

The Plastic Predicament

Plastic: Drastic or fantastic?

Dear Parents, Teachers, and PEAKers,

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Break. Last week, students formed teams and started inventing items they could build from used plastic. We're focusing on the "Reuse" part of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. There are some really interesting ideas and we look forward to sharing them with you soon! Student teams will have work time this week. **Students, I hope you've been able to gather the needed supplies for your projects over the break. Please bring any plastic you've collected for us to build with!**

We also analyzed the plastic usage of our households in our Plastic Audit, and, as you might expect, we were amazed at just how much plastic is being used every week (and I suspect the actual amounts are likely far higher than we estimated!) We'll continue this work this week as students learn about each of the types of plastic we audited: whether the items can be recycled, what happens to the plastics after use, impacts on animals and ecosystems, etc. They will then make recommendations for us all to use plastic as responsibly as we can.

PEAK Parent/Teacher Conferences

PEAK Parents, please see the calendar on pg. 2. We have a modified PEAK schedule in December due to the schools' Winter Programs in each school (students will not have a PEAK class the week of their school's program). We will offer time slots for Parent/Teacher Conferences on four days in December. I will be sending a sign-up email soon.

This Week's Activities: Dec. 1 - 5

<p>Research I can gather relevant information with teacher guidance.</p>	<p>Plastic Audit: Impacts Students will conduct research on what happens to the various types of plastic items we focused on in our Plastic Audit, including reuse ideas, recycling details, and environmental impacts.</p>
<p>Communication: Persuasive Writing I can create written works to persuade the reader toward a certain viewpoint supported by logic, facts, and data.</p>	<p>Plastic Audit pt. 2 Students have learned about how much plastic we all use in our households each week. This week, they will focus on coming up with realistic recommendations to use plastic as wisely as possible in our homes.</p>
<p>Interpersonal: Teamwork I can assume an assigned role within a group and effectively contribute to a team.</p>	<p>Plastic Project Partnership Students have formed teams and have come up with ideas for their final projects. We'll continue collecting supplies and working on the designs this week.</p>

Reducing and Recycling, but focused on REUSING,

J. Slead & C. Sieminski

PEAK GT3-5: Winter 2025-26

December 1 PEAK Middle School and High School Classes	2 Broadwater Bryant Central	3 Four Georgians Smith	4 Jefferson Jim Darcy Warren	5 Kessler Rossiter EARLY RELEASE (11:40am)
8 PEAK Middle School and High School Classes	PEAK Parent/Teacher Conferences	10 4Gs Smith Bryant ←	11 Jim Darcy Warren Rossiter ←	12 PEAK Parent/Teacher Conferences
15 PEAK Middle School and High School Classes	16 Broadwater Central	17 PEAK Parent/Teacher Conferences	18 Jefferson Kessler ←	19 PEAK Parent/Teacher Conferences
22	23	24	25	26
Winter Break No School				
29	30	31	January 1	2
Winter Break No School				
5 PEAK Middle School and High School Classes	6 Broadwater Bryant Central	7 Four Georgians Smith	8 Jefferson Jim Darcy Warren	9 Kessler Rossiter
12 PEAK Middle School and High School Classes	13 Broadwater Bryant Central	14 Four Georgians Smith	15 Jefferson Jim Darcy Warren	16 Kessler Rossiter
19 Martn Luther King Jr. Day No School	20	21	22	23
PEAK Middle School/ High School Week No Elementary PEAK Classes				