fame, *That Thing You Do!* is a perfectly balanced movie that has everything and more for a great comedy. Full of crazy catchy songs this movie will get you dancing and singing along. Written and directed by movie legend Tom Hanks this film is a stroke of brilliance. Laugh out loud, feel good, and witty are just a few amazing things to say about this movie. The comedy is so simple yet some of the funniest and the characters are impossible to forget. It doesn't get better than this. *That Thing You Do!* is most definitely worth the 2 hours.

And finally rounding up these reviews and recommendations is the 2000's with the stop motion Wes Anderson film, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. This comedy is about a fox and his family as Mr Fox gets back into the art of stealing food from farms and factories, but things get a little out of hand. If you've ever seen any of Wes Anderson's work you would know his distinctive quirky style is like no other. With brilliant animation, great score, and amazing dialogue, this movie truly is incomparable to anything else. So for those who are looking for a twist on a traditional animated movie look no further than this 2009 masterpiece.

So there you have it, this month's countdown through the decades of must watch PG movies. Grab your popcorn and get ready for one **inconceivable** weekend.



Flipping A Page Online

By, Isabella & Maeve

Wait what?! Yes you heard it, the Pearl River Public Library can be accessed online. A few months ago they sent out a newspaper that they are reconstructing the library. They say they are reconstructing because there are many things that need to be fixed. But don't worry, we are here to tell you about everything you can do online to still access the library resources!

Even though the services in the library are closed, you still can apply to many activities online. Here are some activities you can participate in:

- Black history art and writing contest
- Attend many sessions of chair yoga
- Listen to a storytime in your pajamas
- Crafts online and many more!

The library is open to the public temporarily but **only** window service will be provided. If you are having trouble attending any of the activities, you can go on a google meet with a librarian and they will help you fix your problem.

Even though many in person activities are closed, the Pearl River Library still offers many online resources and activities. Also make sure you keep reading! There is no excuse to not get your hands on a book and read! Get your favorite genre now and read it because we promise you it will be worth it!



Advice for PRMS Students

By, Arianna

Many kids are wondering how they can manage remote learning better. I am going to talk about being remote and doing remote learning during Covid. There are many strategies that you can use to continue to do your best in school and when you are working from home.

Here are some tips!

- One thing you can do to not get distracted is to go somewhere quiet where you can focus and do your best work!
- Also it is not always so easy to go on remotely, like when your internet crashes! One way that I really think that helps is when you turn your internet on and off. Also when your Camera doesn't work you can try turning it on and off.
- Stay positive
- Take breaks from the screen and try to get outside as much as you can!
- Stay on top of your work. Feeling overwhelmed or behind is never a good feeling.
- Be flexible. Remember, this is a new situation for everyone!

I hope these tips can help you to manage your school work remotely a little bit better!



UPCOMING EVENTS



Upcoming Events

BY, COURTNEY

Are you wondering what you can look forward to? Well I am here to tell you about all of the amazing events, activities, and holidays that are coming up!

There are many fun holidays and activities coming up and It is always fun to have something to look forward to! Let's take a look at what is happening in the next couple of months!

- March 17th - Saint Patrick's Day
- March 27th - Passover begins at sundown and ends on April 4th
- March 29th - April 2nd - Spring Recess, school closed
- April 1st - April Fools day
- April 4th - Easter
- April 19th - quarter 4 begins at PRMS
- April 22nd - Earth Day

Now I hope you put all of these events into your calendar! Spring will be here before you know it!

Upcoming Events



Star Students



Meet Our Pirate's of the Month at PRMS!



By, Riley, Emma, Joseph & Noreen.



Hi Pearl River Pirates! I know that we have heard who our Pirates of the Month are on the announcements, but we are here to tell you a little bit more about them and learn how they felt when they heard they were POTM. We had the chance to interview some of the Pirates of the Month from this fall!

Picked for the 5th grade Purple Team, was James Roe. Our reporter, Riley interviewed him and asked different questions. James was surprised when he heard that his name was one of the many students of the month that had been said on the announcements. At the time, he thought, "How was it me?" He didn't expect this and had no clue what Pirate of The Month was at the time. We asked if he had any advice for students who want to be future Pirates of the Month. His advice is to study more and to put school first. This was his first experience of being The Pirate of the Month. He is motivated by this and thought that "never in a million years that this would happen." He thinks he can improve even more from this. Three words that flooded into his head upon hearing his name were, Wow, Wait, What!

Kaitlyn Duffy is one of the amazing, 6th grade Red team Pirate's of the month this year! I was able to interview Kaitlyn and here are some things that you may not know about her! Katy Duffy felt so proud of herself and ecstatic when she found out she was pirate of the month. She was POTM in 5th grade and one of her goals was to be POTM again this year. She thinks that you can become POTM by being kind to other students and by being a good participant in class. Kaitlyn's parents were proud and so happy for her because this is the second time she was the student of the month at PRMS and they couldn't believe it.

