

# Prescott Newsletter

November, 2016

Mr. Erin Roche  
Principal

Amanda Malsch  
Assistant Principal

Local School Council  
2014-16

Jennifer Lister  
Parent Representative  
LSC Chair

Lisa St. Marie  
Parent Representative  
LSC Vice Chair

Eric Marcus  
Parent Representative  
LSC Secretary

Elvira Cruz  
Parent Representative

Jeff Marren  
Parent Representative

Martin Del Rios  
Parent Representative

Amanda Kirshner  
Teacher Representative

Jennifer Phares  
Teacher Representative

Lisa Luz  
Staff Representative

MJ Arons  
Community Representative

Gina Doocy  
Community Representative

Erin Roche  
Principal

Prescott Partners  
Alliant Credit Union

DePaul University

Erikson Institute

Prescott Parents

Prescott PTA

*A Literature and Writing Magnet Cluster School*  
*2009 Golden Apple Award Winner*  
*2010 Winner of Area 6 DRIVE Teacher Award*  
*2013 TNTF Fishman Prize Winner*  
*8 National Board Certified Teachers*

November 1, 2016

Dear Prescott students, families, and friends,

Our strategic plan *Prescott 2021* provides us with a vision and big steps toward a new horizon of creative minds, caring hearts, and skilled learners here at Prescott. Teachers, parents, and students have engaged deeply in the work already!

Since last December, Science Teachers Ms. Edwards and Ms. Stefan have led outlined a plan and organized teachers of science to jump into the new Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). An exciting part of NGSS is its emphasis on both scientific processes and engineering processes. We've made tons of progress in aligning or finding gaps in our science and engineering curricula and assessments. Thanks to parent Eric Marcus for his generous support of shelving to organize learning materials. New curricular units already have our students thinking differently. With connections in the district and Northwestern University, we're exploring high-quality curricula and assessments with a goal of June, 2017 for completion and 2017-18 as a full pilot year.

Math Teachers Mr. Velazquez and Ms. Moran in recent months have helped us to pivot from the NWEA to the PARCC, which is based on the rigorous Common Core State Standards. They're comparing NWEA, PARCC, and our math curriculum, *Math in Focus*, so we know the overlapping content and skills that our students need to master at high levels.

Over the next 20 months, we have an ambitious project to further strengthen our social-emotional (SEL) learning to benefit our students. Ms. Edwards has already piloted SEL assessments from [CORE districts](#) in California with fascinating results around growth mindset, self-efficacy, self-awareness, and self-management. Teachers Ms. Roberts, Ms. Lindsey, Ms. Kirshner, Mr. McCarthy, and I met to discuss *The Language of Learning* and to further improve our instructional practices in listening skills, teamwork, persistence, and more.

I look forward to walking with you to further our successful students.

Sincerely,

Erin Roche  
Principal

Prescott School students, teachers, staff, and parents earned a #14 ranking among 400+ city elementary schools in the September issue of *Chicago Magazine*! [Chicago Magazine](#)

# November

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
		2 <b>-Word Problem Wednesday</b> —ask your child about today's math word problem  Kindergarten field trip to Children's Film Fest	3 Last day of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter  1 <sup>st</sup> grade field trip to Children's Film Fest  5-8 <sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Children's Film Fest	4 No classes for students  Professional Development day for teachers & staff
7	8 9am public tour  Election day—remember to vote!	9 11:15-6:15 Parent-Teacher Conferences  6:30 High School Night grades 6-8	10  8:45 BAC meeting in MPR	11 School closed in observance of Veterans Day
14 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade field trip to Children's Film Fest	15	16 Word Problem Wednesday	17 Remember to pay for UFO	18 UFO day 8 <sup>th</sup> grade high school applications due to Prescott School
21 Kindergarten field trip to North Park Village Center Vision & hearing testing	22 Picture Day  2:45 <i>Celebration of Learning</i> Vision & hearing testing	23 School closed in observance of Thanksgiving	24 School closed in observance of Thanksgiving	25 School closed in observance of Thanksgiving
28 Book Fair  Vision & hearing testing	29 Book Fair  Vision & hearing testing	30		

## Parent reminders:



**Please make sure that your child is healthy and in school.** Children who are not in school are not experiencing Prescott's rigorous curriculum. Prescott's Level 1+ status depends on an attendance rate of 96%. If your child misses more than 1 day per month (10 total days), then Prescott's attendance dips below 95%. Please help to keep Prescott's Level 1 status by getting your child healthy and to school on time each day.

