

The Plymouth Center School Connection

January 2025

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

As always, December was an exciting month filled with fun snowman activities and holiday cheer! Students learned about different holidays around the world in our Library Media Center as well as shared in their classrooms the holidays they celebrate. Students dressed in pajamas to honor PJ Day for Kids, supporting children who are bravely battling cancer, raising over \$280. Our PTA held their annual Snowflake Shop, which sold pre wrapped gifts to students to allow their presents to be a surprise! Students and parents love this event every year! Lastly, we enjoyed spending time with families to celebrate students' successes during Parent-Teacher Conferences. It is always a wonderful time to collaborate with families!

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

In math, our Kindergarten students continue to practice identifying numbers and are beginning to count objects up to 20. They are building on these skills by beginning to learn the basic principles of addition using objects and equations. First grade students are beginning their work on representing and interpreting data by sorting objects and creating and reading tally charts and picture graphs. They are also learning to read the data in these graphs to answer word problems. Second graders are extending their understanding of addition and subtraction by focusing on single and multi-step word problems and taking them apart to decide which operations to use to accurately solve each problem.

In ELA, Kindergarten students wrapped up learning about their five senses module. They were challenged to relate one of their senses to a book they had read, then draw what they learned, labeling with first letter sounds. In UFLI, students are focusing on CVC patterns starting with "L" and continuing to learn new heart words. In first grade, students have concluded their first module: *A World of Books*. Their culminating activity had them write a narrative about a character whose life has changed because of books based on one of the books they had read within the unit. In UFLI, first graders continue to learn spelling patterns with a silent e to a more challenging level such _ce

and *_ge* as well as exceptions such as *give* and *none*. In second grade, students are finished their first module as well: *A Season of Change*. Students wrote informative paragraphs about one of the books they had read to show their mastery. In UFLI, students finished their long vowel teams such as *ea*, *oa*, and *igh*, and are shifting their focus to other teams such as *oo* and *ew*.

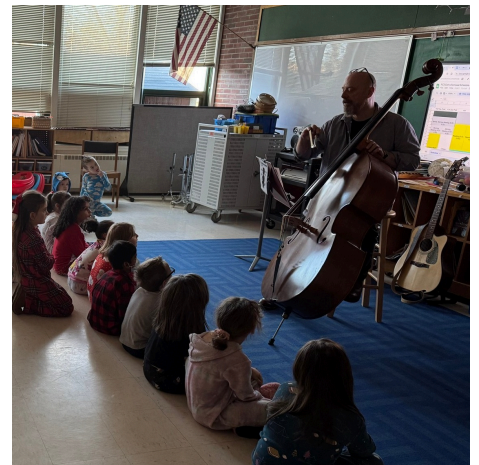
ENGAGEMENT



This past month, our first graders at PCS took a remarkable journey to the Terryville Public Library, and it was nothing short of magical! As part of their engaging new reading curriculum, students have been discovering the incredible power of books and how they can change lives. What better way to deepen that understanding than a field trip to our beloved local library? Not only did the students dive into reading, but they also rolled up their sleeves for a crafting session. A heartfelt

thank you to the incredible team at the Terryville Public Library for making this experience possible!

In music classes, students learned about the double bass. They have been connecting their knowledge of tone which they have learned through listening to different instruments and songs and applying to their own singing to this exciting new instrument! They discussed its history and the bow's construction as well as listened to some of its repertoire. Students used it in exercises and listened for major and minor tonal qualities. They participated in a tonal quality assessment where they gave a thumbs up if they thought it was major or thumbs down for minor tonality. It was a wonderful way to expose our students to different and unique instruments as well as apply their understanding of tonality to a new instrument!





The annual reading partnership between the THS National Honor Society and PCS has proven to be a meaningful experience for everyone involved! The elementary students were excited to have the opportunity to engage with high school students that they see within their community. This initiative not only fostered a love for books but also encouraged connections through shared interests like singing and sports, creating an inspiring and memorable experience for all

involved. We are hopeful to have a second visit in the spring where the THS National Honor Society can spend more time with our students and continue to motivate them to be outstanding citizens and lifelong learners!

WELL-BEING

From crafting unique art pieces that showcased their creativity to exploring the technicalities of coding, each week was a new opportunity for discovery and growth in all of our clubs. Students enjoyed creating 3D art sculptures and programming Bee Bots to run through mazes they designed. The Kids Fit Yoga sessions introduced them to the joys of stretching and mindfulness, fostering both physical wellness and a sense of calmness. Meanwhile, in Sports Club, they explored new games such as floor hockey and learned the value of teamwork. Although our fall activities have come to a close, we eagerly anticipate the arrival of spring when our clubs will return!



As we headed into the holiday seasons, we utilized this time to spread school spirit! Students were invited every day to dress up to the following themes: Mad About Plaid, where they wore their favorite plaid outfits, Grinch Day, where students wore their Whoville Best with Whoville hair and Grinchy green, Holiday Hair, Don't Care!, where students wore their favorite holiday hat and hair accessories with all of their holiday bling, Sweater Weather, where students wore their favorite or ugliest holiday sweater, and Polar Express Day, where they were in their pajamas. Students always enjoy this week to show their school spirit and get ready for the holiday week off!



Lastly, we celebrate our amazing Bucket Fillers at our monthly assembly. Students were recognized for their leadership in showing kindness, giving respect, and having empathy towards others. We concluded this celebration by singing our school song and dancing. It was a wonderful way to send our students off to the holiday and close out 2024!

