

Dragon Gazette

February 29, 2024



Congratulations, Paisley Strunk! She won this year's AARP "Grandparent of the Year" essay contest. Paisley wrote about her grandpa, Hap Strunk, and his influence on her life.



Introducing our New Assistant

Principal - Mr. Tim Stephens

By: Bella Cooper

Let's give a warm welcome to our new assistant principal, Mr. Stephens! I had the chance to meet with him and ask some questions for us to get to know him.

1. Why did you choose to be an assistant principal? *"I love working with kids!"*
2. How much do you like this school? *"A lot"*

Sixth Edition

3. What do you like about this school? *"This school is very welcoming and nice."*
 4. Why did you choose to come here and leave Whitley? *"It's new and different."*
 5. What do you like about being an assistant principal? *"Getting to help out with the staff and kids."*
 6. Do you think Mrs. Moore is a good principal? *"Yes"*
 7. What do you do when you have free time? *"Play with my puppy"*
- Welcome to the Dragon Family, Mr. Stephens!



**Pine Knot Intermediate Dragon Gazette
Established 2023**

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Missing in Action: Mr King's Story

By Olivia Ellis and Brylee Spradlin

Have you been wondering what happened to Mr King? He once was here, but then disappeared? Well, I have the information for you! He went to the district to make sure that the lunches were safe and ready for the students and staff. We ended up interviewing him so we could have the answers for people who might be wondering. The interview will be listed below, with the questions and answers.

Q- Why did you leave PKI?

A- "I left Pine Knot to take a position at the District Office over food service. It was a very tough decision, but I enjoy my new position."

Q- What is your new job?

A- "I am the director of food service. I am in charge of ordering the food and making sure all the kitchens are up and running."

Q-What are the changes you are making to our lunch

A-"I'm trying to find more items that students enjoy to eat while keeping lunches as healthy as possible. We have a variety of new things to try so that we know what to add to the menu next year."

Q- Why did you bring back strawberry milk?

A- "The dairy truck was running low on chocolate milk so we substituted Strawberry milk in its place. Some

students liked it but its not more popular than chocolate milk."

Q- Which job is easier?

A- "Neither job is easy. Both come with a lot of responsibilities and things to get done. I miss all of my students at Pine Knot but now I get to visit all schools and see all of the students. I love being able to visit while helping to feed all students in the district.

That is what happened to Mr. King. We miss him but wish him the best!"



Photo Credit: Karen Conatser

! ***Important Dates*** **!**

March 4-7 Dr. Seuss Week

- **March 4 - "Sleep Book" - Wear Pajamas**
- **March 5 - "Fox in Socks" - Wear Crazy Socks**
- **March 6 - "Green Eggs and Ham" - Wear Green**
- **March 7 - "Cat in the Hat" - Crazy hair or hat day**

March 5 - end of 3rd 9wks

March 8 - No School

March 11-15 9wks Testing

March 29 - Seventh Edition Newspaper Delivery

March 31 - Easter

April 1-5 - Spring Break



Positive Vibes

By: Kenzlee Stephens

Do you feel the love in the air? Valentine's Day shows the kindness in everyone. We have a lot of positive vibes that have happened in February. We had a concert at school with the 3 Heath Brothers. They had everyone on their feet wanting to dance. KONA made its monthly visit. Family Resource shared the kindness by having everyone sign a kindness pledge. Kindness hearts were hidden all over the building to celebrate Valentine's Day. Classroom Parties were celebrated to allow us to enjoy Valentine's Day. Don't forget the groundhog predicted an early spring. Who wouldn't be excited for the sunshine? We will be back next month with positive vibes, so keep them coming.



3 Heath Brothers



The World of Bookkeeping

By: Karl James Neal



1. Do you like your Job? "Yes, I do"
2. How long have you worked here? "27 years, then I retired for one year, then I came back because I missed everybody."

3. Do you like your Co-Workers?
"I do like my co-workers best people I have worked with"
4. What's your favorite part about working here at PKI?
"Interacting with The kids and staff."
5. Is it hard to keep up with all the bookkeeping?
"Sometimes".
6. What's your favorite food?
"Country Cookin'"



One of The Most Deadly in The Sea:

Blue-Ringed Octopus



By: Jonah Ball

Did you know that the blue-ringed octopus is one of the most deadly animals in the sea? The blue-ringed octopus lives near Australia and Japan. They have some of the most potent venom in the entire ocean. They live down to about 50 meters in the ocean. The blue-ringed octopus is a really cool animal and did you know they don't have bones, but 3 hearts?



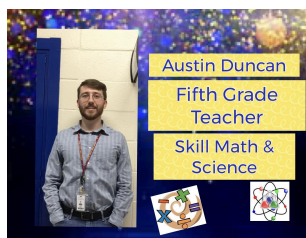
GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FIFTH GRADE TEACHERS!



Mr. Austin Duncan

By: Isabell Sims

Favorite Subject: "Math"



Why did you become a teacher? "I became a teacher to help students grow in education and life."

Did you have a job before being a teacher? What was it? "Before I became a teacher, I worked at Kroger and a storage unit."

What do you enjoy doing when you are not teaching? "I enjoy playing video games when I am not teaching."

Mrs. Teresa Simpson

By: Slayd Simpson

Favorite Subject: "Reading"



Why did you become a teacher? "I love working with children"
Did you have a job before being a teacher? What was it?