It was fun to learn a little bit more about Kaitlyn besides being POTM. Here are a few of her favorite things. Her favorite colors are teal and yellow and her favorite things to do in her free time are play with friends and just relax. Her favorite animals are dolphins and cute little golden retrievers. She loves eating pasta and her dream vacation would be to Bora Bora. She likes to read books like Cyclone and her two favorite subjects are math and ELA. Katy duffy is a very hard working student at PRMS and being POTM for a 2nd year in a row was well deserved!



Star Students



Meet Our Pirate's of the Month at PRMS!

I personally interviewed Emma Georgakopoulos to help you get to know her better! First of all, Emma is on the Navy team! Emma was very surprised when she heard her name on the loudspeaker and was very happy that she had won! Now let's see how her parents reacted when they found out about the amazing award she had gotten! Both parents were very proud of her and were surprised that she had won! Here are a few things you might not have known about Emma! For starters, her favorite animal is a Panda! Her favorite subject in school is Science. (Good choice, my favorite subject is Science too.) Her favorite hobby is drawing and the sports that she plays are Lacrosse, and Softball. Her ~~Worst~~ fears are Roller Coasters and Waterslides. Now, here are some more interesting things to know about Emma. Her dream vacation would be to go to Colorado with her family. She also has family who live in Colorado (Aunt and Uncle) and can teach them how to snowboard. I tried snowboarding once, let's just say I didn't like it. Anyway, one idea she had to improve the school was to actually build a pool and start a swim team! I like that idea a lot and it sounds very fun!

Another Pirate of the month is Marc Losada, one of our 5th grade orange team pirates. We interviewed Marc to learn about how he felt when he heard he was POTM. Marc said he was very surprised and he was not expecting it at all but he was so excited. He says if you would like to try to be Pirate of the month you should always pay attention, participate, and try your best.

Let's see what Marc's favorite things are! His favorite subject is math. He says he enjoys being challenged. Marc also said that math is his strongest subject. His favorite hobby is swimming. He says this is something he is very passionate about. A few more things Marc enjoys doing in his free time are reading & watching TV. He told us that his favorite book is Restart by Gordon Korman. Gordon Korman is his favorite author. Some of his all time favorite movies are Coraline & A Dog's Purpose. He also says his favorite food is cheese pizza. A simple classic you just can't go wrong with. Marc is a hardworking student and proves to be an example to his classmates. It was great getting to know Marc a little bit better!

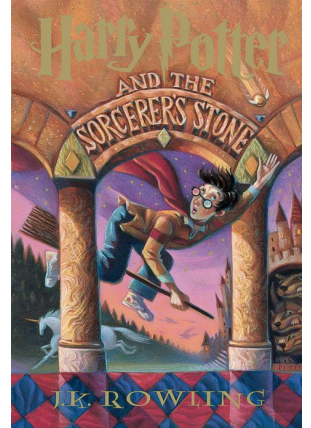
There are so many awesome, hard working students here at PRMS. These Pirates of the month are each a great example of what it means to be a great student! We hope this encourages you to work hard and do your best!

BOOK REVIEWS

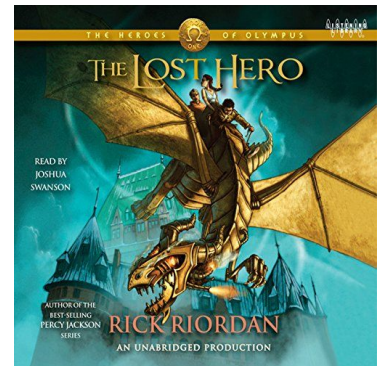
By: Siobhan and Maeve

We have put together a list of a few books you may enjoy! See below for full descriptions. We hope this helps you to choose your next book!

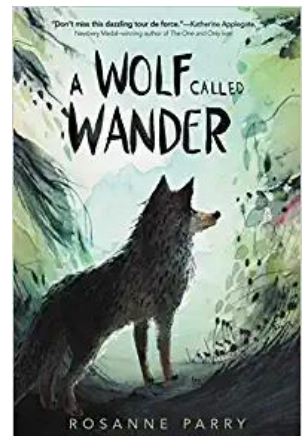
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone is an amazing book that leads the reader through Harry Potter's life at Hogwarts, a school for witches and wizards in Britain. Harry's life was destroyed at a very young age when the greatest Dark wizard of all time murdered his mother and father, and Harry somehow survived the Killing Curse and was sent to live with his non-magic aunt, uncle, and his cousin. But the Dark Lord may be returning... Can Harry and his friends stop him before he takes over the Wizarding world?



The Heroes of Olympus The Lost Hero is a fantasy novel that centers around both ancient Greek and Roman myths. In this novel, Jason, Piper, and Leo discover that they are demigods (one godly parent, one mortal) and they are brought to Camp Half Blood, a summer camp for demigods to teach them to protect themselves against the monsters that will inevitably attack. But Jason seems to have amnesia, and unsettling clues are starting to come up about his past... and the earth seems to be against them... When the trio are sent on a quest, can they discover who Jason truly is and stop Gaea, the mother of the earth, for now?



