

The Plymouth Center School Connection

October 2024

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

The start of the year has been filled with fun and excitement with our students in PreK through 2nd grade. Our youngest students have had many firsts this year, from riding the bus to picking out library books by themselves to eating in a huge cafeteria! They have been working hard building classroom communities and beginning their learning journeys. All of our classrooms are kicking off a new phonics program, UFLI, as well as a reading and writing program, Wit and Wisdom, which is based on knowledge building and the Science of Reading. Our partnership with our PTA continues to grow as we host our first BINGO Night and School Store of the year! We look forward to a fantastic year of great growth and tremendous learning experiences!

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.

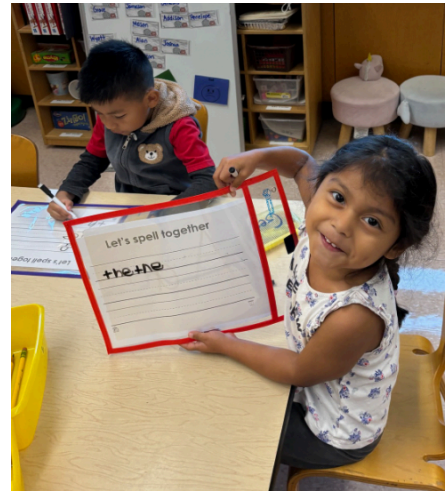
As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact the main office and I look forward to seeing everyone at our school events throughout the year.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Second graders started the year in literacy exploring familiar and unfamiliar books. They worked on their collaboration skills in small groups to read and create retells of a book they all enjoyed. They then created posters and presented retells about their books. They had wonderful illustrations and wrote detailed summaries that they presented in small groups to their class.



Teachers have worked hard in their professional development at the start of the year learning the UFLI curriculum and planning engaging lessons for their students. UFLI is an explicit and systematic program that teaches students foundational skills within phonics instruction such as phoneme blending, automaticity of grapheme-phoneme correspondences, and reading and spelling connecting text to be proficient readers. Featured in the picture are Kindergarteners that have been working hard in UFLI, learning and practicing writing and identifying the sounds of letters. They spent their first few lessons writing and making the sound of A and tackling irregular words such as “said” and “the”.



ENGAGEMENT

This year, PreK is having their first experience in our science class with Mrs. Gallagher! They spent their first few classes learning the expectations of the classroom and what it means to be a scientists. Now, they are learning about the tools scientists use to explore the world around them. Featured below are students learning to use magnifying glasses to explore worms and bugs for the first time up close!



As we start the year in art, students are reviewing and learning concepts such as line, shape, space, texture, and color. Students are working on their creativity and fine motor skills with Mrs. Boylan and are making self portraits, identifying colors to match their skin, eyes, and hair, and learning how to draw their different features that make them each unique! They will look at the height versus the width of their heads, identify symmetry of the face, and use lines to divide and space their features while trying to convey not only what a person looks like but also their emotion.



WELL-BEING



As we returned from the summer and welcomed our students, students worked hard to learn school routines and expectations, create classroom charters where students determine how they want to feel in their rooms and the actions they do with each other to create said environment. Teachers take time to build relationships with their students and use Responsive Classroom strategies within their morning meeting such as greetings, sharing something they did over the

summer, doing an activity or game like Zip Zip Zoom, and reading a morning message together. They used mindfulness, cooperative play, and fun brain and body breaks to reinforce these skills and create a positive environment for all!