



Pleasant Grove
Middle School
100 Years of Gold Standard Excellence

PGMS Gazette

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Subject of the Month: Electives

by [Tori Scoggins](#), [Chloe Runion](#), and [Emma Sheets](#)

This month's department is electives. All electives include art, band, spanish, athletics, office/library aide, study hall, stem (robotics, mythbusters, forensics, etc), drill team, cheer, announcements, yearbook, dance classes, and newspaper. We have many people on the PGMS campus dedicated to teaching these extra classes. These are electives you don't have to take, but you can if you want to. This month we are honoring those many dedicated teachers for all the hard work they do to help teach these classes.

Mr. Colquitt, the 6th-8th grade band teacher, said his favorite thing about teaching band is that he loves working with students. Mrs. Langley, the 6th-8th grade art teacher, said she loves teaching art, and her favorite thing is helping kids who think they can't do art. Coach Phillips, the boys athletic director, said that he enjoys being around the kids and even though he teaches study hall his favorite class is athletics. Coach Ladd also said he loves coaching, and his favorite thing is "Getting to spend road trips and away games with the guys!" Mrs. Nicholas, the 7th-8th grade STEM teacher, said her favorite class is forensics, and she thinks it's interesting. Coach Clark said "My two favorite things are coaching basketball and algebra. I like teaching kids something they don't know and watching them learn and progress, and teaching the values of the game." Mrs. Murphy, not only the sixth grade science teacher also has a study hall class. She said her favorite thing about having a study hall is getting to work with different age groups and since she teaches science all day it gives her a chance to do english and math. Mrs. Flournoy loves teaching digital newspaper, drill team, and 6th grade GT because of the fun and uniqueness of the activities, lessons, experiments, and curriculum she gets to teach! Mrs. McElhany one of the Spanish teachers said she likes introducing something that is very new to most students. Senor Houff, the other middle school Spanish teacher, said he likes teaching Spanish but not as much as French, and he likes teaching verb tenses. Mrs. DeMuth is one very dedicated teacher teaching five classes everyday. She teaches drill team, announcements, yearbook, and dance. Her favorite part about teaching drill team is hanging out with the girls everyday, and her favorite part about dance classes is teaching girls to dance who have never had it before. She also said her favorite part about teaching yearbook is getting to see everyone's different talents come together, and for announcements she loves how the class is small and how they can focus on making a good show. Mr. Digby, the percussion teacher, said his favorite part about teaching band is seeing the performance and all their hard work paying off, and even though he teaches study hall too, he said his favorite class was band! Coach Haynes, the boys off season coach, said that he loves coaching off season and this is his favorite class to teach because he also teaching. Coach Worley also a boys athletic coach, who also works at the high school, said his favorite thing about athletics is watching the guys progress and compete with each other to get better. Mrs. Payne and Mrs. Patsy said they love having office aids to help them run errands and do stuff for them, and Mrs. Thomas completely agrees. As the librarian, she has library aids that help her check out books.

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CALENDAR

February 2017

Check out the [PGMS website](#) for more details!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 College Awareness Day	14 Valentine's Day	15 8th Grade Tours the High School	16 Grover Games	17	18 Star Stepper Dance Competition in Kilgore
19	20 President's Day (Student Holiday; Staff Workday)	21	22	23 PGMS Stuco Fanfest Dance 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM	24	25 Star Stepper Dance Competition in Mt. Pleasant
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
						Notes: Academic Assistance is Every Mon. to Thu. at 7:15 AM and 3:30 PM unless noted otherwise.

