



# PEARL LEAN PAW PRINTS



HOME OF THE PANTHER

MICHIGAN BLUE RIBBON EXEMPLARY SCHOOL

NCA Accredited by the North Central Associations of Colleges and Schools

Pearl Lean Elementary is a Title I school.

WARREN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D., Superintendent

Brian J. Walmsley, Chief Academic Officer

Marianne Ochalek, Executive Director of School Improvement

Mark Corless, Principal

Margaret Pantalone, Secretary

Judy Greszczuk, Clerk

MISSION STATEMENT

The Pearl Lean Staff, in partnership with parents and community, is dedicated to educating our children intellectually, socially, and emotionally; therefore, empowering them to become responsible citizens, life-long learners and positive contributors to our every changing world.

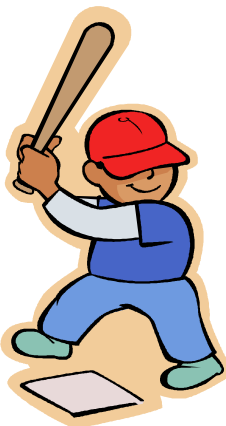
VISION STATEMENT

The fundamental purpose of Pearl Lean is to ensure high levels of learning for all students.

**24-HOUR ABSENCE REPORTING 1-586-574-3230 *OPTION 2***

(Please report your child's absence before 9:00 a.m.)

## April 2012



Pearl Lean Elementary  
2825 Girard Warren, MI 48092  
Phone: (586) 574-3230  
Fax: (586) 698-4366

<http://www.wcs.k12.mi.us/lean/>

Late Start Monday 9:17 a.m.  
Tuesday - Friday Start: 8:32 a.m.  
Half day dismissal 11:49 a.m.  
Full day dismissal 3:46 p.m.

# CLASSROOM REFLECTIONS



March was such a fun month in Kindergarten! We celebrated Dr. Seuss' Birthday and completed many fun projects and activities to promote the love of reading. Each kindergartner even read a "good fit" book to Mr. Corless and received a pencil from him.

We are so proud of all the kindergartners! Not only did we celebrate literacy, we also celebrated St. Patrick's Day with more fun projects and activities. That sneaky leprechaun played many tricks on us throughout the month. The 1<sup>st</sup> day of spring was on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. We learned all about the spring season and about different animals that come from eggs. We even had an Easter Egg Hunt! Lastly, it was so great seeing so many parents at Parent-Teacher conferences. We are looking forward to having a well-rested Spring Break and learning more fun things in April!



March was a fun filled month in first grade! We enjoyed a field trip to the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. We shared many Dr. Seuss books and enjoyed the Read Across America Celebration. The children did many projects and celebrated St. Patrick's Day.

In class, we have begun learning many new concepts. We have completed six out of ten themes in Reading and continued to progress in our guided reading groups. In Mathematics, we have learned about time, money, and number patterns. Our Science curriculum has us busy learning about object properties, water, and magnets. Social Studies is teaching us about the earth and its resources.

All the teachers are very impressed with the progress our little first graders are making. We are looking forward to a fabulous Spring Break and a wonderful April!

2nd Grade



March was a busy, but fun Month. We held our Market Day where students created and sold goods to their classmates. Everyone worked really hard and it was a great success! Everybody had a great time and came away with some amazing products. In March we also held our reading celebration. The Second grade students celebrated all together with centers in the café

with a Moe Williams theme. It was a wonderful way to end the month. Thank you to all the parents that helped out with Market Day and our reading celebration.

April will be just as busy as March. In writing we will be creating a Revision Museum. In science we will be wrapping up our measurement unit and making slime. A lesson the students cannot wait for. At the end of the month, we will be going to the Troy Historical Museum. The second graders are excited for their first field trip for the year! Please continue to practice basic math facts with your child and read on a regular basis.



3rd Grade



March has flown by! Spring is finally here and we are enjoying this beautiful weather! We had a great time performing Kevin Kammerraad poems to the third grade for our reading celebration. Daily 5/Café is going well. We are working on making connections with fiction stories. Our personal essays are going well and are writing our first five-paragraph essay with a thesis statement. Our Light and Sound investigations are winding down and we will soon be studying organisms. Multiplication and division are still a major focus in math, but

Fractions and Decimals are our main focus. Third grade is also looking forward to our field trip to Macomb Community College for our study on Michigan: From Revolution to Statehood.



Fourth graders are looking forward to the performance of the Warren Symphony Orchestra on April 25<sup>th</sup>. The students will learn about the instruments found in an orchestra and listen to a variety of musical pieces.

The classes have been working hard in anticipation of their third quarter report cards. They will start the novel, *Train To Midnight* by Janie Lynn Panagopoulos. This book depicts the drama of two slaves making their escape along the Underground Railroad. Upon completion of the novel in May, students will take part in a live video conference, where they will discuss the book with the author.

