28 February 2025

COOP SCOOP

A PSCS NEWSLETTER

pioneersprings.org

Click here for the 2025-26 school calendar!

PIONEER SPRINGS STUDENTS DO CITIZEN SCIENCE WITH GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT BY SANDY DIXON, PSCS NATURALIST







"Bird watching is the perfect entry point to rekindle our innate bond with the natural world" - Claire Thompson

Pioneer Springs students took part in a global citizen science project this month! As part of our EcoSchool USA action plan we turned our focus to birds. EcoSchool committee member, Hillary Barbee, led us in the 2025 Great Backyard Bird Count. Students across grade levels fanned out across campus to observe, identify and count birds on the school grounds. Nineteen different species of birds were counted on campus, and students saw 171 birds!

To continue this connection to the natural world we encourage you to go on bird watching adventures with your family in your neighborhood, backyard, and local parks. Students enjoy guidebooks for easy identification or download an app on your phone. The Audubon Society has a free bird ID app Your Guide to the Audubon Bird Guide App | Audubon and the Merlin ID app is a great resource for identifying by sound Merlin Bird ID – Free, instant bird identification help and guide for thousands of birds – Identify the birds you see. A fun idea is to keep a journal of all of the bird species you identify as a family. The weekend weather looks ideal for getting outside and connecting with local wildlife-enjoy the adventure!

Share your birding adventures on social media and tag #pioneersprings

2025-26 ENROLLMENT INTENTION

Each year Pioneer Springs gathers information about enrollment intentions for the coming year so that we can plan for the annual lottery as well as purchasing instructional materials and other items. Please **use this link** to access the form which takes under one minute to complete. If you have multiple students please complete the form separately for each student. See the form for more information.

Thank you for your anticipated help in collecting this data and for choosing Pioneer Springs, where learning comes naturally.

IMPORTANT DATES & ITEMS TO NOTE

- 6-8 March: Pioneer Players, *The Little Mermaid*
- 12 March: WINGS meeting, 9am
- 13-14 March: 2nd and 3rd grade field trip
- 17 March: Picture Day
- 17 March: Board meeting
- 19-21 March: 4th and 5th grade field trip
- 25 March: 11th grade ACT
- Summer Camp information
- Academic & Events Calendar
- Who to Contact and When
- Board meeting minutes

WINGS AND MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES SHOW APPRECIATION FOR STAFF





On Friday the middle school families, under the leadership of Dana Erato, showed staff their appreciation with a yogurt and bagel bar. The food was delicious and nourishing, and all the staff felt very appreciated!

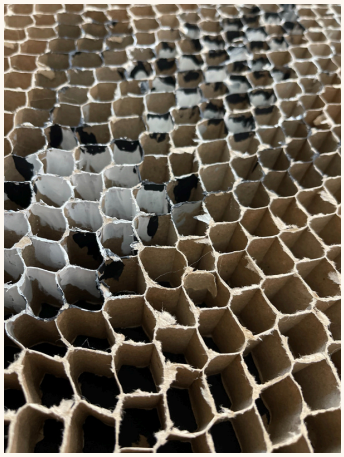
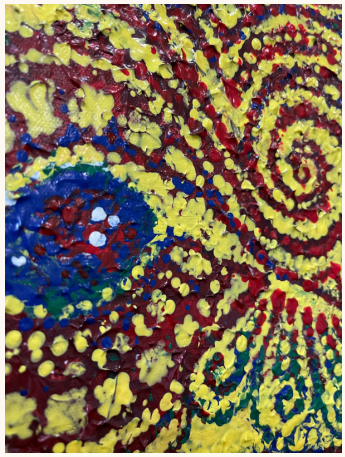
Thank you to everyone whose donations, leadership, and hard work made this event a success!!



Click here to join us and purchase tickets for *The Little Mermaid*!

SAVE THE DATE...

