



# Pearl River School District

EVANS PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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**Peggy Lynch**  
Principal

December 2017

Dear Evans Park Families:

It's hard to believe that we are well into December already, a hectic but wonderful time of celebration. The students and staff are very busy with their learning and also with special projects and events. As you know, this week we hosted *Math Mania* and *Family Math Night*. During Math Mania, children worked with Greg Tang in grade level groups, learning games and playing them with peers. In the evening, parents and children played at four different game stations in rotation. Also this week, the children have the very exciting *Holiday Boutique*, our dedicated PTA's labor of love where boys and girls can shop for one dollar items that have been hand selected by PTA shoppers. In the next two weeks, we invite you to our winter concerts where you can sit back and enjoy the music of the season presented by lovely children's voices. Consider these our gift to you for a break from the hustle and bustle. As we have reduced audience size for your comfort, we ask that you stay for the entire program to support all Evans Park students who are performing.

Exciting learning about coding is occurring at Evans Park this month. Launched during Computer Science Education Week with *An Hour of Code*, Evans Park learners are joining students around the globe in coding. They are using a variety of computer programs, code.org and "unplugged" coding activities. District technology coaches, our elementary Library Media Specialist and Physical Education teachers and a knowledgeable volunteer parent are facilitating coding activities with classes too. Our experience is that once the children start, they do not want to stop. As a result, look for coding activities that may be happening in your homes as well!

Our continued endeavor to assist students with meeting expectations for *respectful, responsible, ready and safe* actions are yielding positive results. As you know, students have achieved a few goals and are poised for another, the outcomes of which will be visible at the winter concerts. In addition, students on two of our bus routes completed their trip on the road to safe ridership for November. They enjoyed a ten minute recess last week in acknowledgment of meeting that challenge.

Recently, student council presented an opportunity for students in all classes to write letters that would result in a donation to the *Make a Wish Foundation*. Ms. Ginnane and Ms. Sheridan oversaw the council's work to create a video, prepare talks for classes and collect the letters written by the students. The letters (about 300 of them) will be delivered to Macys; a \$2 donation for each letter received is the result. Third graders also wrote letters to veterans as part of a radio station's efforts to send *100,000 Thank Yous* in partnership with the USO and United Rentals. Last on our altruism list this month is the *Toys for Tots* box located in the lobby. Families who are interested can drop in a

new, unwrapped toy to be delivered to children through the effort of some Marines. The children have been enthused about these projects, learning that kindnesses to others can be readily achieved.

Do you recall when the time between Thanksgiving and the New Year seemed like forever? Please try to remember that the children in our midst are in that phase. Try to find that time for chatting with your children and maintain the important routines. The staff and I wish you and your loved ones the happiest of times during this celebratory season.

Happy holidays,  
Peggy Lynch

PS: To learn more about these Evans Park “happenings,” log onto our school web page!