

## #worldchangers

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### **Summer GoalPost Field Trip Experiences-**

GoalPost trips allowed our students the opportunity to experience hands-on learning infused with fun to avoid the "summer slide." With Science being the focus of this year's field experiences, students attended trips to the Greenville Zoo, SC Agricultural Museum, Roper Mountain Science Center, and Duke World of Energy.

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**Hang Up and Talk** - Our Student Council started a movement in our community by standing in our afternoon car line with petition signs to encourage parents to hang up their phones and talk to their child/ren about their school day. Two local news channels highlighted this movement with stories on the evening news, which expanded the impact of the movement beyond our school community. We are proud of the student leaders in our school and our World Changers in action.

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**Two Big Family Events** – The PTO sponsored Fall Festival, Boonanza, was a huge success this year. Our families and staff had fun while money was raised for our school during this family event. We had a great turnout for this year's PES family dance. We had a wonderful time dancing the night away with our families.

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**Box Tops and Time for Kids** – We sincerely appreciate parental support of our fundraisers. The Time for Kids fundraiser allows us to provide a free copy of the high-interest, nonfiction magazine to every student, and it is used to enhance classroom instruction. Money raised from Box Tops is used for student incentives such as World Changers Celebrations.

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40% of students scored Met or Exceeding on SC Ready English

51% of students scored Met or Exceeding on SC Ready Math

74% of students scored Met or Exceeding on SC Pass Science

80% of students scored Met or Exceeding on SC Pass Social Studies

We performed as well as other schools like ours from around the state in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

### ***Pendleton Elementary School***

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Pendleton, SC 29670***

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### **Pendleton Elementary School**

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### **2016-2017 Report to the People**

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**Jeffrey Simpson:  
Principal**

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**Amanda Wardlaw:  
SIC Chairperson**

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*Experience the World*

**#WORLDCHANGERS  
[pes.anderson4.org](http://pes.anderson4.org)**

## Check Out Highlights From Our Year!

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**Canned Food Drive**—We had another amazing food drive this year where we donated hundreds of pounds of food to local food banks. We believe to change the world we have to start in our own community.

**Muffins with Mom, Doughnuts with Dad, and Gravy Biscuits with Grands**— One of our school goals this year was to encourage more family members to visit our school. These events were all very well attended, and moms, dads, and grandparents all felt loved during these special programs. We took advantage of having families present with their children to teach a few very important literacy skills and tips to encourage families to be partners with the school in their child(ren)'s success in literacy development.

**Disability Awareness Week** - This year, students participated in Disability Awareness Week. Classroom teachers scheduled visits to special education classrooms in our school to increase awareness and empathy for others who may appear different from them. This allowed our students to discover the common similarities we all share and build relationships. In addition, facts about disabilities were posted around the school for students to read.

**OLWEUS Class Meetings**— Our school participates in the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, which is a district wide initiative. Our staff was trained in how to implement the program, best practices regarding bullying and bystanders, and how to respond to bullying. Our classes meet weekly to discuss community, how we can better include everyone and treat everyone equally, and how to spread kindness. Head coaches from local collegiate baseball and softball teams kicked off our year with a bang during our OLWEUS kick-off in which we “took a swing at bullying.” Students heard personal stories from coaches and players regarding bullying.

**GROWL and Essentials**—We have been very successful this year continuing our character education program in which students are taught life skills with our school wide Essentials and good character traits with our GROWL acronym standing for Gratitude, Respect, Ownership, World Changer, and Leadership. Hundreds of nominations were made for teachers and students displaying these traits and daily Bulldog GROWL awards were given to staff and students.

**Student Clubs**—We offer a wide variety of clubs to meet the interests of all our students. Our clubs are open to all students grades 3-6, and they can choose the clubs they wish to join. We added two unique clubs this year through a partnership with Clemson University—Garden and Running club. Our teachers sponsor the clubs, and Clemson students and faculty plan and lead the clubs. We also offer the following clubs: Chorus, Art, Zumba, Good News, and Student Council.

**Upper Grade Level Field Trip Experiences** - Students in our third through sixth grade travel on many different field trip experiences around the state. Third grade South Carolina history curriculum comes to life on their trip to Columbia. They visit the State House and participate in tours of both the Senate and House. Fourth grade travels for a two-night trip to Charleston where they explore Patriot's Point, Fort Sumter, the SC Aquarium, and Boone Hall Plantation, as well as go on a Barrier Island Eco Tour. They get to stay aboard the Yorktown for a once-in-a-lifetime experience of sleeping in the bunks. Our fifth graders learn about ecosystems when they travel to Camp Sewee. They get to explore the marshes, go on Eco Tours, and engage in hands-on opportunities with marine animals. Sixth graders are our student leaders at PES and we cultivate their leadership potential by providing a field experience at Earth Shine in Lake Toxaway, North Carolina. This trip allows students opportunities to work together as a team to conquer tasks, overcome personal fears, survive in the wilderness, and develop their leadership skills.

**Travel Around the World Day** - Teachers prepared lessons about different countries. The lessons highlighted topics such as culture, language, education, geography, etc. Students rotated around with their class to three other classes which allowed each student to be exposed to four lessons (different countries) within the school day.

**Professional Learning Communities** — At PES, we have weekly PLCs to meet the needs of each teacher. We focus on standards, data, and individual student needs. PLC teams analyze evidence of student learning to improve professional practice. Most importantly, our professional learning communities work interdependently to achieve common goals to promote student achievement.

**Upstate Mentor** – We have almost 20 adults from our community that take time out of their day to visit with students from our school once a week to talk about life, school, and anything that can help them be good students and citizens. We are thankful for our mentors.

**Literacy Initiatives** – Through monthly Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings with the literacy coach, teachers are collaborating, analyzing data, and learning research-based strategies in order to provide rigorous literacy instruction that is relevant and motivating to students. This year, there has been a continued focus on strengthening the reading workshop model, particularly conducting individual and small group conferences with students reading books of choice and increasing the level of student engagement. One goal for this school year was to improve classroom libraries, since access to a wide range of books is directly linked to student achievement and fostering a lifelong love for reading. Several grants have provided new, diverse books to enhance classroom libraries and nonfiction books related to Science and Social Studies have also been added to strengthen cross-curricular connections. In addition, new and high interest topics are constantly added to our school Media Center. The PES "Literacy Leaders" team meets monthly with the literacy coach to share and discuss ideas receive research-based tips and activities to incorporate into instruction. This group of teachers is passionate and devoted to professional improvement and quality literacy instruction. This year, we have continued to see tremendous student growth with our Leveled Literacy Instruction (LLI) intervention program. Students have increased multiple reading levels, and in many cases, have caught up to grade level reading expectations. Through events such as our Literacy Night, Muffins for Moms, and Field Day, we have worked to build at-home libraries for students to have access to books outside of school and encourage parents/guardians to read with their child(ren).