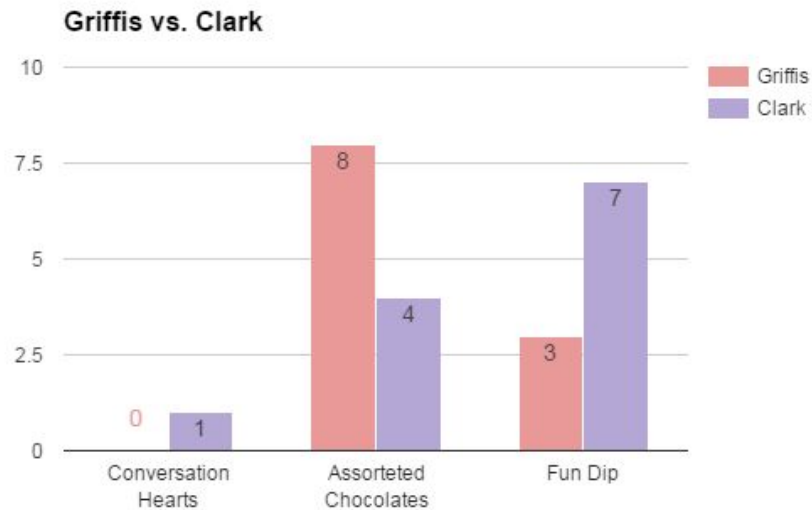


February Fun Facts

February Fun Fact	February Fun Fact
February has the least amount of birthdays out of all of the months	About 8 billion conversation hearts will be produced this year
The first astronaut to orbit the earth was February 10, 1962	Primrose Zodiac signs: Aquarius and Pisces
The Welsh call February "y mis bach" which means "little month"	In the Southern Hemisphere February is a summer month the equivalent of August.
It is the third month of winter	150 million cards are exchanged on Valentine's Day
More than 36 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day.	The odds of being born on Leap Day are 1-1461
It is the shortest month of the year.	Abraham Lincoln was born in February.
February's birthstone is an Amethyst.	Black History month is celebrated in Canada and the United States.
National bird feeding month	Chocolate lover's month.
It is the shortest month of the year.	February is on the list of most commonly misspelled words.
Salad was invented in February.	February 4th is World Cancer Day.
In leap years, it is the only month that begins and ends on the same weekday.	February ends on the same day of the week as October every year.

Favorite Valentine Candy Poll

by Sadie Coleman and Sarah Johnson



Roman Mythology on Cupid

by Hannah Foster

Cupid, ancient Roman god of love in all its varieties, the counterpart of the Greek god Eros and the equivalent of Amor in Latin poetry. According to myth, Cupid was the son of Mercury, the winged messenger of the gods, and Venus, the goddess of love. He often appeared as a winged infant carrying a bow and a quiver of arrows whose wounds inspired love or passion in his every victim. He was sometimes portrayed wearing armour like that of Mars, the god of war, perhaps to suggest ironic parallels between warfare and romance or to symbolize the invincibility of love. Although some literature portrayed Cupid as callous and careless, he was generally viewed as beneficent, on account of the happiness he imparted to couples both mortal and immortal. At the worst he was considered mischievous in his matchmaking, this mischief often directed by his mother, Venus. In one tale, her machinations backfired when she used Cupid in revenge on the mortal Psyche, only to have Cupid fall in love and succeed in making Psyche his immortal wife.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Cupid>

Celebrity Crushes

by Lexi Carr and Kelsey Clark

6th Graders:

Bridgette Lundy's celebrity crush is Tyler Posey

James Stout's celebrity crush is Ariana Grande

Alex Gryyotis's celebrity crush is Fifth Harmony

8th Graders:

Megan McGuire's celebrity crush is Zac Efron

Katie Ferguson's celebrity crush is Theo James

Beth Ann's celebrity crush is Ansel Elgort

7th Graders:

Bennett McGill's celebrity crush is Luke Bryan

Noelle Sherman's celebrity crush is Channing Tatum

Timia Cook's celebrity crush is the Dolan Twins

Kara Richardson's celebrity crush is Cameron Dallas

Evidence Ezile's celebrity crush is Ariana Grande

The History of Valentine's Day

by Emma Sheets

The Roman month Februarius was named after the Latin term februum, which means purification. Valentine's Day is on the 14th of February. Valentine's Day most recognized symbol is Cupid. Cupid is known to come around Valentine's Day with his bow and arrow and make people fall in love. Over the centuries, the holiday evolved, and by the 18th century, people started giving and receiving gifts to and from people they love. People mainly gave away hand made cards. The tradition of cards didn't become widespread in the U.S., however, until the 1850s. Today, the holiday has become a booming commercial success. According to the Greeting Card Association, 25% of all cards are sent out during Valentine's day.