In Math, our next topic of study is geometry and measurement. They will also continue to work on mastery of multiplication and division facts. Give your children the gift of confidence and drill them on their facts as needed.

In Writing, students are working on the Lucy Calkins Unit of Essays. Please encourage your child to write at home along with doing his/her best in class.

In Social Studies students continue to work on identifying states and their capitals. They will start the Northeast Region this month and begin their report on a state in this region. They are also looking forward to learning about Michigan's past during the field trip to the Lorenzo Cultural Center on April 19<sup>th</sup>. In Science, we are completing the unit States of Matter. We will then explore our last unit called Organisms in Their Environment. This unit should be exciting for students as they learn about plants and animals and their basic needs to survive.



This month fifth grade students completed their PowerPoint presentations. Everyone read a Historical Fiction book and the culminating project was a presentation to their class. Our next project will be a poetry booklet. This will give all fifth graders a chance to show their creative side. Beer counselors are coming to Lean on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> to help students schedule classes for middle school. Next month we will visit Beer Middle School to become acquainted with the staff, lockers, classes and lunch program. The students really look forward to the visit.

We are reading the novel "Number the Stars." It is a story of a 10 year old girl and her family living in German occupied Denmark. It takes place in 1943 and they are dealing with food shortages and the Nazi soldiers marching in their town.

In math we are learning to add and subtract fractions. In science we will be studying Systems and Survival, and in social studies the effects of the American Revolution. We will learn how the colonies united and became the United States of America. Also our focus will be on the Constitution and how the laws of our great country were established.

Just a reminder, the second payment for Adventure Week is due April 30<sup>th</sup>. Also the fourth card marking begins on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Students will begin earning their participation into field day and fifth grade picnic.

Congratulations to Skyler Flake who was the fifth grade writing winner. She attended the awards in March and read the essay about her grandmother. We should also like to congratulate Alex Touma, Parker Forrest, and Angelina Cardinali. These students were classroom winners for our school poetry contest. They will read their poems at the school-wide poetry assembly on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

We will say good-bye to Miss Fleming, Ms. Kuciel's student teacher. She has done a great job working with all of the fifth graders, she will be missed.

## **ART NEWS** from Ms. Wrybkowski

### 5<sup>th</sup> GRADE ART - VISIONS OF PEACE

Language Arts, Social Studies & Visual Arts unite to give Pearl Lean Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade students a deeper understanding of human rights & the Holocaust. Students created 3D masks during art with Ms. Wrybkowski.

The masks were created in response to reading "Number the Stars" in their classroom. Each student created a unique expression of themselves. Some of the masks reflect their concern for peace and human rights. It strives to raise awareness of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

**The 5th grade students are very excited that their masterpieces will represent Pearl Lean Elementary in the 2012 Visions of Peace Art Exhibit located at the Swords in Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery.** Visions of Peace, is a multi-media exhibit of students' art created in support of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Gallery Admission & Parking is FREE!

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 3:00-5:00pm OPENING/Celebration** of the exhibition  
Exhibition runs from April 14 – May 26, 2012

Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery  
33 E. Adams, Detroit, MI 48226

Gallery hours: Tues., Thurs. and Sat. from 11:00am to 3:00pm.

Group visits or visits at non-scheduled times are welcome by appointment.

For additional information: Email: [Swordsintoplowshares@prodigy.com](mailto:Swordsintoplowshares@prodigy.com)  
Phone: 313.963.7575

## **MEDIA NEWS** from Mr. Reinke



The ceiling mural has arrived! Thanks to the generosity of the PTO, the Media Center has a new 6'x16' area of ceiling tiles with a wonderful mountain-scape. It's a great addition to the reading area of the Media Center. Please come in to see for yourself, or follow the links to the Media Center from Pearl Lean's homepage for a few pictures that Mr. Reinke took.

We are eagerly looking forward to another improvement! Recently, the student council decided to fund a project that will have a beautiful mural painted on the south wall of the Media Center. Once again, check back for updates on the Media Center web page.

March is Reading month has kicked off **Race For The Razor 2.0!** Just like last year, students can earn tickets by passing Accelerated Reader tests. Those tickets are kept until June when winners are chosen to shave Mr. Reinke's head. If you were present for last year's celebration, you remember that good fun was had by all.

# CAUGHT BEING GOOD!

When students are caught being good they are given a card to take home. After a parent signs the back of the card, students put them in a container for a weekly drawing. One student per grade is selected to receive an award and small gift.



## Pearl Lean is GREEN

Pearl Lean has achieved the designation of **Green** for the **2011-12 program year**. One of the activities involves collecting used batteries. Please bring your used batteries to the office for recycling and keep them out of landfills. Thank you for helping us be green.



