

The Plymouth Center School Connection

March 2025

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

February was an exciting and productive month for PCS! Our students dedicated themselves to their academics while gearing up for the upcoming reading incentive program and the much-anticipated Read Across America celebration in March. One of the highlights of the month was the PTA's second BINGO night, which brought together over 120 participants. Families enjoyed a fun-filled evening, competing for fantastic prizes, participating in a raffle featuring generous donations from our community, and creating lasting memories filled with laughter and smiles. In addition to BINGO night, we hosted our Winter Book Fair and our monthly School Store, providing students with opportunities to explore new books and purchase school supplies. After a busy month, everyone appreciated the refreshing February Break, which allowed for some well-deserved rest and relaxation. Our custodial team also deserves a special shout-out for their hard work over the winter break. They diligently sanitized classrooms and waxed floors, ensuring that our building sparkled and felt like new when everyone returned. As we look ahead, we are excited for the upcoming reading kickoff in March, which will set the stage for our author visit. We can't wait to see our students' enthusiasm for reading continue to grow! Here's to a fantastic month ahead at PCS!

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 mathematicians at Plymouth Center School are taking on the challenges that come in the second half of the year and are persevering and making amazing progress! Kindergarteners continue to focus on the concepts of addition and subtraction and will also dive deeper into their understanding of numbers 11 - 20. First graders are learning all about 2-digit numbers by focusing on place value, comparing numbers, and expressing the relationship between two numbers by determining one more and less and 10 more and less than a given number. Second graders are extending their math thinking by exploring telling time and counting money. Next they will revisit place value and expand their knowledge to 3-digit numbers. They will use number lines, hundreds charts, place value charts, and Base

10 blocks to show multiple ways to express a number, compare 3-digit numbers, and write numbers in expanded form.

Our Kindergarteners are wrapping up their Once Upon a Farm module in Wit and Wisdom where they have been focusing on what makes a good story and narrative writing. They learned about how authors create problems and resolutions as well as how they sequence events in stories. In UFLI, they are working on the / r /, / l /, and / w / sounds in words like rat, lap, and wig as well as in the middle of words like crop, clap, and swat. First graders are wrapping up their Creature Features unit as well as their narrative writing in Wit and Wisdom. Students learned about animals through stories and what makes different animals unique. In UFLI, students have worked the digraphs / tch / and long vowel - consonant - consonant like in words most (o-s-t) and wild (i-l-d). Second graders are finishing up their American West unit of study in Wit and Wisdom and closing out their informative/explanatory writing. Students have been learning about life as a Plains Indian in the early American West and how different authors can tell a story with different perspectives. In UFLI, students are learning the different vowel and letter teams that make the oo sound such as food, fruit, and spew.

As we wrap up our Lexia Lab program with Mrs. Mazon, we want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible dedication and hard work of our students. Over the past six weeks, these young learners have shown unwavering commitment by attending school five days a week, starting bright and early at 7:30 am! Throughout this program, students engaged with the Lexia platform and participated in small and individual group sessions with Mrs. Mazon. Their efforts culminated in a special reward: the opportunity to read to Remy, our beloved therapy dog, every Friday. This unique experience not only made learning enjoyable but also fostered a love for reading. The results of their hard work are truly impressive! All students demonstrated outstanding growth within this model. Notably, many progressed from Tier 3 to Tier 2 in at least two of the three DIBELS measures we utilized. Some exceptional students even exceeded expectations, advancing from Tier 3 to Tier 1 scores! On average, students made 1.5 units of progress during the six weeks from January to mid-February, compared to an average of just 1 unit of movement from September to January. This remarkable improvement highlights the effectiveness of our intensive and intimate learning environment. We are incredibly proud of our students' commitment and motivation, which have proven to be key factors in their success. We look forward to witnessing their continued progress and celebrating more achievements in the future! Thank you, Mrs. Mazon, and Remy, for your invaluable contributions to this program!



ENGAGEMENT



First graders are integrating math skills in science classes! Students are learning how to classify and categorize different groups ranging from animals to plants to foods and based on an array of features such as how many legs, their colors, and where they grow or live. As they build within their unit, they will learn how to use tally marks as well as read and organize information using a picture graph. This integrated approach fosters critical thinking and helps students to see the connections between math and science, making it more engaging and dynamic!

After the snow fall, APPLE students engaged in sledding, which offered valuable opportunities to develop essential life skills. By practicing tasks such as independently putting on snow gear, including zipping jackets, putting on snow boots, and wearing gloves, students enhanced their self-sufficiency and fine motor skills. Additionally, these activities promote social interaction, turn-taking, and effective communication, all of which are crucial for personal development. It was an amazing opportunity that promoted high levels of communication, reinforced practical skills, and was fun for everyone involved!



WELL-BEING

At PCS, we believe in fostering a strong sense of community among our staff, and our monthly staff breakfasts are a delightful way to do just that! Each month, a different grade level or department takes the lead in preparing a themed breakfast for everyone to enjoy. This month, our office staff and intervention team brought the whimsical world of Dr. Seuss to life with a fun-filled breakfast that featured the beloved Green Eggs and Ham, along with made-to-order crepes! These gatherings not only provide a delicious start to the day but also create an opportunity for our staff to come together, share laughter, and strengthen our bonds. It's heartwarming to see everyone enjoying each other's company, contributing to a positive school climate that we all cherish.

