



# Principal Peddle's Pen

*Upcoming Dates and Information for Devonshire Families*

## Week of December 9, 2024

Hello, Devonshire Families!

As we step into the cozy, frosty days of December, I want to take a moment to reflect on the joy and excitement that this season brings to our school community. Winter is a time for celebration, reflection, and connection. As we prepare for the holidays, we will celebrate a variety of traditions and festivals, from Hanukkah to Christmas, Kwanzaa, and New Year's. Each of these holidays offers a unique way to gather with family, reflect on values, and spread goodwill. We look forward to honoring these special moments throughout the month, fostering a spirit of kindness and understanding among our students.

While the holiday season is a time of celebration, it's also important to remember that consistent school attendance remains a key part of our students' success. As we near the winter break, please encourage your child to keep up the great work in school, as every day and moment of learning counts. The final weeks before the break provide an opportunity for growth and reflection, and we're excited to see all that our students will continue to accomplish.

In our classrooms, we are experiencing a joyful learning environment filled with exciting activities. Students are engaging in hands-on projects and exploring new concepts that spark their curiosity. Additionally, we will soon be conducting our Middle-of-Year (MOY) assessments to measure the progress and growth our students have made thus far. These assessments provide valuable insights into their learning journey and help us tailor our instruction to meet their needs. Be sure to ask your student about their growth!

As we enter the winter months, we want to encourage you to make plans and have back-up plans in place for potential inclement weather, sick children, or unexpected situations. Please ensure that your child's emergency contact information is current so we can reach you promptly if needed. If your child is sick or unable to attend school, please notify the office as soon as possible. The attendance lines are available 24/7/365. Email: [attendance.devonshire@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:attendance.devonshire@columbus.k12.oh.us) and Phone: (380) 997-0247. Your preparedness helps us ensure the safety and well-being of all students. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe and informed.

You can update your students' information [here](#).

I want to remind families of our new PTO!! Thank you to Mrs. Kristin Stewart & Mrs. Carlina Turner for spearheading this opportunity! The PTO welcomes all families to join - email [DevonshirePTO@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:DevonshirePTO@columbus.k12.oh.us) for information. Additionally, join the PTO and the Devonshire community for Devonshire's Holiday Express on Dec. 11 from 5 - 7 pm.



To close, I'd like to share a little poem that captures the magic of winter learning:

#### Winter Learning

Snowflakes drift, the world turns white,  
In our classrooms, minds take flight.  
Books open wide, ideas glow,  
Through winter winds, our knowledge grows.  
So let's embrace this chilly cheer,  
With open hearts and minds so clear.  
Together we'll learn, explore, and play,  
This winter season, in our own special way!

As always, should you have any questions, or need any assistance, please reach out to my office. Wishing you all a warm and joyful December. We're excited for all the wonderful learning ahead!



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## Is Your Information Up-To-Date?

As we navigate through the year, *I want to remind you of the importance of ensuring your child's information such as, emergency contact information, immunizations, etc. are up-to-date. This information is what we use in the event of inclement weather, emergencies, etc.* [Please log into Parent Portal, select "Annual Update" to:](#)

- Update your student's information
  - Confirm emergency phone numbers
  - Complete the emergency medical authorization
- 



## Winter Vocal Music Concert - You're Invited!

We are excited to invite you to our **Winter Vocal Music Concert** on **Thursday, December 19** at **7:00 PM** at **Woodward Park Middle School**. This special evening will feature performances by our talented **Fourth Grade, Kindergarten, and Second Grade** students. It's sure to be an unforgettable night of music, holiday cheer, and school spirit!

Our young singers have been practicing diligently, and they are eager to share their songs with you. The concert will include a variety of festive tunes that celebrate the season and the joy of coming together through music.

### Important Notes for Performers:

- Information for performers was sent home last week, so please check your child's backpack for specific details.
- Performers should arrive **at Woodward Park Middle School by 6:45 PM** in order to get settled before the performance begins.
- Please ensure your child is dressed comfortably for the evening and ready to share their beautiful voices!

We hope you can join us for this heartwarming event, as our students showcase their hard work and holiday spirit. It's going to be a night full of music and memories!

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you there!

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## Devonshire's Parent-Teacher Organization is Forming!

### Our Students Need YOUR Help!

We invite all families to join our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and become an active part of our school community! By joining the PTO, you'll have the opportunity to collaborate with teachers, staff, and other parents to support our students' success. Whether it's volunteering at events, helping organize fundraisers, or simply attending meetings, your involvement makes a difference. Together, we can create a positive, enriching experience for every child! ✨ If you're interested in learning more or joining, please reach out to us at [DevonshirePTO@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:DevonshirePTO@columbus.k12.oh.us)

We'd love to have you on board! ☺

*Mrs. Kristin Stewart, Mrs. Carlina Turner & Mrs. Eyer*  
Co-Organizers

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## Safety at Devonshire

November and December are often busy times around school and at home, so I wanted to remind you of a few safety items:

- **ALL visitors** must sign-in with the main office before entering the building. This includes families at drop off and District staff who are not normally at Devonshire.
  - The speed limit on Ambleside Drive is 25 mph, and our parking lot's speed limit is 10 mph.
  - No students should be dropped off prior to 8:30 am. There are not staff on duty to supervise.
  - Dismissal is from 3:15 - 3:35 daily. Routine late pick-ups may result in intervention from our Attendance Team.
  - We kindly ask that if you need to change your student's dismissal, you call us prior to 3 pm.
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## Health Reminders

Dear Families,

As winter approaches, we want to remind you of important health tips to keep our students safe and healthy during the colder months:

1. **Dress for the Weather:** Ensure your child wears layers of clothing, including a warm coat, hat, gloves, and scarf. This helps regulate body temperature and protects against frostbite.
2. **Handwashing:** Remind your child to wash their hands frequently, especially before eating, after using the restroom, or after coughing or sneezing. This is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of germs and illnesses.
3. **Stay Hydrated:** Even in winter, it's important for children to drink plenty of water. Cold air can be dehydrating, so encourage your child to carry a water bottle to school.
4. **Rest and Nutrition:** Ensure your child gets enough sleep and eats balanced meals. Proper rest



and nutrition boost the immune system, helping to fight off seasonal illnesses.

5. **Stay Home When Sick:** If your child shows signs of illness such as fever, cough, or fatigue, please keep them home to rest and recover. This helps prevent the spread of germs and ensures they heal faster.

By working together, we can ensure our students stay healthy and ready to learn all winter long!

Warm regards,


Dr. Carney  
School Nurse

## Counselor's Corner

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, DEVONSHIRE FAMILIES!

Can't believe we are just a couple weeks away from our winter break. Students are continuing to work hard at following the P.A.W.S. expectations. We are learning a great deal during our classroom guidance lessons and I see students applying what they are learning in real life situations. Students are also working hard to earn their Cheetah Bucks daily and they love shopping in the school store!


[Click Here To View & Read Mrs. Sferrella's December Newsletter](#)



### School Counselor and Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) Newsletter

**Lauren Sferrella**  
School Counselor/PBIS Coordinator  
Devonshire Project Adventure

December 2024



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**P**ersonal Best  
**A**ct Responsibly  
**W**ork and Play Safely  
**S**how Respect

**Classroom Guidance Lessons**

The topics for my first set of guidance lessons include:

**Friendship Skills: How to Make and Keep Friends**

**Tips for Helping Your Student Be A Better Friend**

- **Encourage Social Skills**  
• **Model Positive Social Interactions:** Show your child how to greet others, share, take turns, and use polite words like "please" and "thank you."
- **Teach Empathy:** Help your child understand how others feel by discussing emotions and encouraging them to consider how others might react in different situations.

**December Character Trait of the Month**  
**Show Respect**

Showing respect to others means treating them with kindness, consideration, and equality, even if you don't agree with them. Respect is an important value that can help build feelings of trust, safety, and well-being.



## School Counselor and Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS)

### Newsletter

**Lauren Sferrella**  
School Counselor/PBIS Coordinator  
Devonshire Project Adventure

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### Mindfulness Meditation

Here is a mindfulness video that you can try at home with your students.



#### On-Going Tier 1 Interventions

- Cheetah Bucks/School Store
- Gumball Classroom Incentive
- School Wide PBIS Celebrations
- Student of the Month
- Social Emotional Learning Day

#### On-Going Tier 2 Interventions

- Check-In/Check-Out
- Second Step Small Groups
- ROX Girls Group
- Peer Tutors/Mentors

### P.A.W.S. Expectations

**P**ersonal Best  
**A**ct Responsibly  
**W**ork and Play Safely  
**S**how Respect



### PBIS MATRIX

**Talent Show Tryouts:**  
December 17th, 18th and 19th  
2nd-5th Graders are Welcome to come try out!  
Singing, Dancing, Gymnastics, Skits, Magic Tricks, etc.





## Upcoming Events at Devonshire

### December

12/11 - PTO's Holiday Express - 5-7 pm

12/13 - Devonshire Spirit Day

12/19 - Winter Concert @ Woodward Park MS

12/20 - PJ Day; 30-Minute Early Release – **DISMISSAL BEGINS AT 2:45 PM**

## When Weather Takes A Turn, You Need To Know!

**STAY WARM**





Stay Warm and Informed.pdf

Download  
97.7 KB

Devonshire Student & Family Handbook

CCS Guide To Student Success

Parent Portal How To Guide

How To Contact Devonshire

[DevonshireES@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:DevonshireES@columbus.k12.oh.us) | (614) 365-5335

Absence Excuses & Notifications

[Attendance.Devonshire@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:Attendance.Devonshire@columbus.k12.oh.us) | (380) 997-0247

[Click Here To Email Our Attendance Team](#)



**Dr. Peddle, Principal**

[www.ccsch.us/DevonshireES](http://www.ccsch.us/DevonshireES)

Dr. Peddle is the Principal at Devonshire Project Adventure Elementary School