## Writing Celebration Winners

A student from each grade was recognized at the Writing Celebration at Warren Mott High School on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Pearl Lean's winners were:

Sami S.(Kdg),  
Denis I.(1<sup>st</sup>),  
Joshua F.(2<sup>nd</sup>),  
Imad A.(3<sup>rd</sup>),  
Isabella P.(4<sup>th</sup>),  
Skylar F.(5<sup>th</sup>).



## *Tip from the Love and Logic<sup>®</sup> Experts*

### **How Should I Get Started?**

Are you new to Love and Logic? People who are, often ask us, "How should I get started?"

Many adults have early success finding limits they can back up - and setting them using fewer words.

For example, we can lecture our 2 year old for 10 minutes about throwing food - or we can take the food away. We can lecture our teen about leaving the car with no gas - or we can take the keys.

#### ***Words mean less. Actions mean more.***

Instead of fighting with kids about homework or chores, some parents find enforceable statements such as, "I drive kids to \_\_\_\_\_ when chores and homework are done."

When their kids start to argue, these parents don't get hooked. Instead, without giving in, they calmly repeat a phrase such as, "I like you too much to argue." Another favorite phrase is, "What did I say?"

In many new Love and Logic homes, it sounds like this:

Kid: "Mom, it's time to take me to the mall."  
Mom: "I drive kids to the mall when chores and homework are done."

Kid: "But we need to go now! My friends are already there."  
Mom: "I drive kids to the mall when chores and homework are done."

Kid: "But that's not fair!"  
Mom: "What did I say?"

Kid: "You don't understand! I'll miss everything!"  
Mom: "What did I say?"

Kid: "You're trying to ruin my life!"  
Mom: "What did I say?"

The ultimate key to success is taking it slow and experimenting with just one skill at a time. Thanks for reading. Our goal is to help as many families as possible.

# ICE CREAM SALE \$ 1

## APRIL 12TH



## Student Council News

Student Council is sponsoring Backwards Day on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

## CAFETERIA NEWS



See the monthly calendar of lunch selections which is sent home at the beginning of each month or it is located on the district website, [www.wcs.k12.mi.us/foodservices](http://www.wcs.k12.mi.us/foodservices).

### BREAKFAST & LUNCH PRICE

Breakfast - \$1.25    Reduced Breakfast .30¢  
Lunch - \$2.75        Reduced Lunch .40¢  
Milk .60¢

## April Days Off

April 2-9                      No School  
   Spring Break

## POPCORN SALE .50¢

April 27  
All GRADES



### P.T.O NEWS

The next PTO Meeting is April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the cafeteria. Please join us to help make a difference.

PTO officers for the 2011-12 school year are as follows:

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President      | Kim Apostol     |
| Vice President | Lori Todd       |
| Secretary      | Leigh Benigni   |
| Treasurer      | Lindsay Andrews |

## HOLLYWOOD READING ON THE RED CARPET



Our goal is 400 books. Students are well on their way with 289 read so far. If students achieve our goal, we will have a school wide popcorn assembly in May.

15 points: Lana P. and Lilly P.  
All 15 point winners will enjoy a pizza picnic in June.

10 points: Taylor S., Shay M., Natalie W., Gage C., Genna G., Natan B., Caleb M., Hermela B., Allen P., Sadia A.

5 points: Ridah A., Nathan D., Joshua J., Nazifa B., Sakib A., Nabil M., Madie S.



## Happy Spring!

We had a wonderful mild winter and an early spring this year. Now it is time to get outside and enjoy the weather and outdoor activities.





Bike riding is a great way to get exercise and fresh air and share time as a family. But before you and the kids rush out and start pedaling, there's an important factor that you need to consider -- safety.

### Helmet Basics

Bicycle helmet use should not be optional for anyone in your family, no matter where you are or how short the ride.





Many bike accidents involve a head injury, so a crash could mean permanent brain damage or death for someone who doesn't wear one while riding.

### Tips for purchasing a helmet




-  Pick bright or fluorescent colors that are visible to drivers and other cyclists.
-  Look for a helmet that is well ventilated.
-  Make sure the helmet has a CPSC or Snell sticker inside. These indicate that the helmet meets standards set by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.
-  Make sure your child's helmet fits correctly and can be adjusted.

### Does it Fit Correctly?

A bike helmet fits correctly if it:




-  sits level on the head
-  isn't tilted forward or backward
-  has strong, wide straps that fasten snugly under the chin
-  is tight enough so that after fastening, no sudden pulling or twisting could move it around

### Rules of the Road

-  Stop at all stop signs and obey traffic lights just as cars do.
-  Always ride in the same direction as cars do. Never ride against traffic.
-  Always stop and check for traffic in both directions when leaving a driveway, an alley, or a curb.

