

## School

# Fifth grade is exciting

The fifth grade hall at Perquimans Central School is full of excitement this year! The students are changing classes for the first time and the students as well as the teachers seem to be enjoying it.

The theme of the first six weeks is "The Earth's Changing Crust." While reading *A Journey to the Center of the Earth* by Jules Verne in language arts, the students are completing a puzzle in science as they study the earth and all the miraculous changes of its crust. Problem solving skills in math are adding color to the puzzle and the final pieces are being put in place in social studies as the students learn all about the continents, major landforms, the equator, longitude and latitude and much more!

### TAWL group to meet

Some of the teachers here at Central school and some from HGS are involved in the "TAWL" group (Teachers Applying Whole Language). Our first local meeting was Sept. 14.

### Mrs. Sawyer's class

Mrs. Sawyer's fourth graders enjoyed writing and illustrating commercials for the story *Harry and the Whatzit*.

Leora Thompson - Ladies and Gentlemen, I have a really good book that I must recommend for your children. It's good for a few laughs so I must not tell you anymore. It'll spoil the surprise. Now come down here and buy your own copy. It's great!

Rusty Smith - Read *Harry and the Whatzit*. It is one of the best stories in the whole wide world. It gives you a reading appetite, dude!

### Mrs. Holley's class

Mrs. Brenda Holley's fourth grade wrote poems about the sun after studying about it as a part of our solar system. Here are two samples:

*The Sun by Maurice Downing* - The sun is hot, but its not cool. If it was I would have to wear a coat of wool.

When the sun is bright, it will mean light, the first day of school, it was so bright, I had jitters, in bed that night.

I love school, just like today, but tomorrow, will be a special day. The sun will be so hot on the earth, it looks like it's going to burst.

*The Sun by Stefanie Harris* - The sun is hot. It could probably heat a pot. When the sun goes down at night, we get tucked in



### Central School Milestones

Compiled by school staff

tight. When the sun comes up, it's day, so we can go out and play!

Some people watch the sunrise. And they watch it with their eyes. When the earth is following its path, they jump up and laugh. So for my final line, I hope the sun will shine!

### Mrs. Gregory's class

Mrs. Gregory's class is studying geography.

The students read a tall tale about Paul Bunyan. It was a humorous, fictional story explaining how the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains were formed.

Afterwards, the students were asked to write a tall tale explaining a landform or a body of water. Their tale could be about mountains, hills, plains, deserts, rivers or lakes.

The tales were very interesting. The following tale was written by Erin France.

Once upon a time Wonder Boy and Girl were flying about. All of a sudden, they saw a run away baby. They were so big they could create oceans in seconds. They picked up the baby to spank her and missed. Wonder Boy's hand fell into the dirt.

He crashed his hand so hard the Pacific Ocean swept over the United States. Some of the water was left behind, in the hand print of Wonder Boy's hand.

That's how we got the Great Salt Lakes. Wonder Boy and Girl were so embarrassed they flew to the next galaxy.

### Mrs. Fields' class

Students in Mrs. Fields' fourth grade class were asked to observe the sky one night with their families. The following is by Monte Tunnell.

*Snow and the Stars* "Meow! Meow! What a great night this is on the Tunnell front porch. But last night was better because, Monte and I watched the stars come out. When I was looking for

the North Star, mom stepped on my tail. After she did that I went flying through the air and when I landed I was looking straight up. When I looked I saw stars hiding in the treetops. Through my green eyes, I saw bright stars, little stars, big stars, and twinkling stars. It was so cool having the family relaxing in the porch swing rubbing me.

Monte was scratching my ear when he excitedly spotted a very strange-acting star. It kept blinking with the rhythm of my tail twitching back and forth. The three of us continued to follow that star almost out of sight. "Soon my friend Monte laughed, "We're star-watching an airplane!" My human friends decided to call it a night. After they went inside, I went off into kitty dream land!"

### Ms. Ferrell's class

Ms. Ferrell's fourth graders have already been on several field trips -- to Japan to watch sumu wrestlers, to Spain with Senior Alonzo, to Australia with a tiger, and even tracked a hurricane! The really neat part is that we never even left our classroom.

We're learning about latitude and longitude, fact and opinion, making wise choices, and building self-confidence. Our cursive writing is improving, and we practice everyday on multiplication facts.

Skills learned include predicting, estimating, and verifying. We tasted semi-sweet chocolate to increase our comprehension of the prefix semi-.

To help us endure the heat, we brain stormed ways to overcome our discomfort. We keep cool beverages and water in the room, and we are going to recycle cans and plastic. When possible, we turn off the lights and close the blinds; also saving electricity. We wear cool, light clothing and bring hand towels and chair pads. We're learning to be responsible citizens.

### Students of the Week

Students of the Week for fourth grade are Michael McHone and Marquita Foreman.



Aladdin comes to life when the Perquimans presents its award-winning 1993 show. (File County High School Marching Pirates Band photo by Susan Harris)

## PCHS band opens season with win

The Marching Pirates of Perquimans High School started their competition season off right Saturday, trucking six top honors home from the Trucker Classic in Portsmouth, Va.

The band took overall first place in Class AA, outpacing second place Lee Davis High School of Richmond and third place Wilson High School of Portsmouth. In addition, the Marching Pirates earned first place horn line, color guard, drum ma-

for and dancers, and second place drum line.

The group will perform at the Indian Summer Festival at noon Friday and at Friday night's home football game against the Weldon Chargers.

Nicole Vaughn is the 1993-94 Marching Pirates drum major. The band is directed by David Ziemba. Anzie Ziemba is visual ensembles instructor. Linda Bundy is president of the Booster Club.

## Computers move into school cafeterias

They don't do dishes or cook meals, but computers have moved into the cafeterias at Perquimans County schools.

New computerized cash registers installed last month total meal costs, track students, keep up with prepayments and generate daily reports. Schools Child Nutrition Director LaClaire Anderson said keyboards hooked up to the cash registers help program the machines. Eventually, she hopes to integrate printers into the system to expand the machines' use.

Each school has at least one unit. The middle school and high school have multiple units to allow two-three meal lines to move at once. A lead cashier and at least one back-up employee have been trained to use each unit.

The equipment was purchased by the child nutrition department with funds being set aside each year for six years.

Anderson said the equipment should make mandatory state and federal reporting easier.



Children Nutrition staff members learn to use the new computerized cash registers installed in the school cafeterias late this summer. (Photo courtesy Perquimans County Schools)

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