

Like

Embed

0

114

PRSD Pulse

April 2022



Pearl River School District

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

Accessibility


Translate

High Contrast Mode

Aa

Aa

Aa

 The Pearl River School District (PRSD)

The Pearl River School District is using Smore newsletters to spread the word online.

Superintendent's Update

Greetings Pearl River School District Families and Staff,

Throughout the month of March, our K-12 students engaged in an abundance of interactive and engaging classroom lessons, activities and labs across a range of subjects spanning music, art, technology, science, and English. The smiles of students for all to see were met with much excitement and hope for the future as we shifted to a mask-optional school environment following the Governor's change in the school masking policy.



This April edition of our digital e-newsletter showcases a month full of spotlights on our hardworking and dedicated school social workers as part of National School Social Work Week; the wonderful work of our talented student-artists and art instructors in alignment with Youth Art Month; lessons centered on World Storytelling Day and St. Patrick's Day; and the continued progress we are making through impactful social-emotional lessons, community-based programs and assemblies. In addition, a number of our students at the high-school level were recognized for academic excellence and athletic achievements. Our high school scholars, athletes, and artists are a great source of inspiration for their younger classmates.

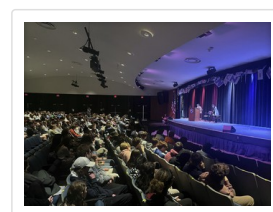
As we usher in another new month and the beginning of spring, I am looking forward to continuing to share what's to come across academics, athletics and the arts!

Sincerely,

Marco F. Pochintesta, Ed.D.

A front row seat to what's been going on inside our schools throughout the month of March...

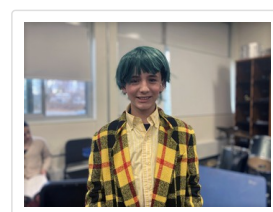
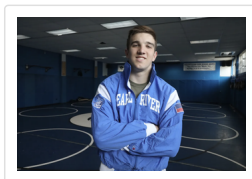
Fifth-graders in band instructor Brianna Benitez's period 2 low brass instruments lesson at Pearl River Middle School practiced three different scales as they began to prepare for their band final in June. Students practiced a number of songs that will be featured in PRMS' upcoming Spring Concert come May – changing metronome speed to test their ability to play to tempo as a cohesive group. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Pearl River High School students across grades 8-12 attended an impactful assembly – listening intently to WWII veteran and Nazi camp liberator Alan Moskin – as he spoke of his time in the military, his experiences with fellow soldiers and the liberation of a concentration camp over 75 years ago. Providing insight and inspiration, Moskin brings awareness to the Holocaust and the intolerances that came with it, urging students to continue educating themselves as the next generation. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Pearl River High School senior Jack Raspanti was selected as the 2021-22 Journal News/Iohud Rockland Wrestler of the Year!

A three-sport athlete who plays football and baseball, Jack has made headlines all season – collecting records, divisional titles and all-section honors. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