A Wolf Called Wander is a truly captivating story about a young wolf who, when his pack is conquered by another wolf group, must learn to survive on his own. He defies hunger, death, and meets a few fleeting friends along the way. Can he make it without his pack?



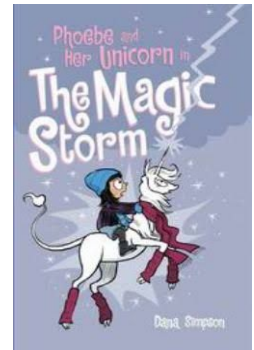
BOOK REVIEWS CONTINUED

Wings of Fire: The Dragonet Prophecy by Tui T. Sutherland

The five Dragonets' Destiny's are to stop a war. These five dragonets were stolen from their homes. But some dragonets do not want a destiny. Three Princesses are trying to win the War but the "chosen" Dragonets will bring the light. Clay, a dragonet, and his friends have been trapped under a cave for years. But once they leave their cave, things become a disaster and they will have to fight for survival.



Phoebe and her Unicorn in The Magic Storm by Dana Simpson Phoebe and Marigold, the unicorn, were on a nice ride through the forest when a few hours later a huge snow storm came to her town. All the electricity goes out. Then school is dismissed early. So Phoebe, Marigold, Max, Dakota and her goblins go find the answer to find what is causing the power outage. Could it be an evil dragon causing the storm?



Wings of Fire: The Lost Continent by Tui T. Sutherland

Blue has lived his whole life thinking that everything is going to be ok. But life becomes difficult when Blue's sister starts glowing and is in pain. Then everyone's eyes go white and the mind controlled hive wings are after blue. After running, he meets a stranger that wants to help him. Will the evil queen get him or will he live?



Meet the Pirate Reporters!

Siobhan is a 5th grade student. She is on the Orange team. She loves to draw, read, and animate and her favorite color is purple. One of her favorite book series is Wings of Fire.

Riley is a hard working 5th grade student on the purple team. She likes to play soccer and hang out with her friends daily. She loves to be in school and have fun. She plays the cello in Orchestra. She loves to cook and bake for her family and binge watch Masterchef Jr.

Joseph is a hard working 5th grade student who is on the Orange Team. He plays Baseball and does Karate, he is a 1st degree black-belt! He also has a mini Goldendoodle named Nash and is super playful and is the BEST dog ever. He is in the band with Ms. Benitez and plays the Saxophone. Finally, he loves hanging out with his friends and playing video games with them!

Emma is an outgoing student on the 5th grade navy team. She loves Pandas and eating cheesecake. She likes to go to the beach in summers and snowboards in winter. She is in the chorus class and loves to sing. She loves playing Lacrosse and playing with her friends.

Arianna is in 5th grade. She is on the purple team. She has 2 dogs and loves to draw write, act and to dance

Kara is a 5th grade Purple Team student who loves reading and art. She has two older brothers who are both in the High School. Kara also enjoys talking and playing with her friends.

Maeve M. is a sixth grade student who loves to read, swim, play basketball and soccer, and more! She is an amazing kayaker and loves to craft, camp, hike, and basically do anything outdoors!

Courtney is a 6th Grade Student on the Red Team. Her favorite school subject is science. She loves animals, she loves to sing, she loves to dance, she loves to read and loves to draw. She likes to play with her younger brother. Courtney's favorite book series is Harry Potter. When she grows up Courtney wants to be a nurse, a vet, or a scientist.

Isabella is a 5th grade silver team student she loves to paint, draw also write in her free time. She also loves to bake!

Meet The Pirate Reporters!

Liam is a 6th grade student. Liam likes to play sports. He plays Baseball, Soccer, and Basketball. He also likes to ride bikes and play games.

Danny is a 6th grader at PRMS. He likes to drive RC Cars, ride bikes and watch and play sports. Such as football and basketball.

Gianna is a 6th grade student on the red tem. She loves to bake and read.

Noreen is one of our 5th grade orange team pirates. She enjoys playing outside and some of her other favorite things are hanging out with friends, swimming, shopping, baking, and going to the beach.

Dani C. is a 6th grader on the red team. She enjoys to watch and play sports. She has 2 older sisters in the high school. Her Mom teaches as a TA in Mrs.Berman's class at Evans. She wants to be an anesthesiologist when she grows up.

Maeve L is a 5th grade silver team student. She enjoys writing and aspires to be an author when she grows up.

Ellie F. is a seventh grader on the green team. In her free time enjoys swimming for the Condors, singing, doing musical theatre and baking up her own creations. She loves to read and hopes to be an actress one day.

Maggie T. is a 6th grade student who loves reading, writing, and cooking/baking. She wants to be a CEO of a Fashion Company one day.