Save the Date: Twilight Among the Azaleas Gallery Opening & Art Auction

The afternoon of Thursday, March 20, All Ages Art Gallery Opening, Silent Auction & Raffle

The evening of Friday, March 21, Adult Only Gala, Silent Auction & Raffle

Celebrate the arts at Pioneer Springs, bid on fabulous projects to take home, and socialize with Pioneer Springs families at Twilight Among the Azaleas Gallery Opening & Art Auction. Proceeds support fine arts education.

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.

CLAIM YOUR SPOT ON AN AMAZING ADVENTURE!



We still have a limited number of spots still available for 10-12 grade students that want to experience the beauty and adventure offered by the Pisgah National Forest. Our annual guided backpacking trip is April 23-25. Beautiful mountain views, endless star filled skies, and countless flora and fauna await participants as we backpack through the mountains in Pisgah National Forest. Backpacks, sleeping bags & pads, tents, and mess kits are provided for students to use by PSCS.

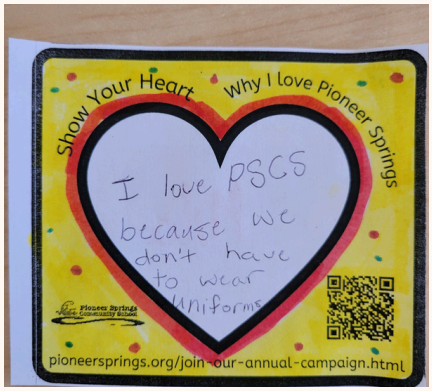
If you would like your student to experience this amazing trip email Mr. Chris at chriss@pioneersprings.org for more information and a registration packet.

STUDENT SMILES

Show Your Heart Day Edition



For Show Your Heart Day, Ms. Brandi's class created bouquets for each other by writing positive qualities they see in each other.

















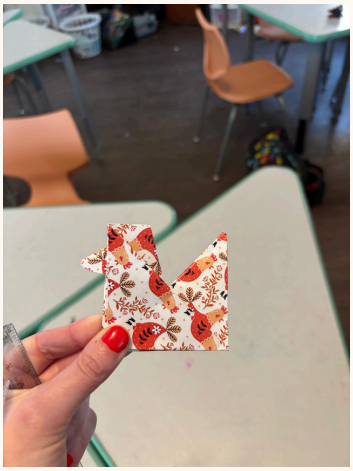


Ms. Shelli's 4th grade class displays why they love PSCS for Show Your Heart Day!

STUDENT SMILES

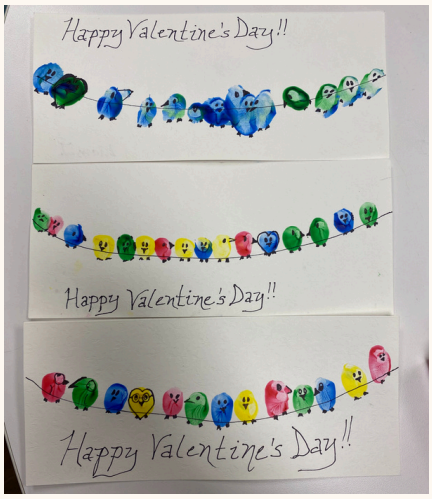
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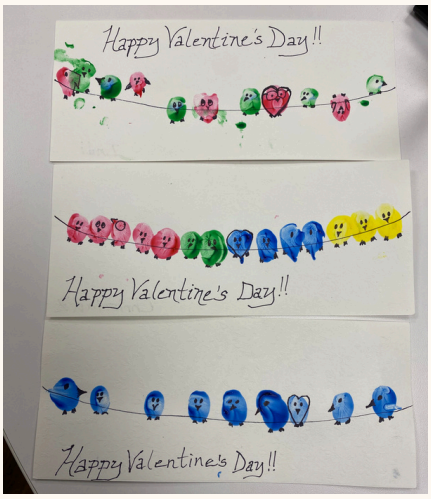


Ms. Stacey's 7th grade homeroom picked chickens as their mascot at the beginning of the year. To show our hearts to each other, we made compliment bookmarks for our Friday DEAR time, then folded origami chickens as a memento of our time in 7B together!









Ms. Leslie's class made cards incorporating little birds to celebrate their love of nature!