"I Love You" in 12 Different Languages

by Addison Simmons

Spanish: te amo

French: Je t'aime

Jamaican: Mi luv yuh

Italian: ti amo

German: ich liebe dich

Swedish: Jag älskar dig

Dutch: ik hou van je

Slovenian: ljubim te

Turkish: seni seviyorum

Samoan: oute alofa ia oe

Chinese: wo ie ni

Irish: taim i' ngra leat

Valentine's DIY's

Valentines Chex Mix

by [Kelsey Clark](#)

Ingredients:

1. Stick pretzels
2. Regular pretzels
3. Valentine M&M's
4. Rice chex
5. Corn chex
6. Valentine Sprinkles
7. White Almond Bark

Steps:

- Step 1: Melt the almond bark in a microwave safe container. Melt for 30 second intervals until smooth and melted.
- Step 2: Put pretzels, chex cereals, and valentine sprinkles in a large mixing bowl and combine them together.
- Step 3: Drizzle the hot, melted almond bark over the top of the mixture and fold together until fully coated.
- Step 4: After the mixture has hardened add the M&M's and mix together once more.



Oreo Pops

by [Chloe Roachrunion](#)

Ingredients:

1. Oreos
2. Pink Candy Melts
3. Sprinkles
4. Paper Sticks

Steps:

- Step 1: Put all your oreos in the sticks.
- Step 2: Melt your candy melts in the microwave until melted.
- Step 3: Dip or pour the candy on to the oreo.
- Step 4: Trickle your sprinkles on the oreo while the candy is still melted, let it solidify.

Chocolate Covered Strawberries

by [Sadie Coleman](#), [Marci Clayton](#), and [Mckinley MacBride](#)

Ingredients:

1. Plates
2. 1 Package of Strawberries
3. Sprinkles (Optional)
4. Ziploc Snack Bags
5. White Chocolate (Optional)
6. Milk Chocolate
7. Pink Food Coloring (Optional)
8. Skewers

Steps:

- Step 1: Melt both the white chocolate and milk chocolate in separate bowls.
- Step 2: Optional: Put pink food coloring in the white chocolate till you get desired pink color.
- Step 3: Put skewers in the center of all the strawberries so you can dunk them in the melted chocolate.
- Step 4: Dip the strawberry in the bowls of melted chocolate and place them carefully on a plate.
- Step 5: Optional: While they are still wet you can transfer some chocolate into a Ziploc bag and drizzle them over the strawberries. You can also put sprinkles on them too, which is also optional.



Step 6: You can also put them in the fridge or freezer to chill and harden the chocolate.

Heart Shaped Cheese Balls

by [Tori Scoggins](#)

Ingredients:

1. 16 oz of cream cheese.
2. 1 teaspoon of italian seasoning.
3. 8 oz of mozzarella cheese.
4. ½ cup of shredded parmesan.
5. 25 oz bag of mini pepperoni slices, divided.
6. 3 green onions, thinly sliced.
7. ½ cup of chopped bacon.
8. 14 oz jar diced pimientos, drained and patted dry.

Steps:

- Step: Beat the cream cheese until light and fluffy, then add in italian seasoning, mozzarella cheese, and parmesan cheese
- Step 2: Mix in half of the pepperoni slices, green onions, bacon, and pimientos
- Step 3: Find a heart shaped bowl and clean it with warm soapy water
- Step 4: Spread the cheese mixture evenly into the bowl
- Step 5: Serve with crackers, pretzels and enjoy!



Hot Air Balloon Valentine's Day Card

by [Sarah Johnson](#)

Ingredients:

1. Construction Paper
2. Scissors
3. Glue
4. Card Stock
5. Small Tip Sharpie



Steps:

- Step 1: Cut out 4 hearts and 2 clouds out of the construction paper (any colors)
- Step 2: Place the 2 hearts as far as apart as you want and then glue the hearts down (have enough room to write Happy Valentine's Day)
- Step 3: With the other 2 hearts in hand fold them in half
- Step 4: With the 2 folded hearts put glue (liquid) on the crease and paste it into the middle of other glued down hearts
- Step 5: With the small tip sharpie draw a basket and strings (rope) below each of the hot balloon hearts
- Step 6: Connect the hot air balloons with a continuous line of hearts that connect to each balloon.

Valentine's Day Candy Jar

by [Sarah Johnson](#)

Ingredients:

Steps:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Any kind of jar | Step 1: Pour each kind of candy (about 1/3 of the jar depending on the size of the jar) until full |
| 2. Candy | |
| 3. Cloth | Step 2: Cut out a piece of cloth with the shearing scissors |
| 4. Shearing Scissors | Step 3: Place your stuffing on top of the jar |
| 5. Ribbon | Step 4: Place the cloth on top of the stuffing and tie a ribbon around about the jar to hold the cloth and stuffing in place |
| 6. Stuffing | |
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LIFE AND LEISURE

Black History Month

by [Kennedy Washington](#)

In 1926 Black History Month was created by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator and publisher. Black History Month was created to recognize African Americans in U.S. history. The reason why Black History Month is celebrated in February is because it covers the birthdays of Frederick Douglass, an African American social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman, and Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president who abolished slavery.

