

Science/Mathematics Fair
Friday, March 15, 2019
(Held in Conjunction with the PWES PTO Pizza Night & K-Kids Basket Drawing)

February 1, 2019

Dear Parents:

Prairie Winds Elementary School is hosting its Annual Science/Mathematics Fair on **Friday, March 15, 2019**, to help stimulate your child's interest in the physical sciences. Students (**Grades K – 6th**) will design and test their science projects in the weeks leading up to this exciting event, and then display their work at the Fair for their peers, teachers, parents and guests. This should be a fun, educational event, and we encourage all students, regardless of their grade or abilities, to participate.

Here's the schedule for the **March 15th** event:

- **3:00 PM – 4:00 PM** - **Gym open for display set-up**
- **4:00 PM – 5:00 PM*** - **Science Fair presentation**
**Please Note: To explain their projects to visitors, students will be assigned either an "A" or a "B" for their tables;
A's will have to "student" their booths from 4:00 – 4:15 p.m. and 4:30 – 4:45 p.m.; and
B's will have to "student" their booths from 4:15 – 4:30 p.m. and 4:45 – 5:00 p.m.*
- **5:00 PM** - **Presentation of ribbons and certificates to all participants**

Each participating student is responsible for:

- Selecting a topic and project
- Gathering resources and materials
- Completing the project
- Understanding his/her project and its scientific principles well enough to be able to demonstrate the concepts and explain them to someone

Parents are responsible for:

- Assisting your child, as needed, in all of the above areas
- Helping your child choose and plan a project, and working within the time deadline
- Providing display support, such as tri-folds, etc., if required
- Helping your child understand his/her project

- Ensuring your child’s project does not include any items or materials prohibited on school property (take pictures instead). If unsure, please contact Aileen Finnegan.
- If your child’s project is potentially “messy,” please be sure they bring appropriate carpet protection (drop cloth, paper towels, etc). If 120 VAC is required, ensure they bring an appropriate extension cord and/or power strip! No projects that could damage the gym carpet, PLEASE!
- Please make sure your child’s project is safe for all participants
- Ensuring your child’s project will fit within the allocated demonstration space available. (Each participant will be provided (3’ x 2.5’) sq. ft. of table space (1/2 of a std. 6-ft. folding table) for demonstrating his/her science project.)
- Making sure your child's first name, last name, and home room teacher appears on the project
- Having fun with your child—you don’t need to be a rocket scientist to help your child and learn together from this project

On the surface, this may seem like a daunting project for parents and children alike. However, everything in the world around us is governed by scientific and mathematic principles. Find something that intrigues both parent and child, and make this an enjoyable experience for your fledgling scientist. The Internet is a good source for science projects. If you so choose, you can also investigate commercially available science kit projects available from various sources. However, nothing can match your child’s imagination and natural sense of wonder when it comes to dreaming up a project. Remember, the greatest accomplishments are those that at first seemed impossible.

For more information or any special set-up requirements your child’s project may need, please contact:

- Cathy Simmons, (901) 679-4590; cathyandmatt@hotmail.com

Our Annual Science/Mathematics Fair should be an exciting evening of discovery. Please complete the Science/Mathematics Fair sign-up sheet for each child (*in grades K – 6th*) who wishes to participate, and submit it to the front office **by March 8th**, so that we can get an accurate count of tables, ribbons and certificates that will be needed. Please join us and help make this one small step for Prairie Winds Elementary and one giant leap for your child’s education.

Sincerely,

AILEEN FINNEGAN
Principal