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September Issue  
 September 20, 2012



# The Pegasus Post

## From the Principal– Dr. McBroom

Dear Pope Families,

The 2012-2013 school year is off to a great start, thanks to the efforts of all our stakeholders. I want to invite you to become actively involved in our school. Opportunities to volunteer include: (1) volunteering in the classroom, (2) assisting with a variety of events and activities, or (3) becoming a member of the Pope PTO.

You are a vital member of our learning community. We welcome your input as we continually research and implement effective strategies to improve and increase student achievement. I encourage your comments and suggestions via e-mail or in person.

Pope will host a “Curriculum Night” for parents on October 1, 2012 from 5:30- 7:00. During this time, we will conduct sessions at every grade level to discuss academic expectations and review the curriculum. Please make every effort to attend this wonderful event.

I look forward to your continued support and involvement with our school programs, as we strive to encourage our students to achieve at their maximum potential.

## PTO Points

Upcoming Dates:

- \*September 27: General PTO Meeting  
6:00-7:00pm
- \*September 28: Popcorn Friday
- \*October 1: Spaghetti Dinner  
6:00-7:00pm
- \*October 2: School Pictures



## Pope Faculty & Staff are ready for a great year!



Photo taken by Tia Bottum

[www.am.dodea.edu/Bragg/Pope/default.htm](http://www.am.dodea.edu/Bragg/Pope/default.htm)

**Pope’s Vision:**  
 Teaching for the Future...Learning for a Lifetime!

**DoDEA Mission:**

Educate, Engage and Empower Each student to succeed in a dynamic world.

**Smart Goal #1:** By the end of this school year, all students will increase reading comprehension skills. At Pope Elementary School reading comprehension will be evidenced by improved phonological awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency and vocabulary skills. Data will be gathered and monitored using system-wide and selected local assessments.

**Smart Goal #2:** By the end of this school year, all students will increase math problem solving skills. At Pope Elementary School math problem solving will be evidenced through the four step UPSL (Understand, Plan, Solve, Look Back) process.

Data will be gathered and monitored using system-wide and selected local assessments.

**Upcoming Dates:**



- \*Sept. 24: First Interim Reporting Period
- \*Sept. 27: PTO General Meeting 6pm-7pm
- \*Sept. 28: Popcorn Friday
- \*Oct. 1: Curriculum Night 5:30pm-7:00pm
- \*Oct. 1: PTO Spaghetti Dinner 6:00pm-7:00pm
- \*Oct. 2: School Pictures
- \*Oct. 5: CSI Day
- \*Oct. 8: Columbus Day
- \*Oct. 12 & 26: Popcorn Fridays

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## Nurse's Notes—Nurse Ebony

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**Head Lice:** The shorter, cooler fall days are upon us. A subject that causes much concern this time of year is Pediculosis, (Head lice). Head lice are usually transmitted through close personal contact with another infested individual. This can occur by sharing personal items which have contact with the head, such as combs, brushes, caps, sweaters and coats. Head lice can crawl very quickly. They can't jump or fly.

Inspect your child (ren), often, by carefully examining the nap of the neck and behind the ears for a small grayish-tan, wingless insect. Head lice lay eggs (nits) very close to the scalp. Nits are much easier to see and detect than lice are. They are small whitish specks, which can't be easily brushed or shaken off the hair shaft.

Remind your child (ren) not to share or try-on other's clothes, especially caps, scarves, sweaters or coats.

The information below may help in the treatment and eradication of head lice from your family and home.

