COOP SCOOP
9 May 2025
A PSCS NEWSLETTER
pioneersprings.org

BARE BOOKS, A BELOVED PSCS TRADITION BY LUNA, A 5TH GRADE STUDENT



Hi, my name is Luna. I'm in Fifth Grade and am working on a Bare Book. You can make Bare Books about anything (flowers, singers, etc.). Fifth Grade is working on poems and stories. This is Fifth Grade's last year of Bare Books. Author's Tea is when you show your Bare Books to your parents and family members. In Fifth Grade the Author's Tea is part of your graduation party as well. This is a PSCS tradition from Kindergarten to Fifth Grade. All of these grades do Bare Books differently. Have a great day!

IMPORTANT DATES & ITEMS TO NOTE

- 1-14 May: Author's Tea
- 14 May: WINGS meeting, 8:45am
- 16 May: 1st grade camp out
- 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: **Last day of school**!
- Summer Camp information
- Academic & Events Calendar

PIONEER W.I.N.G.S

Looking to volunteer next school year? Interested inhelping to make the PSCS community of learning stronger? Come meet with other parents to learn how!

We will meet at the Castle at 8:45 on Wednesday, May 14. Can't wait to see you there!

***LAST CALL! 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 9:00 am on May 14. Check-in at the Castle.



5TH GRADE'S HUGELKULTUR GARDEN, BY LILY, A 5TH GRADE STUDENT



This year our class, the Fifth Grade, planted a Hugelkultur garden filled with plants used in the Underground Railroad. *Hugelkultur* is a German word that means a gardening technique that uses raised beds. The beds are filled with organic materials like decaying wood, which makes a self-sustaining, nutrient rich place to plant things.

In the Hugelkultur Garden we have beans. tomatoes, okra, and age. This garden was planted when Fifth Grade was doing a project on how nature was used to help people find their way on the Underground Railroad. We used sowed of the plants used by conductors on the Underground railroad to lead enslaved people to freedom.

My fellow Fifth Graders are excited about the garden. After I asked her about her thoughts, Kennedy said that she loves the garden and thinks "it's so awesome." When I asked my friend Noelle, she clapped and sad, "cool! It's great, awesome, and amazing."

Next time you are on campus, visit our Hugelkultur Garden by the Asbury Lunch Area!

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 **$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.

Click here to help make it magical!



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

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!

PSCS STAFF IS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR APPRECIATION



Thank you to all of our fabulous families for making teacher and staff feel appreciated this week From donuts to snacks, flowers to notes of appreciation and a delicious salad bar, your appreciation for staff was clear. Thank you for refilling our buckets by showing your gratitude.

An especially huge thank you to our WINGS leadership, including Erin Scheichl, Stephanie Costas, and Dana Erato for planning staff appreciation week events, and for organizing the salad bar!

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!****

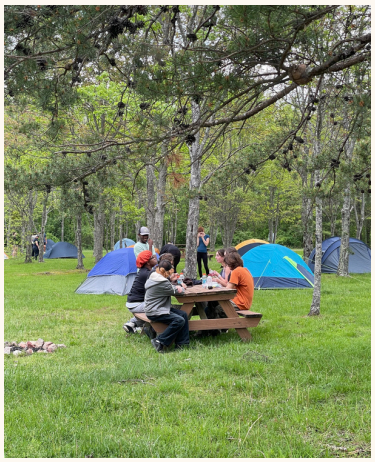
Click here for more information and to register.

STUDENT SMILES

Dispatches from New River Gorge, WV Whitewater Rafting









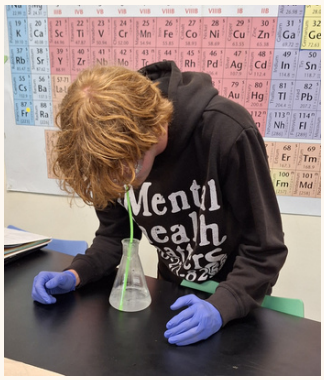
STUDENT SMILES







Seventh and eighth grade working together on Earth Day art from 1970 to the present, as well as creating an individual poem about nature. They also put together nature journals from all recyclable paper and boxes, and used sticks to create the binding!






Not only does increased carbon dioxide in our atmosphere drive global warming, it also drives acidification of our oceans. Marine Science students directly observed this phenomenon. Increased carbon dioxide causes more carbonic acid to become dissolved in ocean water. Students observed this by adding their own source of carbon when they exhaled into a basic solution. Because an indicator was added that appears pink in a basic solution, they observed their flask change colors from bright pink to clear with the continued addition of CO_2. More CO_2 means more acid which means less pink solution.

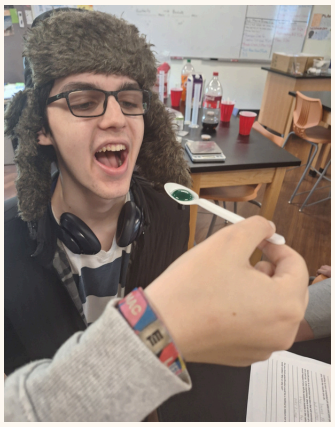
STUDENT SMILES

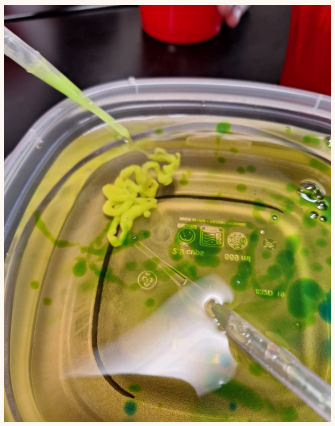






Last week kindergarten read *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh and got to paint with “mouse tails” dipped primary color paint, which they mixed to create new colors!
First grade classes learned paper quilling to create beautiful spring flowers!
2nd-5th graders are studied crochet and turned in their granny squares!




Chemistry students just got a "taste" of learning about chemical reactions, the pH scale, and an introduction to acid-base chemistry with a lab on spherification. This food chemistry technique is used to surround a liquid like fruit juice with an edible skin. This forms droplets that burst in your mouth when you chew them. The success of the reaction is dependent on the level of acidity in the original liquid. Chemistry students used a variety of drinks, like Oràngе Crush, Cherry Coke and almond milk, all of differing pHs to find the ideal pH when this reaction works the best.

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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