

Dragon Gazette

January 30, 2024

★ All-Star Student Tips ★

By: Bella Cooper

Have you ever wanted to be the student of the month? I have gathered tips to help you:

- ★ Mr Owens - "Do whatever Mr. Stone says and always say yes, sir"
- ★ Mr. Austin - "Set a good example for other students"
- ★ Mrs. Keely - "Always be friendly to your classmates"
- ★ Mr. Duncan - "Always be humble and kind"
- ★ Mr. Burton - "In order to be a star student you must be willing to give 100% on things you don't want to do, but have to do"
- ★ Mrs. Simpson - "Always be respectful"
- ★ Mrs. Trammel - "Always say good morning and smile when you see people"
- ★ Mike - "Study hard"
- ★ Trent - "Listen to directions"
- ★ Miss. Coffey - "Always try your best and listen to your teachers"
- ★ Mr. Stone - "Turn your assignments in on time"

Fourth Edition

EXTRA EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT

We at the Dragon Gazette have some exciting news. We will be doing a special edition of our newspaper for Valentine's Day! This edition will feature special messages to our students or staff members from those who love them. For \$1, you can place a message of 20 words or less in this special edition to any student/staff member at Pine Knot Intermediate. Just write the message in the lines below and bring \$1 to Miss Coffey to have your message published in this Valentine's Edition of the Dragon Gazette. All money will go to the newspaper club, allowing us to bring you schoolwide news. All messages are due on February 5! Thank you for supporting our club, and we hope you are enjoying our newspaper each month!



*Pictures from
NTI Days*

Pine Knot Intermediate Dragon Gazette
Established 2023

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Mrs. Taylor Vanished

By: Brylee Spradlin and Olivia Ellis

Do you remember Mrs. Taylor, our old assistant principal? Do you find yourself wondering what happened to her? She just vanished into thin air. We went home for summer and returned for a new year, and she was gone. We have the details for you just keep reading.

1. Where did you go when you left Pine Knot Elementary? *After leaving Pine Knot, I continued my employment with the McCreary County School District, but in a new role as the Director of District Wide Services. As a part of my new position, my office is now located at the Board office.*
2. What is your new job, and what do you do for your new job? *As the Director of District Wide Services, my new job entails overseeing and coordinating several programs with the district, including Save the Children, Rewards Program, Gear Up, Gifted and Talented, among others. One of my favorite parts of the job is the responsibilities of Instruction and being the District Assessment Coordinator. In this role, I work closely with teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders to ensure that the educational needs of all students are met. Additionally, I am tasked with identifying areas for improvement and implementing strategies to enhance the overall quality of education in the district. Overall, I am excited to be a part of such an important role and look forward to contributing to the success of the district and its students.*
3. Why did you leave being an assistant principal? *While it was difficult to leave Pine Knot, I am excited for this new opportunity to serve the school district and its students in a more broad capacity.*
4. What was your favorite part of being our assistant principal? *What I loved most about being an assistant principal was knowing that the students were safe, loved, and well-fed while they were in my building. I found joy in morning bus duty as it allowed me to see everyone's smiling faces before starting my workday, and watching the students return to*

the buses and cars each day brought a sense of fulfillment because, at that moment, I knew the students had a successful day as they learned, had experiences, talked with friends, and had two warm meals.

5. What is your favorite part of your new job? *What I love most about my new job is that it allows me to continue working with students in schools; I still get to observe the learning that is taking place in your classrooms and see the hard work of the teachers who work each day to ensure their students succeed. Those are the things that make my heart happy!*
6. Which job was easier? *Both the jobs of an assistant principal and a director of districtwide services are challenging and rewarding in their own ways. While an assistant principal is responsible for the day-to-day operations of a school and ensuring that students receive a quality education, a director of district wide services oversees multiple schools and works towards improving education in the entire district. Although both jobs have their own set of challenges, when I see students within our buildings being respectful, doing the right thing even when others are not looking, and working hard to gain knowledge and get good grades, it makes every challenge worth it. It is fulfilling to know that I can make a positive impact on the lives of these students, regardless of the specific role I am in.*
7. Do you miss being our assistant principal? *Yes, I most certainly do miss being an assistant principal. I enjoyed working with all the staff and students, and it was a fulfilling experience to make a positive impact on their lives. Although I am no longer in that role, I am glad that I will still get to see many of the students as they progress through middle and high school. Seeing the students grow and succeed is something that I am thankful for, and it gives me a sense of pride knowing that I was once a part of their educational journey.*

There you have it; Mrs. Taylor is still helping us, just in a different role. We miss you and wish you the best of luck, Mrs. Taylor!

! Important Dates !

