

Dear Parents, Teachers, and PEAKers,

Welcome to the PEAK Gifted & Talented Program for the 2023-2024 school year! I am excited to be returning to the 4th-5th grades this year. And, we have a brand new space as well! Students will be busing to Four Georgians School to meet their new PEAK classmates in Room 20. (Please see the calendar on Pg. 2 for specific scheduling details). The room is very nice and we are excited to be in a brand new zone! I can't wait to show the students around.

Our first unit this year will be **Transformations**: a study of metamorphosis and personal growth. We'll be taking a deep look at the fascinating process of metamorphosis that most animals on earth go through in their life cycles. We'll also be putting an interpersonal spin on this concept as we look at personal metamorphosis as well: we'll be identifying values, setting goals, and working on personal improvement throughout the unit.

This week will be an introduction to each other, the new spaces, and more as we embark on a new school year. We'll also take our first look at metamorphosis with a study of various insects and their fascinating **hemimetabolous** life cycles. (Please be sure to ask your child what that means!)

I'll be sending out a newsletter and calendar each week (usually on Fridays). Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns as we navigate this recent metamorphosis of the PEAK Program!

This Week's Activities: September 11-15

| Interpersonal: Teamwork/Collaboration I can assume an assigned role within a group and effectively contribute to a team. | New Faces, New Spaces - Students will participate in some introductory activities to meet their new PEAK classmates and get acquainted with our new space at Four Georgians School. | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Logical Reasoning: Debate I can participate in a simplified-format debate with provided viewpoints and criteria. | A Matter of Time - Students will complete a survey of what they value the most, and how they use their time in the span of one week. The results will be used in future goal-setting activities. | | | | |
| Research: Internet I can navigate the internet and collect relevant research, including citations, with teacher guidance. | Entomology Via Technology - Students will use internet research to learn about insect metamorphosis in species with hemimetabolous life cycles. They will then create demonstrations for the class. | | | | |

Ready for new beginnings,

J. Slead

PEAK GT4-5: Fall 2023

| September 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
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| Jefferson | Jim Darcy | Four Georgians | Smith | |
| Rossiter | Kessler | Hawthorne | Broadwater | |
| Warren | Central | | Bryant | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
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| Jefferson | Jim Darcy | Four Georgians | Smith | |
| Rossiter | Kessler | Hawthorne | Broadwater | |
| Warren | Central | | Bryant | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | | | | |
| Jefferson | Jim Darcy | Four Georgians | Smith | |
| Rossiter | Kessler | Hawthorne | Broadwater | |
| Warren | Central | | Bryant | |
| October 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | | | Four Georgians | |
| Jefferson | Jim Darcy | | Hawthorne | |
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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
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| | Rossiter | Four Georgians | Smith | |
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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
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| Jefferson | Jim Darcy | Hawthorne | Teacher Co | onventions |
| Rossiter | Kessler | Smith, Bryant | No Se | chool |
| Warren | Central | Broadwater | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
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| Jefferson | Jim Darcy | Four Georgians | Smith | |
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| 30 | 31 | November 1 | 2 | 3 |
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