In 1976, every U.S. president had officially designed the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrate Black History. During this month things such as celebrations are held.

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Groundhog Day

by [Jazz Moses](#)

Every year in February I wonder how Groundhog Day started. Well, now I know because I did a little research. According to folklore, if a Groundhog sees his shadow on February 2nd, he'll flee to his burrow, heralding six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't, it means spring is just around the corner. Most experts suggest the tradition began when German settlers brought their tradition of Candlemas to North America in the 1700s.

If we see the groundhog's shadow then six more weeks of winter, and if we don't, no more winter and spring is almost here. If you're wondering if he saw his shadow, *he did* so that means 6 more weeks of winter for us.

Presidential Inauguration

by [Tori Scoggins](#), [Chloe Runion](#), and [Sadie Coleman](#)

This year, our forty-fifth president was elected on November 28, 2016, yet he did not actually become the president until January 20, 2017. Many people from across the world visited the White House to witness the inauguration in person. This year Pleasant Grove Middle School had it playing throughout all the lunches. President Donald J. Trump was, after waiting almost 2 months, sworn into office. After the new president was sworn in, 16 year old Jackie Evancho sang the Star Spangled Banner, the United States' national anthem.

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." These were the words that our president said to become the 45 president of the United States, so we asked some students and teachers what they thought.

Did you watch the inauguration?

Landry Trammell (7th): "Yes."

Coach Phillips (Coach): "Yes, my wife and I watched it."

Brooks Beck (7th): "Yes I did."

August Riggs (8th): "Yes."

Mrs. Stone: "Some of it."

What did you think about President Trump's speech?

Landry Trammell (7th): "I loved it, and I thought he did a good job."

Coach Phillips (Coach): "It was good and very inspirational."

Brooks Beck (7th): "It was very inspirational."

August Riggs (8th): "I thought it was okay."

Mrs. Stone: "Excellent."

President's Day

by Addison Simmons

This year President's Day is on Monday, February 20. Many ask "What is President's Day?" We celebrate George Washington; our first president. We also celebrate our other past presidents and our current president. Washington's birthday is sometimes known as President's Day. Some states celebrate Abraham Lincoln, because his birthday was in mid- February. As we celebrate all of the U.S Presidents on this day, here are all of our presidents. George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James K. Polk, Zachary Taylor, Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce, James Buchanan, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson, Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Chester A. Arthur, Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Woodrow Wilson, Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump. This President's Day, let's celebrate all our presidents have done for us and this country!

PGMS February Birthdays

by Sadie Coleman and Sarah Johnson

Sixth Grade

Nicholas Armstrong | 2/07
Travis Aultman | 2/09
Hailey Epps | 2/14
Joseph Ethridge | 2/06
Kelin Formes | 2/09
Andrew Glover | 2/01
Elijah Goff | 2/17
Jesse Horn | 2/28
Kayson Langford | 2/15
Madison Loucks | 2/10
Whit Miller | 2/05

Seventh Grade

Shelby Anderson | 2/14
Haley Brian | 2/16
Lexi Fowler | 2/27
Sarah Johnson | 2/02
Bennett McGill | 2/17
Emiliano Mejia | 2/07
Andrew Murphy | 2/16
Aidan Murray | 2/16
Eric Shepard | 2/04
Kacye Tuberville | 2/25
Taylor Whitaker | 2/25

Eighth Grade

Destiny Abhulimen | 2/17
Tucker Anderson | 2/05
Madison Ethridge | 02/01
Gillian Knowles | 2/15
Thomas O'Neal | 2/24
Seagan Powell | 2/28
Mckenzie Prine | 2/11
Carson Sanders | 2/07
Caylin Scates | 2/04
Seth Sharp | 2/09

Eddie Neal | 2/12
Cieran Power | 2/18
Kayla Power | 2/18

Ryan Young | 2/19

SPORTS SECTION

February Sports

by Sarah Johnson

Sunday February, 5 2017 at 5:30 the New England Patriots and the Atlanta Falcons played for the championship in the NRG stadium, Houston, Texas. The New England Patriots ended up winning with a score of 34-28. Even though the Falcons were ahead 21-0, at one point in the game

For PGMS basketball season has now ended and track season has just began for the Lady Hawks and Hawks.

