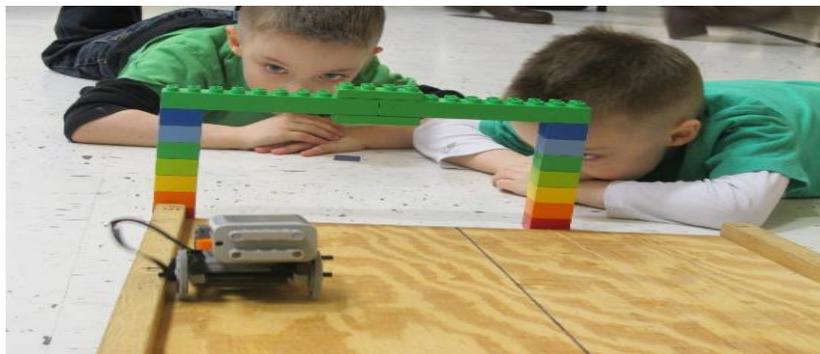


## Celebrating and Supporting Great Behavior...

We are always on the lookout for new and creative options for our Behavior Reward Parties which occur every six weeks here at Whipple Heights Elementary. Most recently we had Bricks4Kids bring their educational program focused on engaging students in learning principles of science, technology, engineering, and math using LEGO bricks. 92% of our students earned entrance to this exciting program. This is pretty consistent with all of our parties this year as we tend to range anywhere between 90 and 94% attendance. Research suggests our efforts with teaching and supporting expected behavior is working if our number is anywhere above 80-85%. As we continue to work to increase our percentage to 100% we have added additional supports such as Individual Behavior Plans for students who are struggling in a particular area. Your efforts at home and communicating back/forth with your child's teacher are also a big contributing factor to this success. Together we are helping to shape our students into successful, hardworking, kind and charitable young people.



## Spring Testing Schedule

Below is the schedule for the remaining state-mandated assessments our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking this spring. Please make sure you refrain from scheduling any vacations, doctors and/or dentist appointments on these dates as the majority of our testing is being given online with very short windows for completion.

Grade	Test	Date
4	Math Parts 1&2	April 18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup>
3	Math Parts 1&2	April 25 <sup>th</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup>
4	Social Studies 1&2	May 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup>

Beyond just state-mandated assessments, **ALL of our students Kindergarten thru 4<sup>th</sup> grade** will be engaging in a number of benchmark assessments (reading, writing and mathematics) throughout the month of April, into early May. These assessments will measure their individual progress when compared to their previous benchmarks. Ensuring your child is well rested and in attendance each day this month is super important!

## Upcoming Events

Below is a listing of specific events scheduled for this coming month!

Monday	April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Day Back from Spring Break Start of 4 <sup>th</sup> Nine Weeks
Wednesday	April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Wear Blue to Support Autism Awareness Bookmobile (1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> )
Friday	April 7 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards Come Home from 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nine Weeks
Tuesday	April 11 <sup>th</sup>	WHPTO Meeting in Library (6:00pm) Cub Scouts in Café (6:30-8:00pm)
Wednesday	April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Wear Blue to Support Autism Awareness
Friday	April 14 <sup>th</sup>	No School - Good Friday!!!
Tuesday	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math State Assessment Part 1 Cub Scouts in Café (6:30-8:00pm)
Wednesday	April 19 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math State Assessment Part 2
Tuesday	April 25 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math State Assessment Part 1 Cub Scouts in Café (6:30-8:00pm)
Wednesday	April 26 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math State Assessment Part 2 Bookmobile (1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> )
Friday	April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Spirit Friday - Spirit Shop During Lunch Recess
Tuesday	May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Assessment Part 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Bike Hike to Sippos
Wednesday	May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Assessment Part 2
Friday	May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Behavior Reward Party #6

## Coin Drive Update

We want to extend a HUGE Thank You to our Whipple Families for another successful charity coin drive.



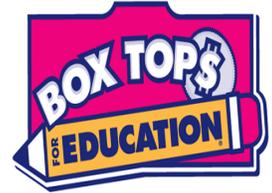
This year we collected \$1,268.94! Add this total to our November Charity Week (\$2,102.53) and so far we have been able to donate over \$3,371.47 (plus lots of non-perishable goods) to Perry Helping Perry this school year!

As with all of our past charity collections we know our Whipple families recognize the importance of paying it forward and are so thankful for the generosity you continue to display and teach to your children.

