

Upcoming Events

Canned Food Drive- October 17-
November 8

**Pink-Out Day (bracelets and
bandanas on sale)** - October 25

Halloween Dance- October 26

End of 1st Nine Weeks- October 29

Early Dismissal- November 20

**Thanksgiving Break
(No Classes)-**
November 21-26

Halloween Dance

By: Lily Hurst

The Halloween dance is approaching! Here is more information about it:

Date: Friday, October 26

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Tickets: \$5 (includes admission, snacks and drinks)

Contests: Prizes for Best Costumes (group and individual costumes) (no costumes that include weapons)

Grades: 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are all welcome to attend!

Sports Reports

Volleyball

By: Cara Vereb, Lily Hurst

Volleyball season is coming to a close! The 8th grade team is currently undefeated, and the 7th grade team has only lost one very close game!



Team rosters

8th Grade: Jillian Piscitelli, Julia Berberich, Delaney Concanon, Abby Atkinson, Emma Ratner, Tayler Patterson, Olivia Supp, Jordan Sinclair, Ella Costa, Cate Galioto, Bre Masters, and Alyssa McCormick

7th Grade: Elisha Lippincott, Gabby Breisinger, Laekyn Flinn, Tirli Abercrombie, Becca Majetic, Alexis Marcinko, Bailey Spell, Charlotte Rockwell, Addie Arndt, MacKenna Haggerty, Grace Fluhme, Mia Fox, Riley Sippey, Alexa Albin

"I think the 8th grade girls will go undefeated this year because they work really well together. They

support one another and pick someone up if they are down. They are all-around an amazing team and Mrs. Startari and I are very proud of them. I think the 7th grade girls will continue to grow as a team and win the rest of their games. They are really working on their court-awareness and communication. I am very proud of their commitment to improving and passion for the game. We are so proud of the 7th grade team as well." -Mrs. Kilcoyne



Football

By: Shanice McNeil, Sydney Schreiber

This year's football season has come to an end! Although last year was a rough battle with only one win, this year was so much better.

"Everyone was excited for the outcome of the season. Records are phenomenal this year! The 7th grade team was undefeated while 8th grade doubled last year's wins. The hope was for the 7th grade team to go undefeated, and they did it," said coach Kerr.

"It was better than last year! It was exciting when Johnny made the first touchdown," said Dom Putignano, 8th grade quarterback.

"The season was good but rough, training was hard. Today will be the best part of the season when we win and get to cut off Connor's hair," said Micheal, a player on the football team referencing a wager involving Connor McCann getting his hair cut off.

Cross-Country

By: Prowler Staff

One of the least popular sports in the school is cross country... but we should try to change that! It is a sport with NO tryouts and it is highly recommended if you like to run. It is not as much of a team sport, but at practices you can run with a buddy which makes it much more fun. Practices are almost every day after school, and sometimes at practice you play games, like capture the flag or kickball. When you have a meet (kind of like the game), you will take a bus to the school you are versing, or you will go to the home course (behind Jefferson Elementary). Typically, you will run 1.8 miles across



hills, uneven terrain, and sometimes mud. It's not a stressful sport, so I recommend joining because it's a great source of exercise, a bunch of fun, and you can make new friends of all kinds.

"As a coach, my goal is for everyone to improve as a runner," Coach Paul says. "I want my team to have fun while still being competitive. Watching my athletes achieve something that they didn't think they could is one of the most rewarding parts of coaching."

Mythbusters: Is Ink Dangerous When Used On Skin?

By: Cara Vereb, Lily Hurst

Many people have drawn on themselves using pen or highlighter. Some people say that ink on the skin is dangerous...but is the ink in pens and highlighters harmful, or even poisonous to the skin?

Studies show that ink on the skin is not dangerous to a person's overall health, but caution should be taken. Every time ink is drawn on the skin, a fraction of the ink enters the bloodstream. If too much ink enters the bloodstream, it can affect the brain and organs and there is a small chance of an increased risk of having cancer.

If a person chooses to write on their skin anyhow, they have safer options. Wax pencils and eyeliner pencils are much safer and made to be used on the skin. Remember these things next time anyone draws on their skin.

Chromebook Corner

By: Wyatt Gruhn

Welcome to the Chromebook Corner! This is place for tips, tricks and secrets that you can use on your Chromebook!

Power Saving Tip! Your Chromebook has over 8 hours of battery life. So when you're not using it, power off your Chromebook by holding down the power button; do this at the end of the day and when charging.