February 2 - Groundhog Day
February 2 - Message for Valentine's Edition Due!
February 5 - Parent Night 4-6
February 6 - KONA
February 7 - Real Men Read
February 14 - Valentine's Day
February 14 - Special Edition of Dragon Gazette
February 19 - Presidents' Day
February 20 - Bible Release
February 21 - Math Challenge
February 29 - Leap Day
February 29 - Sixth Edition of the Newspaper

Dear Paisley,

"How do I stay calm?"

Some People have more trouble staying calm. Here are some ways to stay calm. First, You can take deep breaths. Next, you can try thinking about all the good things in the situation.

Until next time,
Paisley



Mrs. Teresa Kidd's Interview

By: Isabel Sims

1. **What is your favorite part about your job?** : *My favorite part about my job is getting to work one on one, or with small groups and watching their reaction when they are successful!*
2. **Why did you want to become a teacher?** : *I have always wanted to be a teacher. When I was a little girl I would play school almost every day. I had an elementary school teacher that gave me an old gradebook and some work books that she was going to throw away and I thought that it was the greatest thing ever! I've always loved kids, so when I grew up I knew exactly what I wanted to do.*
3. **Do you like being a teacher?:** *Yes, it's the best job in the world.*
4. **What do you like to do when you're not at school:** *My favorite thing to do when I am not at school is read and I also love singing at church!*
5. **What is your favorite subject to teach?:** *Reading is my favorite, but I really like writing too.*



Writing Club

By: Olivia Ellis & Brylee Spradlin

Making imagination come to life. The writing club meets every other week after school. No need to worry about getting hungry because you receive a snack before the meeting starts. Everyone has a journal that they write in. Monday, 1/8/2024, they started writing an essay. If they choose to turn it in and the judges pick their essay, they get to win 100 dollars, and the papers have to be turned in on Valentine's Day.



Animal of the Month

Did you know that seahorses mate for life. Yeah seahorses mate for life, cool right. When a seahorse has children the male carries the egg sack in a pouch like a marsupial, which is just something like a kangaroo. Back on track seahorses are really cool, mainly because they are very different from other fish.



Other fish have 3-5 fins, seahorses only have 1. Seahorses also have very long tails which help with swimming since they only have 1 fin. Seahorses also have amazing camouflage, so that's why I think seahorses are a fitting animal for this month.

~J.B



Martin Luther King

By: Kayden Ross

Having a day off from school is super exciting and Martin Luther King's Day gives us exactly that.

We celebrate Martin Luther King because of his speeches to get black people more rights. He gave a memorable speech with his "I Have a Dream" speech." If it weren't for Martin Luther King, black people would not have as many rights as they do now.



Positive Vibes

By: Kenzlee Stephens

The weather may be cold, but we are still spreading positivity. The dentist came and cleaned the kids' teeth. We had an amazing Christmas break! Tryouts for volleyball and other sports are starting. Make sure to come out and join a team, bring your physical. We had some snowfall, and it was pretty. We get a day off for Martin Luther King Day! January may be cold, but we still have so much kindness to be happy about.

Book of The Month

By: Marley Ridener

Book Title: *The Snowy Day*

Author: EZRA JACK KEATS

Summary: Peter woke up to a surprise one morning. When he looked out the window, he saw snow. He decided to go outside to play in the snow. He enjoyed his snow and filled it with many adventures. Why should you read this book? With the weather turning cold, I thought you might want to hear about

some snowy adventures to go on in the winter weather.

Getting to know Our Secretary

Mrs. Karen 

By: Karl James Neal

1. Do you like your job? *"Yes, I love my Job!"*
2. Is your Job hard? *"Depends; there's a lot you have to do".*
3. What's your favorite part about your Job? *"Kids!"*
4. What's your favorite food? *"I like to eat, but I don't have a favorite One."*
5. How long have you worked here at PKI? *"Almost 5 Years"*
6. Do you like your Co-Workers? *"I Like Everybody Here!"*
7. What is the Key to being a good Secretary? *"A good secretary is able to take on a variety of different tasks and responsibilities. We have to have a wide range of skills and make sure you answer the phone."*



STAY FAR AWAY FROM THAT
ONE KID, HE COLLECTS SNAKE
STRAPES!



Former Dragons



Spotlight!!!

Name: Casen Morrow

Grade: 8th grade

Sports/Clubs: Band

Who Influenced you the most as a Dragon: Mrs. Moore has influenced me the most as a teacher.

Does being a former Dragon help you in your extracurricular activities : I play trumpet in school band and recently joined the high school prep band. Mr. Stone helped me start understanding music better when I was a dragon.

If you could tell a Dragon one thing right now, what would it be: Study hard and have fun. Check out band when you get to middle school.



