

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

CREATIVE ARTS AND SCIENCES

Creative Arts and Sciences is a wonderful curriculum enrichment program, which allows for a variety of science, music, cultural and the theatrical performances to be offered and presented to the Peirce students. Each grade level has an opportunity to experience 3-4 different performances each year. This program is organized and arranged by parent volunteers and is financially supported by the PTO.

FIELD TRIPS

From time to time classes plan field trips to nearby locations. Each child will bring home a permission slip, mandated by the School Committee, for a parent or guardian to sign and return. No child may go on a trip without the signed permission slip. Parents may be asked to contribute a small amount towards the expense of taking the field trip. Money paid for field trips will not, in most cases, be refunded if a child does not go on a trip. The money for buses cannot be returned since there is a fixed cost for any trip. In cases of hardship, the teacher or principal should be notified. No child is denied access to any field trip. All buses used for field trips are equipped with seat belts. Parents and teachers encourage and assist students buckle their belts. Teachers are not required to ensure that belts remain buckled at all times (see School Committee Field Trip and transportation policies.).

LIBRARY

Each class visits the library on a regular basis for an introduction to new books and reference tools presented by a full-time professional librarian/media specialist. Kindergartners check books out for one week at a time and may not check out a new book until the old one is returned. In addition to regularly scheduled classes, students may use the library to work on research projects, continue small group work or just browse for a good book. Parent volunteer staff the library each day to help the children, to work on the basic day-to-day necessities of checking books out and re-shelving returned items, and to help with other related library activities.

UNDERSTANDING OUR DIFFERENCES

In grades 3-5, parent volunteers present the citywide “Understanding Our Differences” curriculum. This is a unique program designed to help non-disabled children understand what it may feel like to have a disability. Information is presented through an interactive program. The program encourages children to discuss their feelings and concerns about the visible effects and consequences of various disabilities. It further helps them appreciate that disabled people are not unlike themselves.