**Parents who drive children to Prescott** are encouraged to drop off children along Marshfield and not Wrightwood. Marshfield is safer due to less traffic. **Please do not park in the cross-walk, a no-tow zone, or in the staff parking lot. Your car may be ticketed or towed.** Thank you for safe school!



**If you are interested in taking your PreK child to a playground during school hours, please consider Wrightwood Park or other nearby playgrounds.** Prescott's playground and Little Gym are not available as they are used by Prescott students before, during, and after-school hours and for liability reasons. Thanks for keeping your child safe!

## Healthy Eating at Prescott

The Chicago Public Schools Board of Education approved a policy regarding healthy eating at schools. Below is a summary of the policy.

CPS policy

- Only highly nutritional food for children
- Limit over-eating by letting students and parent know in advance of additional food (e.g., birthday celebration)
- Healthy eating → healthy kids and stronger academic growth



To comply with the policy and to encourage healthy eating, outside food must be approved by the principal at least one week in advance (forms are available in the office). Outside food may only be nutritional. The parent needs to bring the approval to the lunch supervisor. The supervisor collects and returns the form to the principal.

## You can access the Prescott library from home

<https://library.cps.k12.il.us:9058/?config=5500#bookriver>.

Parents can help children find available books in the Prescott library **AND** read thousands of e-books online at home. Type the word "dog" in the blue search box and click "Go." You can type in a book title, subject, author or key word in the blue "search" box.



You will see the results for your search -- the titles of the books will be in blue. Any title with the words "electronic resources" next to the title shows a book that can be read online. The e-books require the this username and password:

username: 5500 password: 5500

Happy reading!

## Art at Prescott

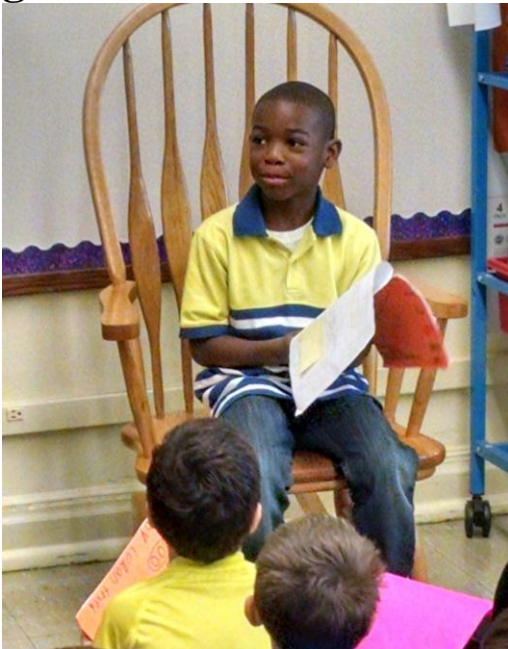


You can follow our progress through the year or contact me through Art Teacher Ms. Ammons blog: [www.prescottpaint.blogspot.com](http://www.prescottpaint.blogspot.com). We will also have an online art gallery through which you can view or purchase student artwork, such as this artwork in the first floor hallway. Look for the Prescott Elementary page on [www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com).

## THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU•THANK YOU

Leonard Sanchez	Thanks for donating 100 bananas for Family Reading Night
Lisa St. Marie	Thanks for doing all the Prescott laminating jobs.
Jen Bowers	Thanks to Jen Bowers for purchasing door stops for all the basement doors.

## Sharing stories in the author's chair with parents and classmates in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in Room 104 Publishing Party



The Chicago Foundation for Education (CFE) is looking to honor a deserving educator with our 2016-17 Debby Jannotta and Shirley Jaffee [Teacher of the Year Award](#)! Please review the award information (also embedded in the instructions at the top of the nomination form) and submit your nomination(s) by **Monday, November 21st**. [The nomination form is available online here.](#)

## Family Reading Night Jeopardy, building, making a recipe, and following a map



As the weather changes and becomes cooler, if you notice any students that are in need of a winter coat, please let Prescott Social Worker Mrs. Hanna know at 773.534.5505 or [nhanna@cps.edu](mailto:nhanna@cps.edu). She can connect the family with a resource that provides gently used winter coats.