# Notes from Nursing



-  Watch traffic closely for turning cars or cars leaving driveways.
-  Always walk a bike across busy intersections using the crosswalk and following traffic signals.
-  Never wear headphones while biking -- it's essential to hear everyone else on the road at all times.

Using the words below, fill in the blanks.

### Word Bank

*bright helmets road CPSC laws text*

*stop signs direction sneakers exercise music*

*hand signals right tightly injuries*

Biking is great for getting around, and it's also great \_\_\_\_\_.

But bike \_\_\_\_\_ are common, so it's important to follow the rules of the \_\_\_\_\_ and bike \_\_\_\_\_ set by your community.

Smart kids and teens wear \_\_\_\_\_ whenever they ride bikes.

A bike helmet should fit \_\_\_\_\_ and should not be tilted.

When you buy a bike helmet, you should make sure it has a \_\_\_\_\_ sticker.

Everyone should wear \_\_\_\_\_ clothes and \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ when they ride bicycles.

Bike riders should stay on the \_\_\_\_\_ side of the road and go the same \_\_\_\_\_ as traffic.

Bike riders also need to stop at all \_\_\_\_\_ and obey traffic laws.

Bike riders should use the correct \_\_\_\_\_ and never change directions or lanes without looking behind themselves.

Smart kids and teens never \_\_\_\_\_ or listen to \_\_\_\_\_ while they are riding bikes so they don't get distracted.

### Happy, Safe Cycling!

Marjorie Racine BSN, RN, CSN  
Warren Consolidated Schools  
School Nurse  
April 2012

Used with permission: Kids Health

PEARL LEAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**April**

At Home Reading Calendar

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

|   |                                       |   |                      |                          |                               |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <p>Each day that the student reads the required amount of time, a parent/guardian will initial the appropriate box on the calendar. Students turn in the calendar during the first week of the following month.</p> <p>K-2 Students: Read for a minimum of 15 minutes each day.</p> <p>Grade 3-4 Students: Read for a minimum of 20 minutes each day.</p> <p>Students should read the required amount a minimum of 20 days per month.</p> | <b>Monday</b>                         | <b>Tuesday</b>                          | <b>Wednesday</b>     | <b>Thursday</b>          | <b>Friday</b>                 |
|   | 2<br>NO SCHOOL                        | 3<br>NO SCHOOL                          | 4<br>NO SCHOOL       | 5<br>NO SCHOOL           | 6<br>NO SCHOOL                |
|   | 9<br>NO SCHOOL                        | 10<br>Back To School<br>PTO Meeting 7PM | 11                   | 12<br>Ice Cream Sale \$1 | 13                            |
|   | 16 LATE START<br>Bell rings at 9:17am | 17                                      | 18                   | 19                       | 20                            |
|   | 23 LATE START<br>Bell rings at 9:17am | 24                                      | 25                   | 26<br>Backwards Day      | 27<br>Popcorn Sale \$0.50     |
|   | 30 LATE START<br>Bell rings at 9:17am | May 1<br>Market Day Pickup              | 2<br>PTO Meeting 7PM | 3                        | 4<br>$\frac{1}{2}$ Day School |
|   | <b>2012</b>                           |   |                      |                          |                               |

# IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 2 - 9**

**NO SCHOOL**

**April 10**

**Back to School  
PTO Meeting, 7pm**

Warren Consolidated Schools Website: <http://www.wcskids.net/>

Pearl Lean Elementary Website: <http://www.wcs.k12.mi.us/lean/>



The LOST And FOUND is getting full.

All hats, scarves, gloves and coats will be donated at the end of April.

Pearl Lean Elementary is a school-wide Title I school.

## WARREN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

31300 Anita | Warren, Michigan 48093 | 888-4WCS-KIDS | [www.wcskids.net](http://www.wcskids.net)

| <b>Student Achievement</b>  | <b>Clear Expectations</b>   | <b>Strong Relationships</b>  |
|---|---|--|
| <i>A focus on measurable student achievement in our Professional Learning Communities.</i>  | <i>Clear expectations for every stakeholder, including students, staff and parents.</i> | <i>Strong relationships among all stakeholders, including: teacher-student, parent-teacher, principal-teacher, and superintendent-board member.</i>  |
| <p><b>2010-11 Board of Education</b><br/>                     I. Susan Kattula, President<br/>                     Brian White, Vice President<br/>                     Elaine G. Martin, Secretary<br/>                     Susan M. Jozwik, Treasurer<br/>                     Loretta A. Crow, Trustee<br/>                     Megan E. Papasian-Broadwell, Trustee<br/>                     Clifford Terry, Trustee</p> <p>Dr. Robert D. Livernois, Superintendent</p> |   | <p>In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Warren Consolidated Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender, age, disability, age, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or in employment. Inquiries should be addressed to the Chief Human Resource Officer, 31300 Anita, Warren, Michigan 48093, (586) 825-2400, ext 63110.</p> |