COOP SCOOP

16 May 2025

A PSCS NEWSLETTER

pioneersprings.org

SECOND GRADE STUDIES VERMICULTURE







Did you know the world's longest earthworm was found in South Africa and was a whopping 22 feet long? Our young scientists have discovered that earthworms are nature's tiny helpers, breaking down organic matter like food scraps, coffee grounds, and eggshells to create rich, nutrient-filled soil. Through hands-on learning, students have observed our classroom worm farm, studied the earthworm life cycle, and explored the benefits of composting.

As part of our investigations, we're conducting an exciting experiment to see whether pepper plants thrive better with **worm compost** compared to traditional soil. We can't wait to share our findings!

Earthworms may be small, but their impact is mighty—helping plants grow and reducing food waste through composting. We encourage everyone to take a closer look at these incredible creatures and consider starting a compost bin at home. Who knows what amazing discoveries await?

Stay tuned for updates, and happy composting!



Be on the lookout for Renaissance Star scores

Spring Renaissance Star benchmark scores will be emailed to families this weekend. The score reports will give you insights into your student's mastery of grade level math and reading. If you have any questions about your student's benchmark results, please contact your teacher.

EOC and EOG testing is upon us!

Please **click here** for the testing schedule for students in grades 3-12.

Yearbook pre-sale is live! **Please follow this link to purchase yours today**. Cost is $35 until 30 May. Orders placed after that date go up to $40. Get your yearbook today!

IMPORTANT DATES & ITEMS TO NOTE

- 19 May: Board meeting, 6pm
- 26 May: Memorial Day - **No school for students & staff**
- 30 May: Kindergarden campfire
- 30 May: Junior & Senior Prom
- 5 June: Elementary field day
- 5 June: **Last day of school & HS graduation!**
- 6 June: Staff workday - **No school for students**
- 16 June: Board meeting, 6pm
- Summer Camp information
- Academic & Events Calendar

YOUR OPINION IS NEEDED: FAMILY & PARENT SURVEY



A strong school-home partnership is the foundation of excellent learning. At Pioneer Springs we strive to nurture strong relationships with parents and families. We'd love to hear how we are doing! **Please share your thoughts by completing this survey**. Alternatively, email heidim@pioneersprings.org to schedule a time to talk.

Thank you for helping us make your student's educational experience better!

DANCE, DANCE

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 **$70 per person** and can purchased at this **ticket link** or at the castle.
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.
Click here to help make it magical!

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


The Nature Journal
Duality
Why More Students Should Consider Dual Enrollment

Please **click here** to take a look at the final edition of the school year of Pioneer Springs' student-run newspaper, *The Nature Journal* to see what's happening on the ground from the authentic voices of our high school journalism students.

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.

****New theatre camps available now!****

Click here for more information and to register.

STUDENT SMILES

Dispatches from Copperhead Island, senior camping trip
















STUDENT SMILES







Ms. Brandi's class went on a field trip to Bitty and Beau's. They learnt what it would be like to work in a coffee shop!

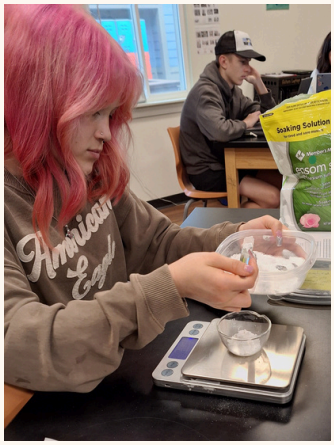






On guard! Ms. Min's fencing class enjoys practicing after school.









Physical science students have been learning about chemical interactions and the evidence for a reaction having taken place. They were able to observe the sneaky physical change of gas escaping from a styrofoam cup and reverting into polystyrene. They also measured noticeable temperature changes when dissolving salt hydrates in water to differentiate between endothermic and exothermic reactions. They learned that Epsom salt is a lot more interesting than they ever imagined.

On May 24th, you and your family are invited to

HEARTS: Let Freedom Spring, at Pioneer Springs

and discover the significance of Freedom Spring and the Meck Dec history related to this special place.



On this preactically unknown yet significant North Mecklenburg historic site, colonial scholars discussed liberty from the King, leading to the Meck Dec, and ultimately the Revolutionary War. **Featured authors and historians Scott Syfert and David Fleming** will share Meck Dec and Freedom Spring stories on land that was once part of Alexandrian the massive plantation estate of John McKnitt Alexander. In addition, learn about the fascinating **natural history of springs** and their inhabitants, and immerse yourself in the **"creatures of the Springs" community art exhibit**. Enjoy captivating 18th-century-inspired **live music by the Carolina folk duo Tom Eure and Amelia Osborne, featuring fiddles, banjos, and enchanting Crankie storytelling!**

It's all happening with **HEARTS (history, ecology, arts, reunion, trails, store)** and presented at Pioneer S**prings Community School** in the Historic Croft District, also home to the historic **Davis General Store**, both of which are on land that was once part of the Alexander plantation. The program highlights the historic Freedom Spring on Alexander's estate, where a group of colonial scholars from Princeton gathered to discuss freedom from British rule, leading to the creation of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence on May 20, 1775 (a date honored on the NC State flag). Join us to learn more about this incredible American history that happened right here in our own backyard! Saturday, May 24, 2025, 2:00 - 4:00 PM at Pioneer Springs Community School, 9232 Bob Beatty Road, Charlotte, NC 28269, free to the community, tickets are required, and donations are very appreciated. Visit www.HEARTSCircle.org Events for tickets.

As always, ecology and the arts are intertwined with history at HEARTS happenings. Natural springs and the species that live there will be presented by biologist Aaron Kampe. "Creatures of the Spring," a community all-ages art exhibit in partnership with the Cain Center for the Arts will also be on display. The contest is free and open to all ages. Guest judge, Director of Visual Arts and Education for the Cain Center, Simone El Bey, will select the award-winning artworks for both the Adult and Youth Categories, presenting cash prizes of $75-$200 to the award winners at the event. Artwork submission is due by May 16th. Scan the QR code for details and the application.

Live 18th-century-inspired music by the amazing Tom Eure and Amelia Osborne, a Carolina folk duo, offer up a heartfelt fusion of Celtic, Appalachian, and spiritual influences. In concert, Eure and Osborne seamlessly change from one instrument to the next, swirling together fiddles, banjos, bodhrán, mandolins, guitars, and rousing vocal harmonies. In addition to their music, they will also present a Crankie. Crankies are an enchanting form of Folk Art storytelling with roots back to the 1800s.

Down the street from Pioneer Springs Community School, the historic Davis General Store will be open throughout the event, so be sure to plan time for a visit to this lovely landmark, and you'll likely see something you forgot you needed too!

HEARTS happenings are free, place-based gatherings featuring music, visual arts, and lectures exploring local history, nature, and our shared sense of place. HEARTS strives for historic preservation, ecological conservation, and forging community connections in our region. For more information, visit www.HEARTSCircle.org, email info@heartscircle.org, or call (704) 920-9931.

Free to the community, tickets are required and available at www.HEARTSCircle.org ~ Events

ADULT & YOUTH CASH PRIZES - ENTRY DEADLINE 5/16

Calling All Creatives!

Unleash your imagination and celebrate the vibrant life teeming within and around North Carolina's natural springs!



2D or 3D artwork - One entry per person
Submissions due 5.16.25
Juried exhibit 5.24.25 - Cash Prizes
All Ages - Adult and Youth Awards $75-$200

Scan for contest application

Details: www.HEARTSCircle.org

CAIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS!

Lake Norman PUBLICATIONS

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