"I was an instructional

assistant before becoming a teacher"

What do you enjoy doing when you are not teaching? "I enjoy camping, church, and spending time with my family"

Mr. Wyatt Burton

By: Kayden Ross

Favorite Subject: "Reading/Writing"



Why did you become a teacher? "I wanted a job that I could feel like I'm making a difference."

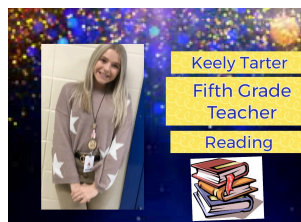
Did you have a job before being a teacher? What was it? "I would peel Vinyl stickers before teaching."

What do you enjoy doing when you are not teaching? "Hanging with my friends and having quality "me" time."

Mrs. Keely Tarter

By: ReAanna Tucker

Favorite Subject: "Reading"



Why did you become a teacher? "I love to be a friend to kids"

Did you have a job before being a teacher? What

was it? "I worked in the front office"

What do you enjoy doing when you are not teaching? "Reading, drinking coffee, and spending time with her family"

Mrs. Ginger Trammell

By: Brylee Spradlin

Favorite Subject: "Reading"



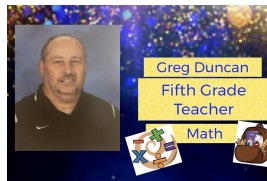
Why did you become a teacher? "I love working with kids"
Did you have a job before being a teacher? What was it? "Yes, it was at the doctor's office"

What do you enjoy doing when you are not teaching? "Spending time with family, being outside, traveling, and going to church"

Mr. Greg Duncan

By: Olivia Ellis

Favorite Subject: "Math"



Why did you become a teacher?
"I became a teacher because I like kids and want to help them get a good

education."

Did you have a job before being a teacher? What was it? "Yes, I worked as a deputy jailer and a maintenance technician."

What do you enjoy doing when you are not teaching? "Watching football specifically The Pittsburgh Steelers. I also like 4-wheeling or anything to do outdoors."

Mr. Landon Owens

By: Lillian Newman

Favorite Subject: "Social Studies"



Why did you become a teacher? "Because I like working with kids"
Did you have a job before being a teacher? What was it? "Yes, I did. I was a

Facility Manager for Blackboard."

What do you enjoy doing when you are not teaching? "Playing video games and hanging out with his family."



Book of the Month

By: Aleeya Morrow

Book: A Charlie Brown Valentine

Author: By Charles M. Schulz

Summary: Two of Charlie's friends like him. One of them sent a valentine to him, and he thought it was from the little red-haired girl. He wouldn't stop thinking about the little red-haired girl, but he couldn't talk to her as he was scared. She would laugh at him. She didn't remember him when his friend and sister tried to tell her about him. He tried to call her, but his two friends answered the call.

Why you should read this book: It was a funny book, and I really liked it. Even if you don't like funny books, it's still a good book.





Weather Club

By: Isabell Sims

The club of the month for this month is the weather club! The weather club provides kids with a choice of career and helps them see if they would like to specialize in meteorology. Also, it can give students more knowledge about weather seasons and weather forecasts. Also it can teach kids to know how to get to safety if there is a severe weather situation. It can also teach kids how to predict weather conditions. In conclusion, the weather club is very helpful to kids in many ways.



By: Marley Ridener

Are you ready to leap around the school? Just kidding, that is not what leap day is. Leap Day is added to our calendar because the Earth takes 365.25 days to get around the sun. This leaves us needing an extra day every four years to make up the extra time it takes. This means every four years, we have 366 days instead of 365.

Leap Year is a pretty special year, and we celebrate it every four years. Here are some pretty interesting facts I bet you didn't know about leap year:

- 1) Leap year helps keep our calendar in harmony
- 2) Anthony, Texas is considered the capital of Leap Year
- 3) In some traditions, women can propose to the guy on Leap Day
- 4) In some traditions, Leap Day is considered unlucky to do important things
- 5) If you are born on Leap Day, you only have a birthday every four years
 - a) Mr. Wilson was born on Leap Day

Enjoy your bonus day! It only comes once every four years. Also, Happy Birthday Mr. Colby Wilson!



🏆 Interview with Mr. Richmond 🏆

By: Kenzlee Stephens

Let me introduce you to Mr. Richmond. He is a student teacher who is about to graduate college.

1. How do you like teaching under Mr. Sims? *"I like it a lot and learn a lot"*
2. What is it like to be in college? *"It is a grind"*
3. What is it like to be a student teacher? *"It is fun. I get to teach and learn with you all"*
4. Who was your favorite teacher in school? *"Mr. Lee or Mr. Sims"*
5. What do you do when you are not at college or school? *"I coach baseball, play golf, hunt, and fish."*
6. What is your favorite subject? *"PE"*

Thank you for coming to help us learn for a little while. Good luck to you, Mr. Richmond!



! Calling All Fourth Graders! !

If you are interested in joining the Dragon Gazette for the next school year, this is your chance to learn and try it. For the last edition newspaper of the school year (May Edition), you will have the chance to job-shadow (work and learn from a current newspaper member). Any fourth grader interested will need to see Miss Coffey to get an application. All applications must be returned by March 29 to be considered for this opportunity. The job shadowing will take place at the end of April/ early May during the school day.