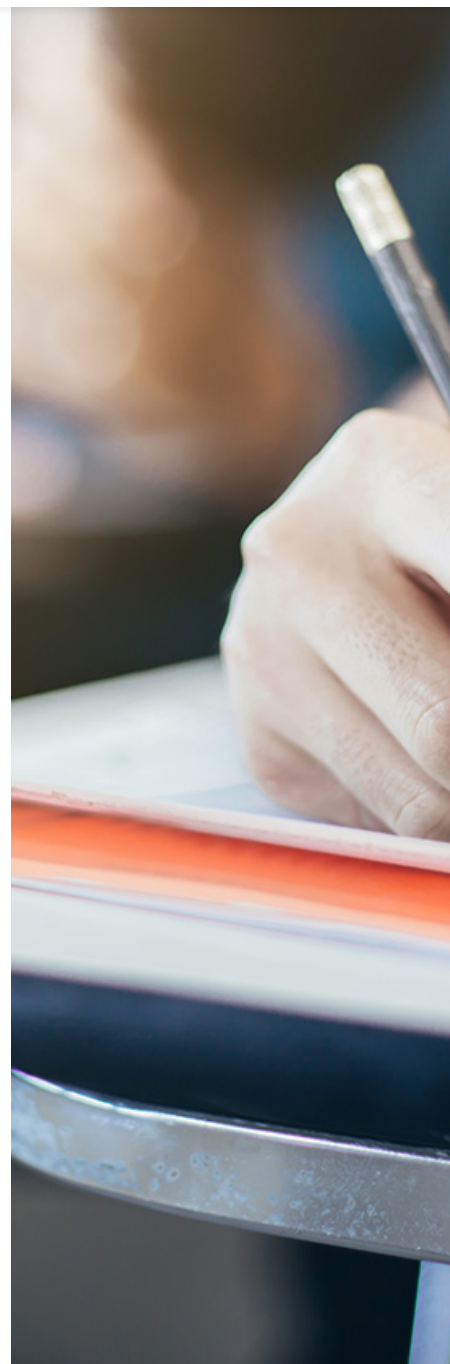
Excitement was in the air as the Pearl River Middle School Stage Players prepared for their performances of Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical Jr. on March 25 and 26! As the cast and crew prepared their costumes, practiced their lines and set the stage for opening night, we got an exclusive, behind-the-scenes peek at their preparation...read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Pearl River High School senior Matthew Balison moved forward as a Finalist in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program!

In September 2021, Matthew was first selected as a Semifinalist from a pool of academically-talented high school students located across the country based on his 2020 Preliminary SAT and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test performances. Now, Matthew is one of 15,000 Semifinalists to advance as a Finalist – awarded with a Certificate of Merit! Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Students excitedly prepped for the annual Pearl River High School Marine Science Club Fair on March 26 as they put the finishing touches on their interactive exhibits, demonstrations, crafts and games – under the guidance of science teacher and club advisor Tom Mullane! Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Second-graders in Monica Price's class at Evans Park Elementary School gathered around under the stars and by campfire (thanks to special effects lights and projections) to hear read-alouds as part of World Storytelling Day – dedicated to the art of oral storytelling, bridging links across the world! Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



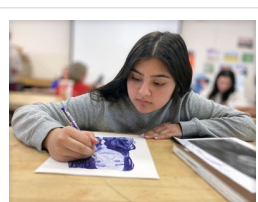
Franklin Avenue Elementary School students came ready to (sham)rock in celebration of Saint Patrick's Day as students across grades K-4 participated in a wide variety of activities – combining curriculum with the day's festivities. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Second-graders in Gina DiMartini and Elizabeth Marzolla's class at Evans Park Elementary School worked in groups to prevent/slow the wind and water erosion of their sandcastle – drawing and designing a solution using a variety of materials as part of their science lab activity! Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

