

ÉCOLE PHOENIX MIDDLE SCHOOL



Thursday, April 11th, 2024

- **Grade 8 GSA** is unfortunately postponed for today, as Ms. Kasdorf is away. See you next week!
- **Drawing contest:** submit entries to room 107, due April 12th. Mythical creatures theme. Ask Elsa if you have any questions.
- **Dance** today in the MPR during grade 6/7 lunch recess – 12:20-12:50 p.m.
- **Bake sale** on Wednesday, April 17th. Bring your toonies and loonies!
- **Attention Phoenix creative writers:** The results of the writing contest will be announced this Friday! Stay tuned...
- **Cute Pet Photo Contest** voting is starting this week! Bring cash or coins to vote for your favourite cute pet! This year we have categories: Dog, Cat, and Others. Vote in them all! Winners will get a prize package for their pet. All proceeds go to the SPCA.
- There will be a **Phoenix Spelling Bee** on April 18th (not the 15th. But teachers, if you have band students who would really like to participate, let me know. Maybe we could postpone it) *Stay tuned for more information!*
- As many of you know, April is National Poetry Month, a time dedicated to celebrating the beauty and power of poetry. This year's theme is "Weather (La Météo)," inviting students to explore the elements and emotions of weather through poetic expression. Throughout the month of April, Mrs. Parkinson will be hosting a series of poetry contests, and she invites all students to participate. Whether you're seasoned poets or new to writing verse, these contests offer a chance for creativity and self-expression.

Here is a rundown of 2 of the contests (each week there will be a new one). If you are a French Immersion student, feel free to write in French or English. All submissions are to be given to Mrs. Parkinson in the LLC by the specified deadlines. Prizes will be awarded for each category during the first week of May.

Thank you for promoting and supporting the poetry contests! Let's make the National Poetry Month a memorable and creative experience for all!

1. This contest will run all month, with the final deadline being **Tuesday, April 30th**.

Stormy Narrative Poetry Contest

- Craft a narrative poem that depicts intense weather events such as thunderstorms, hurricanes, blizzards, or tornadoes, exploring the emotions and experiences associated with them.
- A Narrative poem is a form of poetry that tells a story, often using the voices of both a narrator and characters (or the weather). It will have a rising action, conflict, climax, and resolution.
- It must be written in poetry form (but does not have to rhyme).
- The winning narrative poem will include many poetry devices (alliteration, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, end rhyme or internal rhyme, irony, allusion, personification, etc.).

** You could read a narrative poem so you have an idea of what you need to write (Mrs. Parkinson has some in the LLC, you could also go online. The Cremation of Sam McGee, The Shooting of Dan McGrew, etc.)

2. Week one contest only. Poems are due in by **Tuesday, April 9th**.

Weather Personification challenge

- Students are to personify various weather elements (e.g., rain, wind, sun) and write poems from their perspectives, providing insight into how these natural forces might think or feel.
- Again, these poems can rhyme, but they don't have to.
- Minimum length of poem is 4 lines.
- Don't know what personification is? Ask your teacher, Mrs. Parkinson, or look it up!

It's time to get creative!