Super Shortcut! Want to quickly switch between tabs? Use Ctrl + the number of the tab you want to go to switch between your tabs. This trick only works with the first 9 tabs. ☺

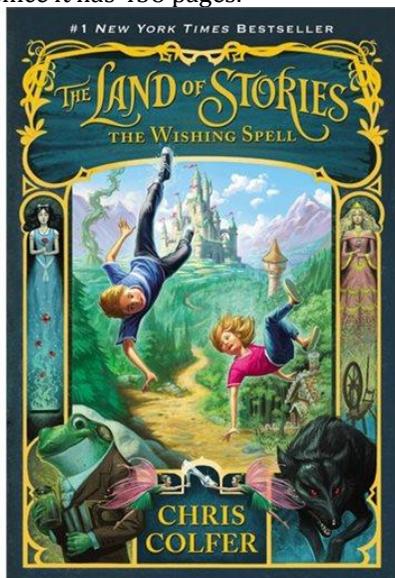
Googly Secret! Want to take a trip back in time? Go to Google and put in "Google in 1998" to get something that is truly a blast from the past!

Book Review

The Land of Stories (book 1) The Wishing Spell

By: Erin Hurst

This is a book that contains elements of fantasy, adventure, and mystery. This one book counts as 4 books (!) for the 25-Book Challenge since it has 438 pages.



In this book, twins Alex and Connor travel to the fairytale world by reading a book their grandmother gave them. When they arrive, they are confused and have to find a way to get back home. They become friends with someone who told them about a spell called The Wishing Spell. They start to find the ingredients and realize that someone else is searching for The Wishing Spell. They race against the Evil Queen to find the ingredients. If you enjoy action, fantasy, mystery, or all three, you will greatly enjoy this book. There are five books after this and they follow the adventures of Alex and Connor as they travel throughout the fairytale world. If you choose to read the first book and enjoy it then you will love the rest of the series.

Jaguar Den Coffee!

By: Prowler Staff

The school store, The Jaguar Den, is located in the conference room across from Room 203 and open during activity periods on announced days. The store sells pencils, notebooks, erasers, and other useful items... and now they even sell coffee, tea, juice and bottled water for faculty and staff!

The store is almost entirely operated by students, which is helping those students understand real world job and money handling skills.



Surveys

What Would You Add to (or Subtract from) PHMS?

By: Bella Finnegan & Brielle Boyle

If you could add or take away one thing from the school what would it be? After taking a survey of randomly selected students and teachers, we learned that many people want to change something about PHMS:

Natalee Steiner (6th): "I'd like a new bell sound instead of the obnoxious beeping."

Kali Schumacher (7th): "I want more electives added so we have more to choose from."

Mr. Hiller (7th): "I want a snack shop with healthy choices."

Kiley Dorrian (8th): "It would be a great idea to have a middle school soccer team."

Mrs. Becker (8th): I think that the students should get a half hour recess instead of a half hour homeroom."

School Lunch Suggestions

By: Brielle Boyle

Do you feel like the school lunch menu is boring? Students and teachers were asked what they would add to the lunch menu and the answers varied:

Olivia Stack (6th) - a Salad Bar

Mrs. Beres (7th) - more gluten-free

Mrs. Prah (6th) - peanut butter pie

Joseph Pulleo and Sean Sullivan - Chick-Fil-A day

Mrs. Prezel (8th) & Mr. Martinis(7th) - more frequent soft pretzel option!



Pencil & Sharpie artwork by Alyssa Linn (6th grade)

PHMS History as told by retired Social Studies teacher, Mr. Pancoast

By: Brielle Boyle & Bella Finnegan

I love history, especially history about the area where I live and go to school. I was curious about the history of this school, this town... and it was suggested that I sit down with Keith Pancoast, retired teacher from PHMS. My interview with Mr. Pancoast was extensive and covered more ground than we can fit into only one issue of the Prowler, so look for more installments of this story in future issues. Below is some history of this middle school as remembered by Mr. Pancoast:

Q: What are some of the first things you think about when comparing PHMS now to when you first started teaching?

A: "Middle school was 5th-8th grade when it first opened. The colors were green and white, and we were the Pleasant Hills Wildcats. TJ was originally supposed to be blue and white, and called the bluejays, not the jaguars."

Q: How were the classrooms different? How about the classes?

A: "Classrooms didn't have desks where the tops were connected to chairs like we have now, students had separate chairs and tables."

"The cafeteria was different. There were three lunch lines. There were no snacks."

"AET was called Shop Class and students primarily worked with saws and hammers, no technology. There was also a metal shop... and the gifted room used to be a planetarium."

Q: Anything else from your early years that you want to share?

A: "Mr. Gennaula, Mr. Martinis & Mrs. Porter were students at this school when I was teaching. I also taught Mr. Lopresti... and taught with Mr. Lopresti's grandma."

The Prowler's Contributing Staff for this issue:

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