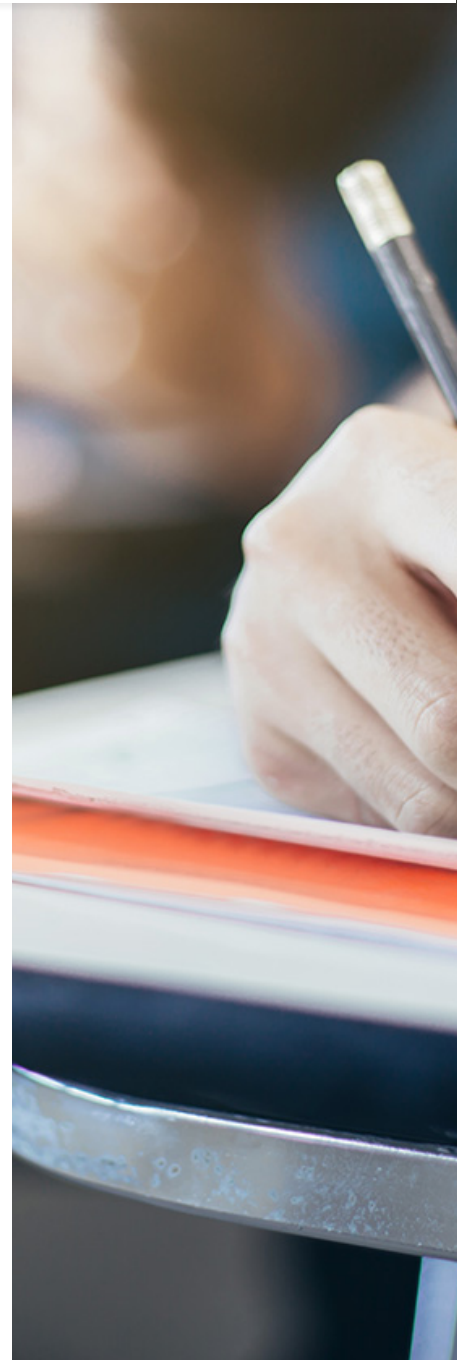


As part of a new initiative this 2021-22 school year, Pearl River Middle School students in grades 5-7 are encouraged to go above and beyond – displaying extraordinary behaviors like including students who may feel left out and performing acts of kindness or compassion – through the Positive Pirate Club program! The number of Positive Pirates surpassed its 100 member milestone – and now, students have the opportunity to celebrate their achievements. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

K-4 students at Franklin Avenue Elementary School created powerful and positive messages, affirmations and illustrations of their choice in chalk as they celebrated Social-Emotional Learning Day (SEL Day) on March 11! Students wrote positive messages on sticky notes to recreate once they headed outdoors to join the movement to promote a supportive and united school culture. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Students enrolled in Lorna Carroll's period 3 Drawing & Painting I course at Pearl River High School worked on self-portrait drawings in ballpoint pen recreating their chosen reference photo's features to include lighting, shading and facial expression. Through this project, student-artists unleashed their creativity – exploring elements of portraiture and self-discovery. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

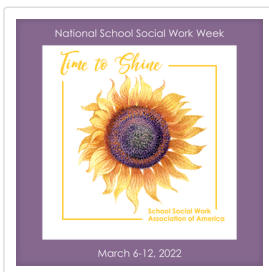


own handmade speakers using a variety of materials as they put their unit knowledge into action! Beginning with dissecting a store-bought speaker, these students recreated one of their own. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



As part of Readers Theater, students at Evans Park Elementary School shined a spotlight on positive behaviors as they engaged in student performances of the Aesop fable, **The Boy Who Cried Wolf!** Putting on musical performances for students K-3, fourth-graders (led by music teacher Glyn Nixon) taught what being truthful means and what actions and qualities are associated with honesty. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Franklin Avenue Elementary School fourth-graders experimented with visual elements as they began their newest project: triptych (three-layered) paintings! Made up of three pieces/panels, these students' paintings create sequence and display various elements of the same subject matter, adding a new dimension to visual art. Our District spotlighted this project among many others as part of our celebration of Youth Art Month throughout March. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

