

The Plymouth Center School Connection

May 2024

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

The start to spring has brought fresh air, sunny skies, and lots of excitement to PCS! Students have started their spring clubs: Game Club, Sports Club, Kids Fit Yoga, Coding Club, and Craft Club. We have been lucky to provide over 80 students with club opportunities this spring! As we look ahead, we look forward to finishing our reading pilots to determine next steps for reading instruction and continuing our work in math workshop, integrating technology and a center model. As we close out the year, students are excited to showcase their art work in our annual Art Show, play games and be active in Field Day, and engage in field trips!

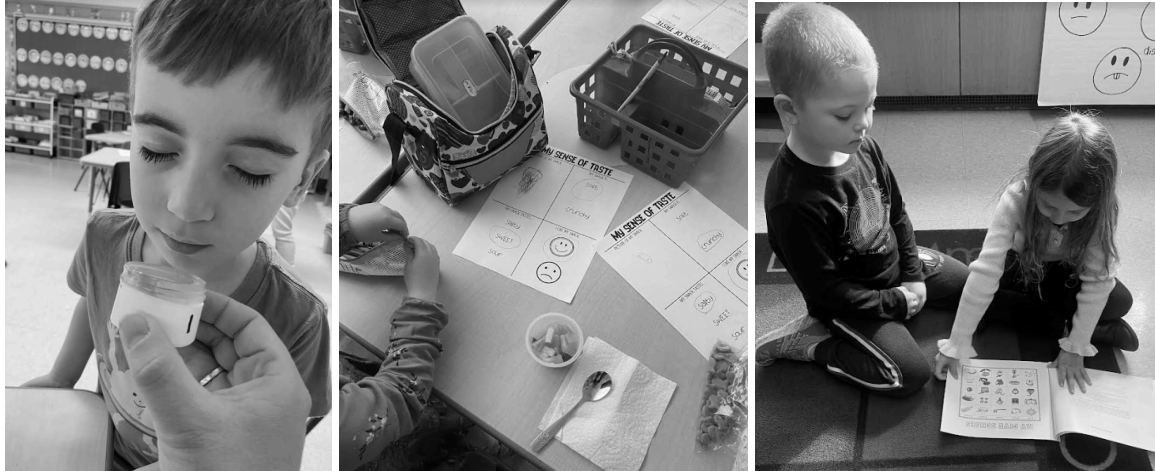
As a reminder, The Plymouth Center School Connection will be shared monthly as a means of highlighting the good work being done at Plymouth Center School. You will find the information will be under three specific district goal areas: Student Achievement, Engagement, and Well-Being.

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

Our kindergarten mathematicians are working hard learning and identifying shapes. They are comparing two and three dimensional objects and composing simple shapes to make larger shapes, such as two triangles to make a square. In grade 1, students are working on measurement and data. They are using non-standardized measurement, such as how many hand lengths or paperclip lengths an object is, and comparing across multiple objects to determine the shortest or longest objects. In second grade, students are increasing the rigor of the measurement units, using tools such as rulers and yardsticks to find the length of an object to the nearest quarter inch. They are estimating and finding how much longer or shorter an object is. Students are also using addition and subtraction strategies to answer word problems involving measurement.

In literacy, Grade 1 is reading books in a series and discussing the similarities they see in how the character acts. They are writing their own realistic fiction stories which they will share with their classmates. In Phonics they are working on r-controlled vowels. Grade 2 students are excited to have reading book clubs. Each student will read a different book in a series and then share their book with the group. Students discuss how the character traits are similar in each book in the series.



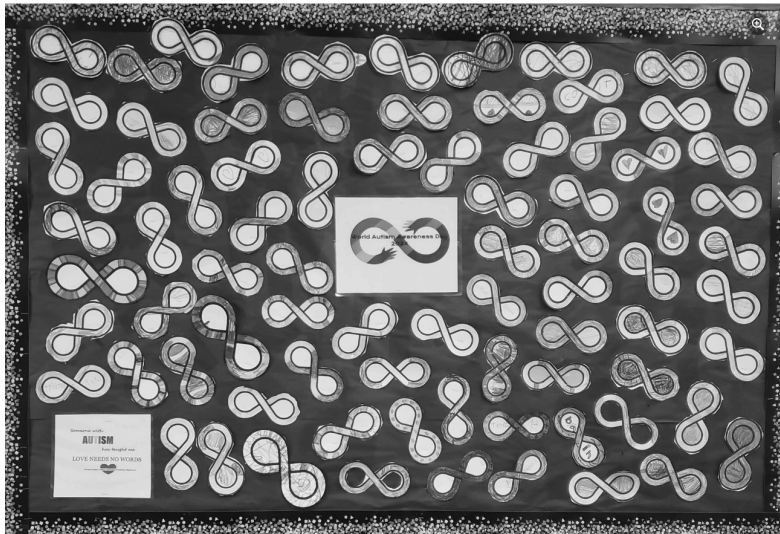
Kindergarten students are continuing to build their sight word vocabulary to increase their reading fluency. Teachers who are engaged in our pilot work are wrapping up their units of the 5 senses as students touch, feel, smell, listen, and taste different things and describe them using their senses. They relate these words to feelings and how it gives a strong visual or picture of how a character is feeling or how to convey an emotion or sense in their writing.

ENGAGEMENT

Our reading incentive program has officially begun! Students are creating blankets to donate to ARF during Maker's Space, crafting dog houses and scenes from the Biscuit books in art, and continuing to read to Remy, the therapy dog. For our first week, we read 10,050 minutes as a school and one student in each class who had the highest reading minutes was able to pick from our prize box! Students are super excited as they continue their journeys as avid readers.



Students at PCS celebrated Autism Awareness Day by learning about autism through class discussions, read alouds, and videos. Students colored the infinity symbol, which represents the idea that autism is a vast and complex spectrum and recognizes that everyone has a wide range of strengths and challenges. It was a fantastic day where students identified with each other and talked about how different things can be hard or easy for different people and taking the perspective of being helpers to each other.



Flanders Nature Center visited with our second graders to learn about pollination and how plants and animals depend upon each other.



WELL-BEING

PCS continues to celebrate amazing role models in kindness, respect, and empathy. Students in kindergarten are creating posters aligned to these attributes to hang in our hallways as we wrap up the year being outstanding Bucket Fillers!



PCS celebrated Paraprofessional Appreciation Day to our beloved paraprofessional staff! They work hard every day with our students from helping them with their academics to teaching them self help skills to finding books that they love! They give hugs when our students are crying, celebrate with them when their smiling, and are a positive light in our building every day!