1. If one child in your family has evidence of head lice and/or nits, inspect all family members daily for at least four weeks. This is to keep the spread of head lice in check. Treat each family member, who has evidence of lice, with a lice shampoo. Follow the instructions that came with the shampoo. The second washing in 7 to 10 days is **crucial** to the process.
2. Wash all clothing, towels and bed linens in very hot water. Dry clean items that can't be washed. Stuffed toys, etc. may be placed in a sealed plastic bag for two weeks. Vacuum all carpets, upholstery and mattresses, or set these items outside for at least 72 hours.
3. Clean combs and brushes of the entire family either by soaking in the medicated shampoo (or by boiling in water) for at least 10 minutes.
4. Since some eggs may not be killed with the first shampoo treatment, **DO NOT** miss the second shampooing in 7 to 10 days. This shampooing is to kill newly hatched nymphs (immature lice).

The condition is not something to be ashamed of because it has nothing to do with cleanliness, who you are, or where you live.

Head lice can be very annoying and frustrating. Persistence and regular examinations are needed to keep head lice in check.

## ESL Notes— Mrs. Robinson

Welcome to the new school year at Pope Elementary. My name is Mrs. Robinson and I am the ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher at Pope Elementary. I have been teaching on base for the last four years. Prior to my position here at Fort Bragg, I taught in Los Angeles Unified School District for eight years. I am certified to teach grades PreK – 5<sup>th</sup>. In addition, I have a Reading Specialist Credential an ESL Credential, and earned my National Board Certification. I have raised three children (one daughter and two sons. Both of my sons served in the Navy and my husband retired from the Air Force. Sorry, I have no Army experiences other than here at Fort Bragg.

It is my job to test students with home languages other than English and provide instruction that meets their academic needs. "The DoDEA Home Language Questionnaire (HLQ), performance on language proficiency and system-wide assessments, records reviews, and referrals are used to identify potential students eligible for ESL services. These results, along with the student's academic performance, are



used to determine eligibility for services.”

The DoDEA program for ELLs (English Language Learners) encompasses both social and academic needs. Emphasis is placed on supporting the student's performance and mastery of English in the content areas. Learning language through the content areas enables the student to acquire age/grade appropriate content standards while developing English language proficiency. Although English is the language of instruction, students are encouraged to continue to develop proficiency in their first language as they acquire English. ESL teachers validate the first culture and language by connecting the curriculum with the student's personal experiences while providing a bridge to English proficiency.”

Please note the ESL Program is NOT part of the Special Education Program and although not mandatory, is highly recommended for students with multiple languages. More information about the ESL Program can be obtained at: <http://www.dodea.edu/Curriculum/ESL/index.cfm>.

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## Information Center Corner– Mrs. Ray

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Welcome to the 2012-2013 school year! The Information Center Staff for this school year includes: Mrs. Ray, Information Specialist and Miss Hill, Assistant. We are very excited about the new school year and are looking forward to meeting your child's literacy needs. Several new books arrived over the summer and lots of great books are available on the shelves. The students have already begun to check out books and are enjoying them tremendously. So far, all of the students have been made aware of the rules and procedures regarding book checkouts. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of what was told to the students regarding the care and management of Information Center books.

The students who are in grades 1-5 are allowed to check out two books. If 3-5 students are doing a special report in class they can check out a maximum of three books. Kindergarten students may check out one book at a time. All students are allowed to keep the book(s) for a maximum of two weeks. After the two week period has expired the books are considered overdue and a notice will be sent. If the book cannot be located, please send a note stating that the book has been lost. I have to keep the note for my records. I have encouraged the students to discuss with you what they have read in order to ensure comprehension. This is not mandatory but it is a good and fun way to increase your child's reading comprehension level. Parents are allowed to check out books as well. Just stop by the Information Center and I will be happy to create an account for you.

It is my hope that your child will have a prosperous year and will read lots of great books! If I can be of help in any way, please stop by the Information Center between the hours of 8:00am and 3:30pm.

