



**PINNACLE  
PREP SCHOOL**  
Accelerated Learning

# NEWSLETTER

May 1, 2025

We can't believe how quickly we are approaching the end of the 2024-2025 school year. This time of the year brings our anticipated Parents' Day Celebration. Our students are so excited to let you know how much they appreciate all you do! As we wrap up the school year, we would like to thank you for your kindness and support during the year. We are so grateful to be able to work with your children and watch them thrive and flourish!

Important dates:

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 5-9



Teacher Appreciation Day: May 6

Parents' Day Celebration May 8th at 12:30pm

Last Day of School: May 22

Our calendar is updated and available on our website: [Calendar](#).

**MAY 2♥25**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 	5	6 TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY	7	8 PARENTS' DAY CELEBRATION	9 	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



## Inclement Weather Policy

Keeping you informed is always our priority. We will notify you about school closure due to inclement weather via Remind 101 on or before 7 a.m. on the morning of closure.

## Follow us on Social Media!

You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube! You will be able to keep up to date with everything that is happening at Pinnacle Prep!








**Remind 101** is our preferred method of communication for everyday activities and reminders.

If you have quick questions, feel free to send us a Remind message.




# ELA

## Mrs. Hill

### Giraffes:

- **READING & SIGHT WORD LOGS:** 2 more weeks!  
Please remember to sign both logs!
- Please help me reinforce the concept of **STRETCHING** out words...“Get your mouth ready to say the first **SOUND**, then **STRETCH** each sound until the word is done. Then say the word **FAST!**” 
- **READING:** Guided Reading based on your individual child’s instructional level 
- **WRITING...**Each day, the Giraffes will write sentences about the story we are reading. I want to see them sounding & stretching out the words phonetically (also called “invented spelling”). I will be monitoring and working with each student to help them according to his or her educational needs. 
- **PHONICS & SOUNDS:** Students are responsible for completing two pages daily in their Abeka workbook to reinforce concepts previously taught in class.
- Please help me to encourage proper letter formations and forming/reading complete sentences. 
- Coloring, Cutting, and Pasting will be ongoing skills that we practice to get our fine-motor skills **STRONG** so that handwriting becomes easier for your child. 
- Please be on the lookout for mandatory **SUMMER READING** assignments 
- Please talk with me at morning drop off or dismissal if you are interested in setting up private tutoring for your child over the summer! 

### Pandas:

- **READING & SIGHT WORD LOGS:** Parents, please remember to sign **BOTH** logs **DAILY** M-Thurs. This confirms that your child has spent 20 minutes of reading & 10 minutes practicing sight words (until he/she has mastered the 4th grade list). These will be assessed every Friday... Owl Bucks will be fined when work is incomplete or planner is not signed... 
- **NOVEL:** We will continue our novel study, *The One and Only Ivan*, by Katherine Applegate... As we read in class, they will reread to you at home ...this will increase reading fluency, and improve their comprehension. 
- **LANGUAGE/GRAMMAR:** Students are responsible for completing two pages daily in their Abeka workbook to reinforce concepts previously taught in class.
- **SPELLING:** Students will receive spelling work on the first day of the week, and these are always due on the last day of the week. **TESTS** will also be on the last day of the week... They will have some class time to work on this, but they may have to complete work at home.
- **PLEASE** help me to encourage proper letter formation (manuscript)...I have noticed that a few students continue to write their letters going from the bottom up, and/or going in the opposite direction—this is a problem, since cursive letters always flow from the left to the right, making it extremely challenging for students who have not mastered manuscript letters... I will be assigning extra practice pages as needed...
- **CURSIVE:** We will continue learning one new lowercase cursive letter each day... I am so proud of their determination and effort! 

# ELA CONT.

*Mrs. Hill*

Lions: 🦁

- NOVEL: Finish our novel study, Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, by May 2, then we will have culminating activities & a Final Test over the whole book
- GRAMMAR: Winston Grammar Program: Final Test for all topics covered this year
- WRITING: Parent Appreciation Letters ❤️
- VOCABULARY: Our last Sadlier Oxford Vocabulary Quiz will be Friday, May 2
- SPELLING: Our last Spelling Test will be Friday, May 2
- Please be on the lookout for mandatory SUMMER READING assignments 👁️👁️
- Please talk with me at morning drop off or dismissal if you are interested in setting up private tutoring for your child over the summer! 😊

Tigers: 🐅

- NOVEL: Culminating activities & final test for our novel study, Out of My Mind, by Sharon M. Draper
- GRAMMAR: Winston Grammar Program: Final Test for all topics covered this year
- WRITING: Parent Appreciation Letters ♥
- VOCABULARY: Our last Sadlier Oxford Vocabulary Quiz will be Friday, May 2
- SPELLING: (ONLY THROUGH GRADE 5) Our last Spelling Test will be Friday, May 2
- Please be on the lookout for mandatory SUMMER READING assignments 👁️👁️
- Please talk with me at morning drop off or dismissal if you are interested in setting up private tutoring for your child over the summer! 😊



# Humanities

*Mrs. Hughlett*

I can't believe that we have made it to May! This is an exciting time of the year. We will be engaged in so many fun things.

**Giraffes:** In the Giraffe's class, we will continue with our literacy work and letter sound work, but we will add more emphasis on the writing component. We are going to do a mini book review. The students will read and then write about what they like and what they don't like about the book. They will enjoy this! It gives them ownership over what they are reading.