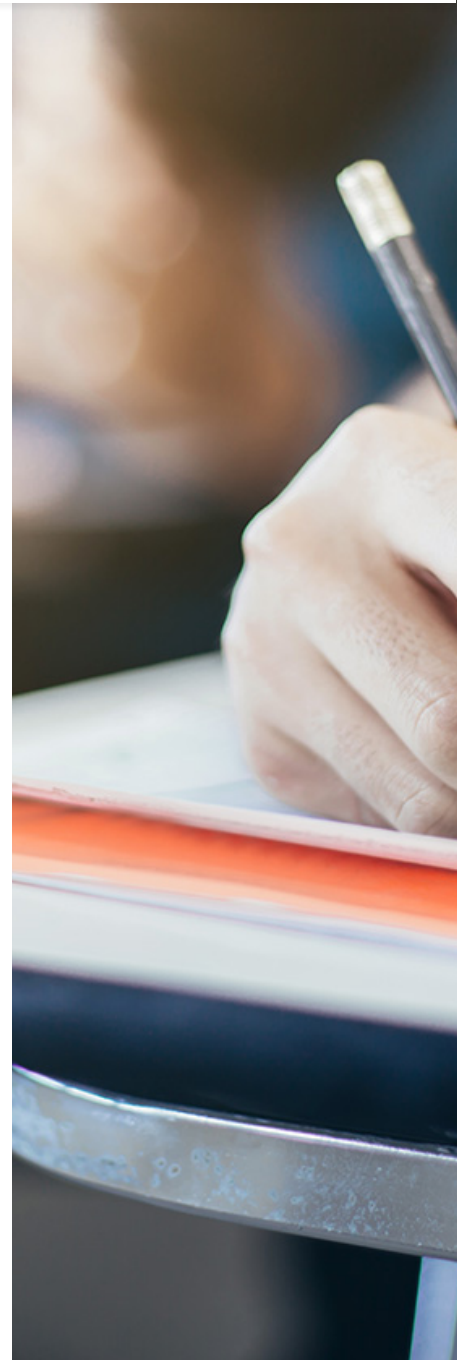


During March 6-12, our District spotlighted each of our school social workers (and all that they do for our K-12 students) as part of **National School Social Work Week!** Each of our school's social workers play an essential role in our school community – working with students to address any mental health concerns, behavioral concerns, positive behavioral support, academic support, classroom support, consultation with teachers, parents and administrators, as well as providing individual and group counseling/therapy. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

On March 4 and 5, our District opened its doors to welcome students from across the county to attend the Rockland County Music Educators Association's Intermediate All-County Music Festival hosted at Pearl River High School! Student-musicians in grades 5-6 participated in band, orchestra and chorus performances – showcasing their talent and hard work. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Pearl River High School student representatives from the National Honor Society, Pirates United Club, the Gay Straight Trans Alliance Club, Girls Learn International Club, Student Council and other programs visited the Holocaust Museum and Center for Tolerance and Education in Suffern on March 4! The students participated in an "Against All Odds" workshop led by Founder of the Haverstraw African-American Connection Virginia Norfleet and a "Moral Courage" workshop



Pearl River High School International Club members and students attended an after-school meeting to begin brainstorming ideas for PRHS' annual International Night event (April 28)! Club advisors and PRHS world language teachers

Elizabeth Kurzawa and Julia Tonelli led small group discussions – fielding questions about foods that students want to provide, cultural activity ideas and poster decorating, as well as how to best engage fellow students and peers in involvement and interest in cultural awareness and acceptance as part of International Night. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Seventh-graders in Michael Herskowitz's period 8 Technology I class at Pearl River Middle School began to design hanging mobiles using upcycled, revamped and redesigned materials like plastic cups, wood, ribbon, and string to produce a unique and personalized creation. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Fourth-graders in Karen DiMenna's class at Lincoln Avenue Elementary School analyzed ocean wave movement, direction and pattern as they completed a science lab using pipe cleaners as a visual tool to represent the increase in amplitude and decrease in distance that takes place when a wave reaches the shore. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



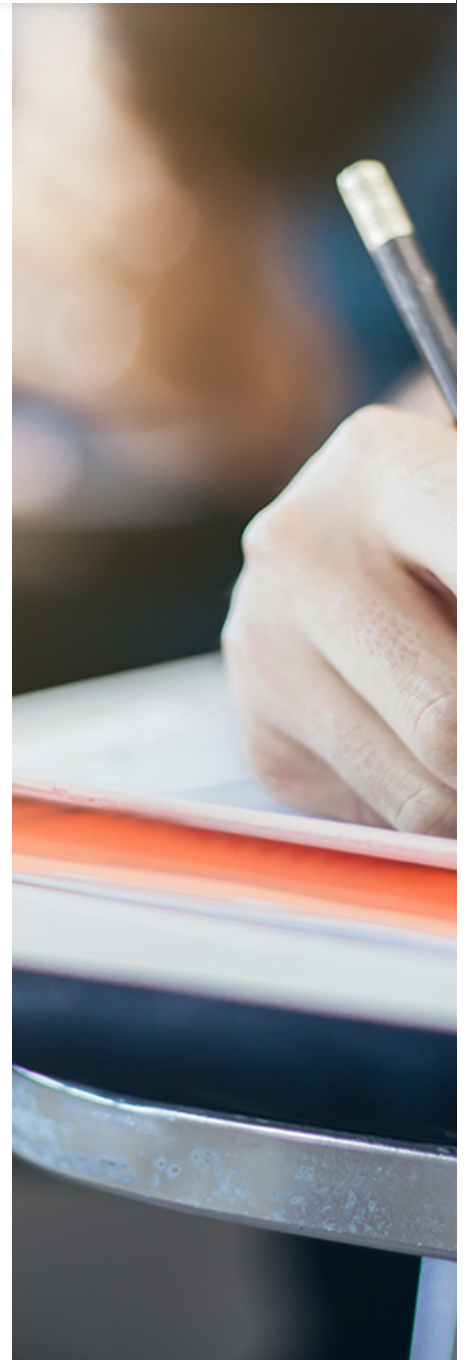
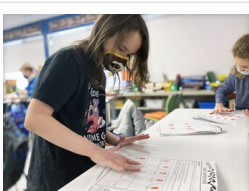
Concentration and observation were in full effect in Nancy Ferst's third grade classroom at Lincoln Avenue Elementary School as students completed a science lab activity in duos focused on phenomenal observations of fossil properties – analyzing and recording the size, shape, pattern and color of fossils. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Franklin Avenue Elementary School kindergarteners in Jeanie Imperati's class engaged in sing-alongs, interactive music movement and lessons on woodwind instruments – led by music teacher Scott Louis! Through music exploration, these students practiced melody patterns, rhythm and individual creativity. Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



