

Porter Academy Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday January 25, 2017

Quick Reminders:

- No School Feb 17-20 for Mid-Winter/President's Day Holiday
- Please remember to donate what you can to our Annual Fund— For every \$250 donated by March 3rd, you will be entered into a raffle for a week at a Florida Beach House
- Scholastic Book flyers will go home today and are due back Monday
- Safari Minutes are due Wednesday 2/1
- Spirit Day this Friday—wear your favorite color
- 100th Day of School celebration this Friday

Message from Ms. Lynn

I'm repeating some of this from last week because we've continued receiving a lot of questions about the SSO tax credit.

SSO Tax Credit: Thank you to those of you who chose to support our school through the student scholarship tax credit program. Below are the steps to take after receiving your approval letter from the state. Please note that your approval amount will most likely not be as much as you requested. Because more than the \$58 million was requested, the government approved contribution requests from each person/company who requested it on January 1st, but did so for a lesser amount than was requested so as to stay within the \$58 million dollar cap. So if you requested to contribute \$2500, you most likely were approved to contribute \$1237 instead. The amount approved is the amount for which you will be able receive tax credit. Once you receive your letter, you have 60 days to send your check (write "Porter Academy" on the memo line) and a copy of the approval letter to Great SSO at 1595 Peachtree Parkway, Suite 204-128 Cumming, GA 30041. Thank you for your support!

Annual Fund: If you have not yet donated to the Annual Fund, please do so. It's really important that we get 100% participation. Remember that for every \$250 donated (deadline for raffle entry is March 3), you will be entered into the raffle for a week's stay at a Florida beach house. You can send in a check with annual fund on the memo line, stop by to see Pam, or pay online by clicking the "donate" button on our website.

On-Time Arrival: We have seen great improvement in students arriving on time—thank you for your support with this!

Important Dates

Feb 17-20: No School—Mid-Winter Break

Mar 3: End of 3rd 9 week period

Mar 10: Inclement Weather Day

Apr 3-7: No School—Spring Break

Apr 28: No School—Teacher Work Day

May 8-9: Lower School Conferences; No School for Lower School Students

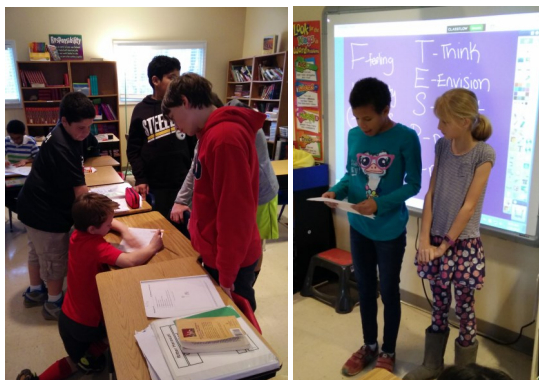
May 10: Field Day

May 11: Upper School Conferences; No School for Upper School Students

May 25: Last Day of School; 1:00 Dismissal (No Afterschool)

Upper School—Social Emotional Learning

Students in Upper School Blue and Green worked in small groups to use the acronym FIG TESPN (stands for 8 steps of problem solving) to explicitly explain their thinking at each step to solving a pretend scenario. They then presented to the class. It was a valuable experience and they came up with some good solutions.



The Character Education trait for January is Patience:
"I will stay calm while I wait"

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Parent Pipeline— “A Parenting Conversation—How to Help My Anxious Child” - January 28

A Porter Academy parent has shared this information in case any parents are interested in attending this event. There does not appear to be any need (or way) to RSVP.

Dr. Kimberly Vay, ED.D, LPC, NCC will be speaking at Cloverleaf School in Decatur. Dr. Vay is a Licensed Professional Counselor who has been working with children, adolescents, and families for more than a decade. She has extensive experience in both clinical and educational settings. In addition to her degrees in education and counseling psychology, Dr. Vay received intensive clinical training in Dialectical Behavior Therapy and Theraplay® Dr. Vay enjoys working with children, pre-teens, adolescents, and their parents. She provides therapeutic treatments and educates families to effectively manage intense emotions The cost is \$5 per parent. A flyer is attached if you'd like more information.

Parent Pipeline—Frontier Baseball

Registration is open for Spring 2016 Frontier League Baseball. Frontier is Baseball for kids (boys or girls) with learning challenges such as ADHD, ADD, Apraxia, Speech Delays, Dyslexia, Auditory Processing Disorder and other executive or sensory challenges. Many of our students participate in the program and are happy with it. Evaluations are coming up on February 4th. Below are links to their new promotional video and registration:

- New promotional video: <https://vimeo.com/185678694>
- Registration <http://www.murpheyecandler.org/>
- There is a flyer attached with additional information.

A visit from Officer Jones



Thank you to Officer Jones for talking with our Sea Otters about his job as a narcotics police officer. The students met his dog who is trained to detect narcotics, and he let them each try his vest, helmet, and shield. The other classes got a short visit with him and his dog, but he has offered to come back so they too can get the full experience. It was a great learning experience.

Porter Academy is dedicated to educating children by utilizing individualized programs that are appropriate to each student's development level and learning style. Your child can succeed in the right environment.