

The Plymouth Center School Connection

April 2023

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

March was a wonderful month at PCS where teachers spent a great deal of time focusing on academics with students. During their professional development day, they took a deeper look into phonics with Mike Rafferty and have been working hard to apply those principles in their phonics and literacy instruction. We also enjoyed conferences with families and sharing all of the wonderful growth students have been making this year! We look forward to starting our second round of clubs this upcoming month where we are offering Crafting Club, Cheerleading Club, Coding Club, Gardening Club, Lego Engineering Club, and Board Game Club as well as our 2nd grade field trip to Westmoor Park to explore seeds and our first grade science driven in-house field trips on light and sound.

As a reminder, The Plymouth Center School Connection will be shared monthly as a means of highlighting the good work being done at Plymouth Center School. You will find the information will be under three specific district goal areas: Student Achievement, Engagement, and Well-Being.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact the main office and I look forward to seeing everyone at our school events throughout the year.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Logan Worhunsky for being selected as the Superintendent's Student Award recipient for Plymouth Center School. Logan is an amazing second grader who works hard on his academics and shows perseverance across all of his subjects. He is empathetic, kind, and caring to all of our school community and truly an amazing role model!



Our independence and confidence as mathematicians is growing everyday at Plymouth Center School! Kindergarten students are building on the hard work they have put into understanding numbers to 20 by now counting to 100! They are strengthening their number sense by finding patterns in a number chart and skip counting by 1s and 10s. First grade students are using everything they have learned about place value and addition and subtraction strategies to add and subtract 2-digit numbers. They are using strategies such as using Base 10 blocks, drawing models, using an open number line, and using a hundreds chart to learn these skills. Our second graders are also building on their computation skills by adding and subtracting numbers through 1,000. They are using the same strategies as our first graders but have expanded their knowledge to 3-digit numbers!

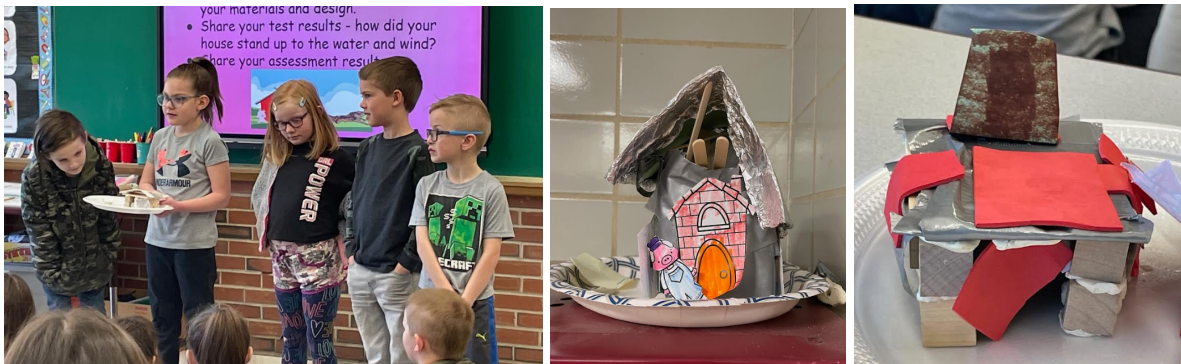
In ELA, Kindergarten students are using their “Vowel Power” to make sure that every word they write has a vowel in it. In addition they continue to grow their sight word vocabulary which increases their ability to read and write. Our first grade students are focusing on persuasive writing this month. They will use their skills to write book reviews. They will state their opinion and support it with evidence from the text. Students are using their summarizing and evaluating skills in this unit. In Grade 2, students are focusing on poetry this month. They will be exposed to many different types of poetry and write their own poems. They will experiment with language, sound, repetition, word choice, and metaphor. The unit ends with students celebrating their work.

ENGAGEMENT

Students in art classes are working on personifying fruits. They used clay for their medium and created their own faces with expressions for their fruit. Students are working hard to paint them with glaze that will then be put into the kiln where the colors will come to life!



Students in second grade spent time in science researching what makes structure strong and creating a house for the three little pigs that would survive rain and heavy winds (a blowdryer) using a range of materials from sponges to blocks. They presented their projects to their class where students explained why they made the decisions they did to have the strongest house and students were encouraged to ask questions of the groups. Students learned a great deal and collaborated with each other to share ideas, build their houses, and present their knowledge to their peers.



Students in grades K and 1 have been engaging in Writing Buddies this year. They practice planning their writing and applying writing strategies to a shared piece. It is a great way for our students to not only share what they know but inspire each other to be creative and put the wonderful ideas on paper as well as share their final pieces with their classes.



WELL-BEING

Students in Kindergarten have started their All Kids Bike program where they are utilizing strider bikes to learn the basics of biking. At the start of the program, students utilize them in balance. They use their feet to propel the bike forward which they then transition to pedals towards the end of the program. It is a fantastic program that Ms. Chateaufneuf has put in place to support their core balance, bike safety, and navigating straight, curved, and zigzag pathways!



PCS students continue to work hard at being role models by showing kindness, empathy, and respect. They are excited to come together as a community in our Bucket Filler Assembly to celebrate their peers and sing our school song together. Students have shown great growth in shifting from being sad if they did not get an award to being excited for their friends who are receiving one. This shows that they are developing a sense of community and understanding of their thoughts and feelings and how they relate to others and the world around them.

