COOP SCOOP

18 April 2025

A PSCS EARTH WEEK NEWSLETTER

pioneersprings.org

PIONEER SPRINGS WILL CELEBRATE OUR INTERCONNECTEDNESS THIS EARTH WEEK, AND YOU CAN, TOO!







Under the guidance of Sandy Dixon, our campus Naturalist, the Pioneer Springs community will celebrate our connection to nature, to our campus, and to one another this Earth Week. Sandy has designed daily activities to get classrooms outdoors enjoying the natural world. Be sure to ask your student about outdoor activities, and their thoughts about them! Research shows that spending time in nature boosts children's academic performance, as well as their mental and physical well being. Additionally, joyful time in nature is essential for building a life-long understanding of our interdependence with the natural world.

Here are some ideas for how your family can build home-school connections by celebrating Earth Week:

- Visit a natural space in your neighborhood, be it your yard, a park, or a wild area and make time for unstructured play
- Visit a pond or stream and look for wildlife–this is the perfect time of year for finding frog and salamander eggs, observing tadpoles, listening for early frog songs at night, and for finding salamanders under logs. Please remember that traces of soaps and oils on hands can harm amphibians, so protect them by looking, but not touching.
- Create habitat for amphibians in your yard
- Plant or tend your home garden, or visit a farmers' market to about where our food comes from
- Nature journal as a family
- If you have a teen, click here and here for teen-specific outdoor ideas

Looking for even more inspiration? Check out *Sense of Wonder* by Rachel Carson.

IMPORTANT DATES & ITEMS TO NOTE

- 21 April: Staff workday - **NO SCHOOL** for students
- 21 April: Board meeting, 6pm
- 22-25 April: Earth Week
- 23 April: Blood drive, 9am-1pm
- 23-25 April: 10th & 11th grade backpacking trip
- 26 April: EarthSprings, 10am-1pm
- 28 April-2 May: Benchmarking
- Summer Camp information
- Academic & Events Calendar



__Help Wanted__ **EOG/ EOC proctors**: help make testing smooth and efficient (leaving more time for fun teaching and learning) by being a proctor. Training will be at 8:30 am on May 7. Check-in at the Castle.

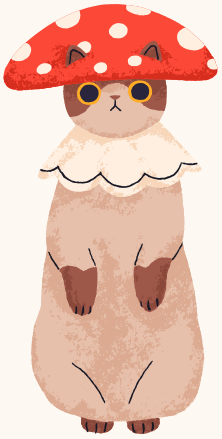


SHOW YOUR SALAMANDER PRIDE THIS EARTH WEEK!









High School Student Government students have put together a spirit week. Students and adults of all ages are invited to join in the fun!

Tuesday: Earth Colors, dress in green, blue, and/or brown in any part of your outfit, whether it's pants, shirts, hats etc.



Wednesday: Eco Hero Day, dress up and celebrate the heros who help us understand and protect our planet. Choose a famous biologist, zoologist, scientist, environmentalist, or conservationist who has made a difference on this earth.

Thursday: Flora and Fauna Day, dress as a beautiful plant or an adventurous animal.

Friday: Under the Sea Day, dress as an underwater animal, habitat, or feature such coral, bubbles, etc.



INTRODUCING EARTHSPRINGS

An arts festival celebrating our interconnection with the natural world!

Saturday, April 26 from 10 am to 1 pm on the Pioneer Springs Camp

Theatre, music, artisans, growers, class exhibits, pop-up art projects, and more!







When: Saturday, April 26 from 10 AM to 1 PM
Where: Pioneer Springs Campus
Come **see** and **engage** with all the amazing work our students have been creating! Students in grades K-8 and high school theatre students have been working with their classes on performances and exhibits, so the more students involved, the more **vibrant** and **exciting** the performances will be! Bring your friends, family, and neighbors to cheer them on!

EarthSprings also includes a **local artisan fair**—sign up here for a booth! WINGS, our homegrown PTO, will also host a **plant sale**.
Questions? Email heidim@pioneersprings.org.

Help make EarthSprings festive by **donating supplies** and **volunteering**!





Wanted: your cardboard boxes and cereal boxes for EarthSprings projects. Drop your items off at the Castle

CALLING ALL PSCS FAMILIES:
HELP PIONEER SPRINGS COMMUNITY SCHOOL CELEBRATE EARTH WEEK!