In Marie Walmsley's classroom at Lincoln Avenue Elementary School, third-graders acted like detectives as they worked to identify their fingerprints – differentiating between loop, whorl and arch patterns as an introduction to their upcoming Mystery Reading Unit! Read more on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).





Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



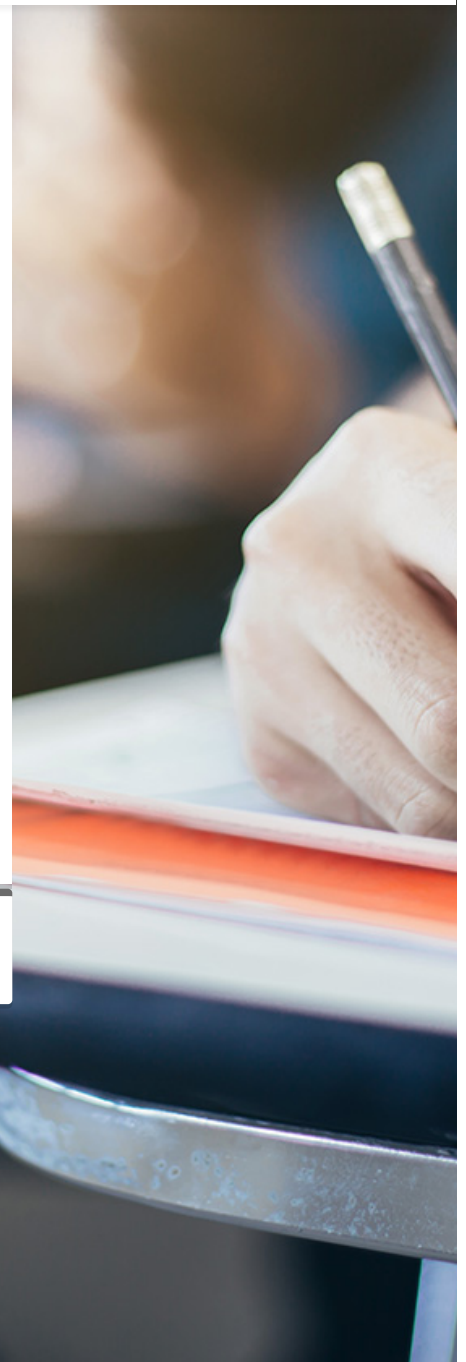
District Website



Parent Portal



Messenger



Connect with The Pearl River School District (PRSD)

The Pearl River School District is using Smore newsletters to spread the word online.

Created with  smore

Communicate quickly and effectively with interactive newsletters.

Smore empowers educators to connect with their community, streamline school communications, and increase engagement.

Create a newsletter

← It's awesome and free!

