

The Plymouth Center School Connection

November 2023

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

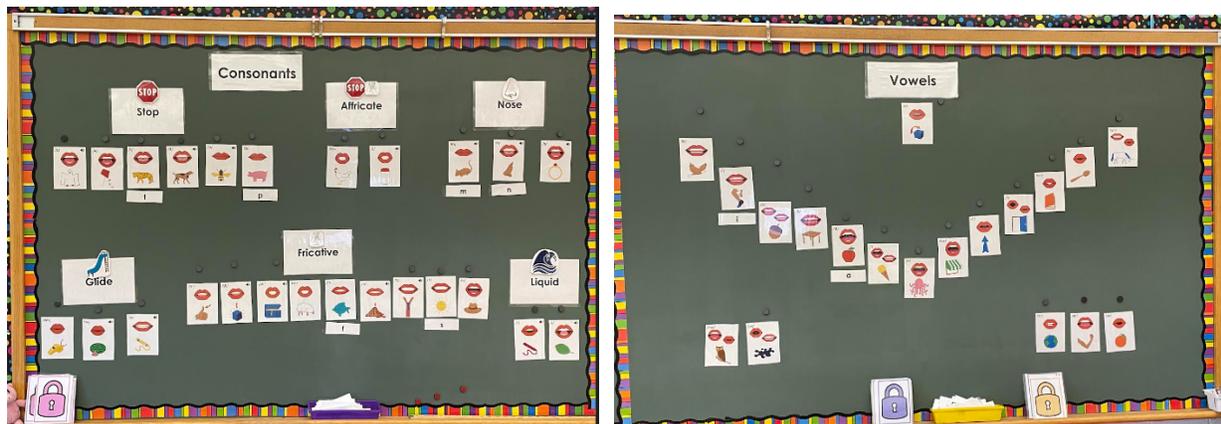
October has been a fun-filled month for our students in PreK through 2nd grade. The PCS staff raised \$350.00 to be sent to The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Pink Rose Fund at the start of the month. Students have been working hard in their small groups in mathematics and excelling in our UFLI phonics pilot! We closed the month with a spectacular dress up day where students wore costumes ranging from Power Rangers to policemen to Paw Patrol characters. We also had our first Bucket Filler assembly of the year! The building was filled with excitement as we brought in the fall season!

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

Two teachers in each grade level grades K through 2 are piloting a new phonics program, UFLI Foundations. It provides explicit, systematic, comprehensive instruction in all the phonics skills, including letter-sounds, phonemic awareness, decoding, spelling, writing, reading words from memory, and text reading. UFLI Foundations is rooted in the Science of Reading. It is an Orton-Gillingham approach that uses multi-sensory methods. Students are having overwhelming success in utilizing this program based on comparative data across the grade level and in comparison to prior years. We are excited to see the progress as the year continues!



Students were highlighted and celebrated for showing kindness, having empathy, and being respectful role models during the first Bucket Fillers assembly. They were reminded of the importance of filling up each other's buckets and their own without taking from anyone else's. Students were proud and excited to be recognized for their tremendous efforts!



ENGAGEMENT

In science class, Kindergarteners were engaging in lima bean dissection to make predictions and explore what was inside as they discuss what makes things grow.



First graders have been exploring shadows. They looked at how they were created and changed based on where and how they were standing.



Our local Volunteer Fire Department came to teach our students about fire safety. Students learned to stop, drop, and roll, to avoid unsafe items such as lighters, and talked about creating safety plans in case of an emergency. They then were given the amazing opportunity to walk through a fire truck and shoot a water cannon!



WELL-BEING

The Lions Club conducted their vision screenings with all students PreK through grade 2. This screening is done with a camera like device that takes a reading of how the eyes are working. There is no contact with the eyes. It is similar to having your picture taken and students received a print out of the results a few days later. This screening is much more accurate than the eye chart screening you may be familiar with and provides valuable information for parents.



The PTA also hosted our annual fall book fair where students were able to purchase books during the school day as well as offered two extended days for families to come in after school and access the book fair. It was a very successful event and highlighted the joy of reading to our students.

Trunk or Treat was a huge success! This year, we partnered with the entire community to host the event at the Terryville Fairgrounds. There were two buildings full of trunks, an activity building with crafts, fun activities, and treats like cotton candy, and a haunted house for those who were brave!