The Lady Hawks stats were...

- 7B was 7-1
- 8B was 6-2
- 7A was 14-2 overall and 9-1 in district. Co-district champions
- 8A was 15-1 overall and 10-0 in district. Undefeated district champions for 2nd year in a row.

- **Coach Phillips**
Wanted the New England Patriots to win.
- **Coach Ladd**
Wanted the New England Patriots to win.
He is "so ready for the guys to compete so he can watch the guys compete."
- **Brooks Beck**
Wanted the Atlanta Falcons to win.
In track he wants to run the mile.
- **Alex Galvan**
Wanted the Atlanta Falcons to win.
In track he wants to run the relay.
- **Michael Glenn**
Wanted the Atlanta Falcons to win.
In track he wants to run short distance, long jump, hurdles, and triple jump.



A big thank you from PGMS to Red River for our new school sign!

STAFF SECTION

Staff Member	Favorite Love Quote	Why do you like this quote?
Kelsey Clark	The best love is the one that makes you a better person, without changing you into someone other than yourself.	I think it is important to have someone that makes you feel good about yourself, so you don't have to change yourself to please them.
Sarah Johnson	Love - do what makes you happy, be with who makes you smile, laugh as much as you breath love as long as you live.	As long as you're living, you love even if it's hard you can still find love.
Emma Sheets	I wasn't planning on loving you, but I'm happy I did.	I think this quote is important because sometimes someone you thought you'd never even talk to could come into your life and make it better.
Lexi Carr	I wish I could turn back the clock. I'd find you sooner and love you longer. <3	It's important to find the right person because you have a passion of love for then no matter how long or what time it is.
Peyton Mathews	Forever is a long time, but I wouldn't mind spending it by your side.	Forever is a long time, but you want to spend it with someone you truly love.
McKinley MacBride	I need you. Because you make me laugh more than anyone	It's important when you find that special someone, you'll

	else, and I'm the best me when I'm with you. And because when you're gone, nothing feels right until you return.	love them no matter how far away they are. They make you feel special and nothing feels right when their gone.
Marci Clayton	Trust is like a piece of paper, once it's crumbled, it will never be perfect again.	I think it's important because when you crumble up a piece of paper it will never be the same again. Just like there are some people out there who you can't trust, you may become their friend again, but you will still be cautious of them, and they might never be the same.
Jazz Moses	I'm much more me when I'm with you .	It's important because it's true. When i'm with my mom or my friends you'll see the true me.
Addison Simmons	God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.	I think that all you need is God's love and that you should share your love with other people and you make him happy when you share love.
Sadie Coleman	You fall in love with the most unexpected person at the most unexpected time.	It proves that true love isn't chosen, it just happens and you never know with who or when.
Tori Scoggins	Missing you is my hobby, caring for you is my job, making you happy is my duty and loving you is my life	True love isn't just about what's on social media it's about how your life is about that one person that holds your heart.
Hannah Foster	There is always some madness in love. But there is also always some reason in madness. ~ Friedrich Nietzsche	Love can be complicated, but is always worth it and sensible.
Abbie Flournoy	Be with the one that makes you a better person, without changing you into someone other than yourself.-anonymous	You need to love someone you can be yourself around and don't have to have two personalities and try to impress that person.
Destiny Abhulimen	Someone who really loves you sees you for who you are not not what they want you to be	I chose this because it goes back to how beauty is in the inside and not out.
Lauren Leonard	"While they all fall in love with her smile, she waits for one who will fall in love with her scars."	I chose this quote because it shows that not all love is if because they have a pretty smile or if they're pretty it's also if they love their imperfections too.
Garrison Whiteside	Every saint has a past, every sinner has a future.	Sometimes I can't see myself when i'm with you. I can only

		see you.
Harleigh O'Neal	That person who enters your life out of nowhere, and suddenly means the world to you.	It's important to find someone special in life.
Chloe Roach-Runion	Love is just love, it can never be explained.	All you need is love but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt.

Some "Punny" Valentine Photography

by [Destiny abhulimen](#), [Abbie Flournoy](#), [Lauren Leonard](#)

