

Good morning, it's February 28, 2013, and welcome to Panther News. I'm \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_th grade.

Today is the last day of the shortest month of the year, February. Why does it have only 28 days?

The Earth revolves around the Sun in 365 days and 6 hours. We can't have a day of 6 hours every year, so we keep February with 28 days. These 6 hours per year add up to 24 hours after 4 years, so we add 1 day in February to get one extra day and that year has 366 days which we call a "Leap Year" because it leaps for one day.

As this year passes or goes by, we come back in the same time scale with February of 28 days for the next three years and then a leap year, and so on.

Good morning. I'm \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_th grade.

In the beginning, the calendar had only 10 months with 36 and 37 days per month. The names were: January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November, December.

King Augustus came later, and the astrologers and astronomers of his age immortalized him by creating another month in the calendar with his name, so "August" was declared the 7<sup>th</sup> month. The year now had a total of 11 months, and the number of days per month were reduced to 33 or 34.

And then came King Julius, and the astrologers and astronomers of his age obeyed his orders by creating another month in the calendar with his name, so "July" was declared the 7<sup>th</sup> month, and August became the 8<sup>th</sup> month.

Good morning. I'm \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_th grade.

The year now had a total of 12 months, and the number of days per month were reduced to 30 or 31, but the calculations did not fit exactly, so the numerologists, astrologists and astronomers of the Royal Courts changed February to 28 days and every four years, 29 days to keep the solar or Gregorian ... named after Pope Gregory XIII ... calendar synchronized or in order with the 365 days and 6 hours it takes the Earth to revolve around the Sun.

The next leap year is 2016. February will have 29 days.

Good morning. I'm \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_th grade.

The month of March begins tomorrow, and Texas celebrates the anniversary of its declaration of independence ... March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1836 ... from Mexico this Saturday.

There are no holidays, but let's take a look at some important dates for this month:

Ohio became the 17<sup>th</sup> state, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1803.

Sam Houston was born on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1793.

The Missouri Compromise was passed on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1820.

The first Congress under the U.S. Constitution met on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1789.

Good morning. I'm \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_th grade.

The Italian artist, Michelangelo was born on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1475.

General Santa Ana captured the Alamo on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1836.

Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1876.

Juliette Low founded the Girl Scout movement in America on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1912.

Eli Whitney patented the cotton gin on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1794.

Albert Einstein, German-born American physicist was born on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1879.

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Julius Caesar was assassinated on March 15<sup>th</sup> ... “The Ides of March” ... 44 B.C.

Andrew Jackson, 7<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, was born on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1767.

James Madison, 4<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, was born on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1751.

Grover Cleveland, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, was born on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1837.

Benito Juarez, Mexican political leader, was born on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1806.

Patrick Henry declared, “Give me liberty, or give me death!” on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1775.

Good morning. I'm \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_th grade.

The British Parliament abolished slave trade on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1807.

Robert Frost, American poet, was born on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1874.

John Tyler, 10<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, was born on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1790.

The United States purchased Alaska from Russia on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1867.

Daylight Saving Time went into effect in the United States on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1918.

Some quick announcements:

The Tejano Center received a \$20,000 gift from COMCAST for use by RYSS to create a “Digital Learning Center”. The computer center is now in place in the library, and it is ready for teachers and students to use.

Ms. Smith wants us to announce that she will be starting her 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math tutorials on Fridays at 1:45 pm to 3:15 pm on the 3rd floor in room 308.

There will be a bake sale Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. The PE classes ... grades 6 through 8 ... are participating in “Hoops for Heart”, a fundraiser for the American Heart Association. The money from the bake sale will go to gift cards for the top fundraisers in grades 6 through 8. The times are 1:30 - 3pm. Support the fundraiser, and buy some freshly baked cookies, brownies, cupcakes and more. If anyone would like to donate any baked goods or store bought goods they could sell, that would be greatly appreciated.

This week is “Spirit Week” and for \$2.00 per day, you can dress up. Today is “Nerd Day”, and Friday is “Sports Day”. Buy your tickets in the third floor office.

Next week is “National School Breakfast Week”. Start your day with a healthy school breakfast, and receive a special treat all week! Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It provides the necessary energy to get set for a day of learning and achievement.

Please come to school with basic school supplies: pens, pencils and paper.

Please make sure that you are following the uniform code in your student handbook.

Wear your ID badge at all times while on campus.

Respect each other as you pass by in the hallways. Stay to your right, and NO BULLYING, please!

If you see trash in the hallways of our buildings and anywhere on our campus, pick it up, and throw it in a garbage can.

Do not enter the buildings until 7:55am, and do not walk in drinking beverages.

After school, stay in the gated area ... courtyard ... and wait for your parents to pick you up.

We want to mention again, the “My Words” section as a part of our broadcast, soon, so everyone understands its importance. We will feature a student as a guest on PANTHER NEWS to read his/her composition or written expression.

Again, a written expression is the ability to write down information and ideas ... using sentences, correct grammar and spelling ... so your writing can be understood by others.

So, work on your sentences, and polish up your grammar and spelling. You may have an opportunity to join us “live” as a featured guest on PANTHER NEWS to share your written thoughts and feelings.

Teachers, please submit your students’ compositions so we can then contact them for the broadcast.

## Communities in Schools

Today: Reading Tutoring – Vocabulary Review.  
Homework Completion. College and Workforce  
Readiness – “Career Highlight, Teachers”. Youth  
Development Enrichment – Basketball, Xbox, Wii, Board  
Games.

Friday: Career Awareness – “Get the Math, Math in  
Special Effects”. Homework Completion. Physical Activity  
– Soccer Practice. Fine Arts and Technology – Xbox, Wii.

## Lunch Menu

Today: Chicken Fajita Strips with Salsa and Whole Wheat Tortilla or Chopped Beef Sandwich, Charro Beans, Steamed Spinach, Fresh Apple.

Friday: Crispy Chicken or Fish on Bun, Mayo and Ketchup, Salad, Sweet Potato Sticks, Fresh Fruit.

Again, our e-mail address so you can send your comments and submissions to PANTHER NEWS for broadcast consideration:

[panthernewsreport@panthernewsreport.com](mailto:panthernewsreport@panthernewsreport.com)

That's all for now. We'll see you next Monday. Have a great day, and study hard! Your future depends on it!