**Pandas, Lions, and Tigers:** We are coming to the end of our Texas History unit. This month we are going to cover the Civil War and Reconstruction of Texas. Texas is so rich in history and learning about what has molded our fine state into what it is today is very fascinating. I hope your children have been able to share some of their knowledge with you and if you are able to take some time this summer, I encourage you to take a trip to see some of the different regions of Texas, our state capitol, The Alamo or even some of the other Missions that are still standing and open to the public. They are amazing!





# Math

*Ms. Jaya*

## **Giraffes:**

The Giraffes just wrapped up their Probability unit, exploring everyday examples to understand the ideas of “likely,” “unlikely,” “certain,” and “impossible.” They also practiced gathering data and showing what they found with objects, pictures, and picture graphs. Some students began using number lines for addition and subtraction, while others are about to dive into multiplication tables. We’ll keep strengthening everyone’s math-fact fluency as we move forward.

## **Pandas:**

The Pandas have been diving into a unit on Probability and Statistics, where they’ve been learning key terms like “Certain,” “Impossible,” “Likely,” and “Unlikely.” They’ve practiced predicting outcomes, categorizing events, and conducting hands-on experiments like rolling dice and flipping coins. Students are also recording and interpreting their results using tally marks and simple tables. In addition, the class had fun with “Gallon Man,” a creative activity where they colored and assembled a visual to help them understand liquid measurement and capacity. Moving forward, students will continue developing their problem-solving skills as they begin writing and solving expressions and equations. They’ll soon apply their knowledge to more complex problems involving the order of operations.

## **Lions:**

The Lions have just finished a Decimals unit, mastering tenths and hundredths, comparing and ordering values, and honing their estimation skills. Some students also delved into Probability, learning terms like “certain,” “likely,” “unlikely,” and “impossible.” They used real-world examples, fractions (e.g., a  $\frac{1}{2}$  chance of heads), and number-line models (0 to 1) to describe and compare the likelihood of different events. Next up, the Lions will extend their place-value understanding all the way to the billions and tackle addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division—both with and without decimals—while applying their skills to rich problem-solving challenges.

## **Tigers:**

The Tigers recently wrapped up a unit on Percent, where they explored both Simple and Compound Interest, learning how to differentiate between them and calculate each. They are now diving into a unit on Linear Functions, focusing on identifying linear equations with two variables, finding the slope of a line, writing equations in slope-intercept form, and solving and graphing both linear equations and inequalities. Additionally, some of the Tigers are working through a unit on Expressions and Equations, where they’re learning to write and evaluate algebraic expressions, solve equations and inequalities, apply the order of operations, and tackle real-world problem-solving scenarios.

# Science

## *Mrs. Hozie*

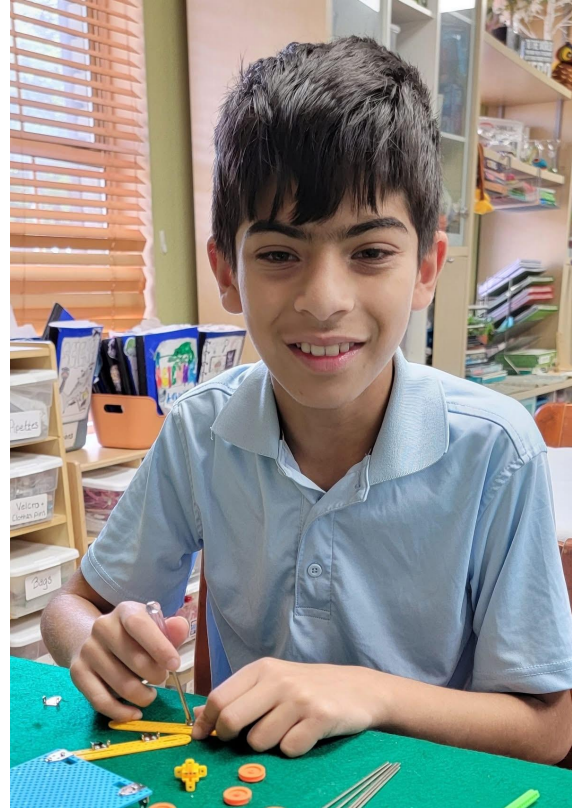
Every Tuesday, Mrs. Hozie holds a Science Show and Tell. This engaging activity allows students to share and display their scientific curiosities and knowledge.

This year, students at Pinnacle Prep have an array of opportunities to earn Owl Bucks. Each class maintains a bank managed by a rotating "banker" who oversees the wallets. Through this system, students learn valuable budgeting skills as they earn and save for desirable rewards, such as Treasure Chests, class parties, and the chance to be Teacher for a Day.

A number of Pinnacle students took part in the optional Owl Bucks Science Party. Participants were able to create vegetarian sugar cookie models of animal cells using candies as organelles. Additionally, they could construct electric circuit vehicles. It was a wonderful way to celebrate their hard work!

All our Pinnacle students learned about how germs are spread. We used a special non-toxic powder that glows brightly under ultraviolet light. The students unknowingly passed around an "infected organism." They then used an ultraviolet lamp to demonstrate how the "germs" transferred to their hands and faces.

Finally, the Pandas and Giraffes had an absolutely "Sea-sational" adventure at the Sea Life Aquarium! The vibrant underwater world was filled with excitement, wonder, and unforgettable moments!



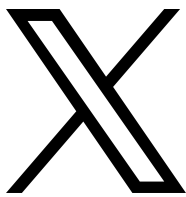
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