

The Plymouth Center School Connection

March 2024

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

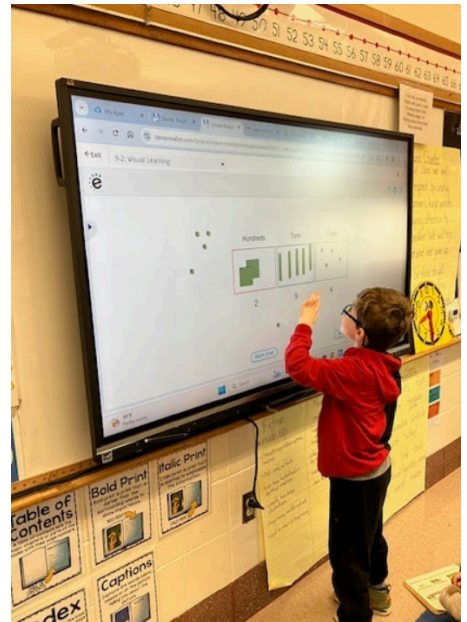
PCS has been filled with excitement this past month as students were engaged in their clubs and engineering in science! Students enjoyed celebrating Valentine's Day and writing and giving cards to their classmates. It was a wonderful day to celebrate friendship and show appreciation to each other. Teachers continue to focus their learning on our UFLI pilot, including more decodable books in their small group instruction in ELA, and including technology components into their math workshop. We look forward to a busy month of March with BINGO, Read Across America, and Parent Teacher Conferences!

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

We are excited to be adding more technology into our math classrooms to support teaching and learning! All Kindergarten and first grade students will have iPads to use in their classrooms. These will help teachers integrate more online components of the EnVision resource. Kindergarten classes will also begin to use Sumdog as an added way to practice number sense and basic addition and subtraction skills. They are currently working on composing and decomposing teen numbers. First graders are strengthening their number sense by working on counting numbers up to 120. They are using a number chart to count by 1s and 10s, and finding patterns to help them build their number flexibility and prepare them for upcoming skills, like comparing numbers. Students in second grade are taking everything they have learned this year and applying it to multi-step word problems. They have also learned about telling time and counting coins and are now strengthening their place value skills with numbers to 1,000.



In literacy, Kindergarten students are using word parts such as at, in, an, and it to read and write new words. They have been using these word parts to build bigger words and play fun games. In addition, they are focusing on rereading to build fluency. Grade 1 students are reading and writing nonfiction books. Students are writing informational pieces and focusing



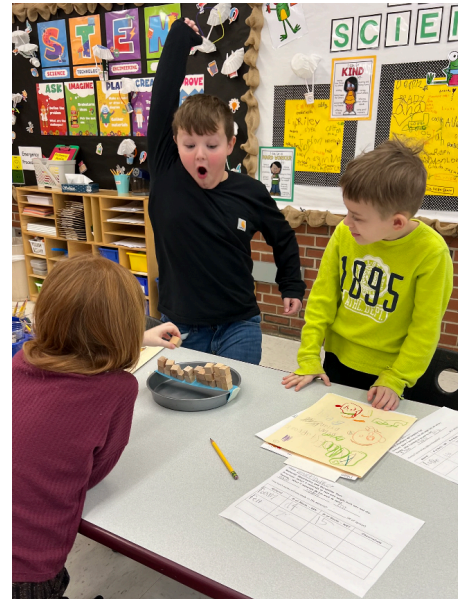
on adding details and text features. In addition they are using comparison in their nonfiction writing. Students enjoyed sharing their writing with their classmates. In Phonics, students are focusing on looking at the beginning, middle, and end of multisyllabic words. Grade 2 students are also reading and writing nonfiction books. In writing, students are adding introductions and conclusions. They are also learning how to organize their writing into parts or chapters. In reading, they are focusing on using text features to better understand the text as well as working on naming the topic of a nonfiction text.

ENGAGEMENT

As we continue to explore cultures around the world, students learned about the Chinese New Year. This year, it is the year of the Dragon! Students created dragon puppets and hand print dragons in PreK, while our K through 2 students learned how to draw dragons and made lanterns in library!



Mrs. Gallagher has been working hard with our PCS scientists this winter! They started off exploring the moon and moon phases, then shifted to concepts of engineering. They started by making elf traps using their new knowledge of simple machines then engaged in the Durability and Absorbency Challenge. Finally they put their learning to test in bridge building! Students worked hard to create bridges and competed to see how many cubes their bridges could hold.



WELL-BEING

The 100th Day of School at PCS was filled with counting sets of 100, dressing up how we think someone who is 100 would dress, and engaging in many learning tasks centered around the value of 100. On our Day 101, our Kindergarten celebrated the day learning that there are numbers beyond 100 and connecting it to a familiar Disney movie.



PCS students participated in the Kids Heart Challenge through our PE class. They were asked to make pledges and get donations towards daily exercise challenges. The entire school raised \$5,284.95, with Mrs. Stegbauer's class raising the highest amount of \$1,023.12. The class was awarded the Avocado Warmie and will use it as a reading partner!



Our PTA is working closely with our Literacy Coach, Cory Mazon, as they host Alyssa Satin Capucilli, the author of the Biscuit series, at our school. Mrs. Mazon is planning a series of events with our specials teachers and outside groups to bring meaningful experiences as well as opportunities to help our local pet shelter to tie into the overall theme of the books. Currently, students in all of our classrooms are having the opportunity to read to Remy, a therapy dog certified by Bright Spot Therapy Dogs, and his handler, Andi Cantele. Staff and students are enjoying spending time with Remy and sharing what they have learned!