## Clubs

\*Math Club: Mondays 3:00-4:00pm  
October 1-December 10 ~ 5th Grade

\*Reading Club: Mondays 3:00-4:00pm  
October 15-December 10 ~ 4th Grade

Spanish Club: Mondays 3:00-4:00pm  
October 15-December 10 ~ 2nd Grade

\*Friendship Club: Mondays 3:00-4:00pm  
October 15-January 14 ~ 1st and 2nd Grade

STEAM Club: Thursdays 3:00-4:00pm  
October 18-May 9 ~ 3rd-5th Grade

Music Club: Thursdays 3:00-4:00pm  
October 18-May 9 ~ 3rd-5th Grade

Good News Club: Wednesdays 1:55-3:10  
October 17-May 8 ~ K-5th Grade

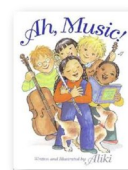
Leadership Club: Tuesdays 3:00-4:00pm  
October 16-May 7 ~ 2nd-5th Grade

\*These clubs will be invitation only

## Music Notes– Mrs. Evans

The Pope ES Chorus Club sings again!

Mrs. J. Evans, Coordinator/Director



If you are a student in 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade, you are eligible to audition for the Pope ES Chorus Club. The membership will be year-long with Thursdays as our meeting day. The purpose is to provide advanced singing instruction, enhance reading comprehension through song lyrics and math through movement. Our 1<sup>st</sup> club meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 18 from 3-4pm.

Audition times will be announced & held during the fourth week of September.

## A Message from the Math ISSS– Mrs. Johnson

Welcome back students! As we eagerly embark upon another school year with Math as our focus, our goal is to increase knowledge and understanding of Mathematical concepts. I am here to support you every step of the way. I wish you all a very successful school year!



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## Counselor's Corner– Ms. Skinner-Coleman, NCC

Honesty Respect Responsibility Fairness Caring Citizenship  
Pope ES Pegasus Pride Character Program



**Your character will speak so loudly about you, that it overpowers what you may try to convince others in words.**

Pope ES has kicked off the school year with a bang! As part of our Character skills and anti-bullying theme, students were entertained and educated in the NED assembly. Students learned they should:

**N**ever give up; **E**ncourage others and **D**o your best.

To help facilitate the focus for this year, the Pope family will follow the monthly character traits listed in the student planners. Parents please partner with us by reading and reviewing the traits and the examples provided on each page of the student planners.

**Pope's Pegasus Pride school wide character program fulfills the requirements for the following:**

1. DoDEA Mission: Educate, Engage and Empower Each student to succeed in a dynamic world.
2. The NC DDESS 2011 Customer Survey Action Plan

**Character is power.**

— Booker T. Washington, American educator (1856-1915)



## Gifted News– Ms. Murray

The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will be reading *Chocolate Fever* by Robert K. Smith and are choosing two activities to create such as filmstrips, scrolls, book mobiles, murals, designing a commercial, or designing a new book jacket. In math, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are researching the height of famous structures in the world and recording other facts which use numbers to describe them.

The 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be reading *Blue Willow* by Doris Gates and using literature circles with assigned roles. Examples of literature circle roles include: fact finder, literary luminary, connector, discussion director, scene setter and vocabulary enricher. In math, 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be participating in the Stock Market Challenge. They will begin with \$100,000 and have ten weeks to invest in a variety of stocks in hopes of earning the most money. This simulation is played online and uses the actual daily results of the stocks on the NY stock exchange to compute earnings (or losses). Students are using their math skills as they try to find stocks that might earn them a profit.

The 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be reading *The Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell and completing a webquest that goes with the book. They will also be able to chose from topics such as Chumash Indians, Aleuts, dolphins, sea otters, kelp, octopi, and preservation of food to research. In math, the 5<sup>th</sup> graders will also be participating in the Stock Market Challenge. They will compete against the 4<sup>th</sup> graders.

## We need your input!

Do you like our current vision statement? If not, what do you think we should change it to? Please check one of the following boxes and return it to your child's teacher. Thank you for your input!

Pope's Vision: Teaching for the Future...Learning for a Lifetime!

Yes, I would like to keep the current vision.

No, I think we need to change the current vision. Here is my suggestion: \_\_\_\_\_