Adopt a fruit tree! To celebrate Earth Week 2025, we are planning on replanting our Pioneer Springs Community School Orchard. When we built our High School, the original school orchard had to be removed. The orchard will consist of a variety of fruit trees and serve as a learning laboratory for our students. **What better way to celebrate our Earth than to plant trees?** Young trees absorb CO2 at a rate of **13 pounds** per tree, each year helping offset our carbon footprint. Students will learn about tree stewardship, the benefits of trees, and fruit production.

Pioneer Springs Community School is asking each grade to adopt a fruit tree. Classes will learn about their adopted tree, prepare the planting site, and then celebrate their adoption by planting the tree with the help of the Horticulture 1 class.

How can you help? We are asking each grade level to raise $45 to adopt a fruit tree. Each student is asked to donate $1.00 to help reach their grade level's goal of adopting a fruit tree. Teachers will have a donation collection envelope in each classroom. Once each grade reaches their goal, an apple, peach, or pear tree will be ordered from the Arbor Day Foundation to plant in the school orchard!

Families can also choose to sponsor their students' grade level adoption fee by donating $45.

What? Adopt A Fruit Tree

When? April 2025

Where? Pioneer Springs Community School

Why? We are celebrating Earth Day, Arbor Day, and the benefits of trees.

How? Donate $1 to raise the adoption fee of $45 by April 21, 2025. Send cash or a check, payable to PSCS with your student, or drop your donation off at the office.
You can also pay online by clicking this link.

DANCE, DANCE

Middle School Spring Dance – Starry Night

Join us under the stars for a magical evening at our **Spring Dance on Friday, May 2nd from 7–9 PM** on the **Hive Deck**! With twinkling lights and cosmic vibes, it's sure to be a night to remember.

Tickets are **$15 per person** and can be purchased online or at the castle. **Ticket Link**
8th graders may invite one guest—guest approval is required from a middle school teacher or Ms. Alex.

Dress to shine and come ready to dance the night away beneath a Starry Night sky!

High School Prom – The Mad Hatter's Masquerade

Step through the looking glass and into a night of whimsy and wonder at **The Mad Hatter's Masquerade**—this year's unforgettable **Junior/Senior Prom**! Join us on **Friday, May 30th from 7:30–10:30 PM** at the enchanting **Manjal Manor** for an evening filled with magic, mystery, and dancing. Tickets are **$60 per person** and can purchased online or at the castle. Ticket prices will increase by $10 on May 10th, so be sure to purchase your tickets early! **Ticket Link**



This event is open to **Juniors and Seniors only**, unless invited by a Junior or Senior. Each Junior and Senior may invite up to 2 guests.

Don your finest attire, add a mask, and don't be late for this very important date!



OUR 2025 YEARBOOK IS LIVE!



Yearbook pre-sale is now live! **Please follow this link to purchase yours today**. Cost is $35 for a limited time, so get them early as this price will go up in the future. There is also a limited quantity of yearbooks, so don't delay. Get it now!

GIVE HOPE THIS SPRING AND GIVE BLOOD WEDNESDAY, 23 APRIL



Pioneer Springs is excited to announce that we are partnering with One Blood to host a blood drive on Wednesday, 23 April. **You can sign-up to donate here**.

OneBlood will make a contribution to Pioneer Springs on behalf of blood donors. Additionally, donors will receive a OneBlood t-shirt.

High School Students who are 16 years old or older can donate with parents' consent and must bring a consent form to the bus on the day of the blood drive. All donors and prospects must have a picture ID showing date of birth. **Click for Eligibility and Consent Forms.**

A MESSAGE FROM WINGS: ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL FAMILIES



We have an exciting event coming up we wanted to share with you. On Friday, May 9th, our High School families will be hosting the upcoming all staff teacher appreciation event. The theme for this event will be a Spring Salad Bar.

We are kindly asking for High School families to sponsor this all staff appreciation event by donating supplies, food and/or volunteering (the sign up link is below). We are so grateful for your support and we thank you for helping to make this event a success.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094DACA62FA0FF2-56142113-staff

STUDENT RUN POP-UP COFFEE SHOP, TUESDAY AFTERNOONS



High school sustainable business students have created a pop-up coffee shop, named after the upper school's Hellbender mascot, Bender's Beans and Brews!

Visit the coffee shop Tuesday afternoons from 1:20-2:30 at the Davis General Store!

LEARN ABOUT OUR SUMMER CAMPS AND REGISTER TODAY







Summer camp registration is now open! Sign-up today to ensure that you have a spot!! From Camp PreOneer for rising Kindergarteners and First Graders to cooking and building camps, as well as camps exploring our National Parks, Milan, Tokyo and more! Our summer offerings are sure to excite wonder for students in preK through Sixth Grade.

Click here for more information and to register.