## General Housekeeping...

- We make every effort to go outside for recess, even if we have to stick to blacktop only. Please make sure students are fully dressed for the weather.
- Many of you have been receiving form letters regarding attendance. This is part of our revised policy at Perry Local. You will receive a form letter at strategic points starting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> non-medical absence. Please make every attempt to obtain a medical excuse whenever your child is absent due to illness.
- If visiting your student for lunch, please remember **NO** outside food is permitted in the cafeteria except a home packed lunch.
- All parents have 24hour access to Pinnacle for the purpose of monitoring student grades. If you aren't sure how to monitor your student's progress through this system please contact your student's teacher.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in Box Tops and Campbell's Labels.



For the month of March, collections totaled 1,045! The winning class is Mrs. Logan's Kindergarten class!! They earn a special treat this month. Keep those Box Tops and Campbell soup labels coming. With a recent submission, Whipple Heights PTO will receive a check for \$676.90!

Mandy Dale  
Collections Committee Chairperson  
[mandale33@yahoo.com](mailto:mandale33@yahoo.com)

## Supporting Autism Awareness

### Did you know?

Perry Local Schools has an established District Autism Team to help support students, staff and parents.



The goal of this team is to help provide increased awareness, offer help to those students who need support academically and behaviorally, and assist staff with effective strategies for working with our students with Autism.

Throughout the month of April the team will be rolling out several activities (District-wide) to promote autism awareness. Look for more information to come as our efforts continue to grow!

**Wear BLUE in Support of Autism Awareness each Wednesday throughout the month of April!!**

# PTO NEWS

## NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Spring! We still have a few events left to go this year. We will need volunteers to assist with the yearbooks when they arrive. This will mostly take place in the mornings for a short period. Please contact me for further details. We will also be saying farewell to our fourth graders as they make their transition into the Pfeiffer community next year. We are in need of a few donation items, bakers and volunteers to assist with these events. Please let me know if you are interested in helping.

As we are nearing the end of the school we have two WHPTO meetings left. The next one will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup>, in the library at 6 pm. In this meeting, we will be presenting the candidates for the 2017-2018 WHPTO board members. If you attended at least two meetings an e-mail was sent to you allowing you the opportunity to nominate a candidate(s) for next year's board. Please make sure you attend the meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in a position. All of the seats are available except the treasurer's seat. If you did not receive the email please contact me so that we can get the information to you. We want to make sure that no one is missed.

**President:** The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Executive Board; shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed in these bylaws or assigned by the organization and shall coordinate the work of the officers and any and all committees in order that the objectives of this organization may be fulfilled.

**Vice President:** The Vice-President shall act as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or inability of that officer to act.

**Secretary:** The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the organization and of the Executive Board. The Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence assigned by the President. Please feel free to contact me with any question or concerns!

Jennifer Catazaro  
WHTO President  
[jlcatazaro@gmail.com](mailto:jlcatazaro@gmail.com)



## COUNSELING CONNECTIONS



This month we are going to continue completing guidance topics that were introduced in March, i.e. safety with our kindergartners and hygiene with our fourth graders.

- Kindergarten will view and discuss the DVD, "McGruff's Drug Alert".
- Fourth grade will have a classroom lesson on hygiene (what it is and what they can do to be clean and healthy).

### Positive coping skills or strategies

"Coping strategies and skills are the reactions and behaviors one adopts to deal with difficult situations." Coping strategies can be helpful and others can actually be harmful.

Below are examples of coping skills that can be helpful strategies to become more resilient in the face of challenges. These strategies can be helpful for both adults and students.

1. Write, draw, paint, photography
2. Play an instrument, sing, dance, act
3. [Take a walk](#), or go for a drive, exercise
4. Play a game
5. Clean or organize your environment
6. Read
7. Take a break
8. Talk to someone you trust
9. Care for or play with a pet
10. Role-play challenging situations with other
11. Brainstorm solutions
12. Get enough sleep
13. Eat healthy foods
14. Deep/slow breathing
15. Enjoy nature

For more information, please refer to <https://healdove.com/mental-health/Coping-Strategies-Skills-List-Positive-Negative-Anger-Anxiety-Depression-Copers>

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Heidi Giok, School Psychologist

[Heidi.goik@perrylocal.org](mailto:Heidi.goik@perrylocal.org)