



PRAIRIE WINDS *newsletter*

NOVEMBER 2025

A Reminder for Sporting Events:

We know how meaningful it is for students to support their Prairie Winds classmates at after-school sporting events, and we truly enjoy seeing their school spirit! However, we want to remind families that the school cannot provide supervision for students who attend games on their own. For safety reasons, we are not able to allow unsupervised students into the building after school hours. Any student attending a game must be accompanied by an adult, preferably a parent or guardian, though another responsible adult designated by the family is also acceptable. This adult must remain with the student and help ensure they follow behavior expectations.

We understand this may be disappointing for some families, and we appreciate your partnership in keeping our events safe, positive, and enjoyable for everyone.



THE PILLARS PERFORMANCE

On Wednesday, November 19th our 8th grade choir walked to The Pillars in Mankato for a Veteran's Day performance. Choir members came back excited to share that they had the opportunity to meet a WWII veteran and hear his experiences!

THE GRINCH FIELD TRIP

On Friday, November 14th we kicked off the field trip menu, bringing a group of 85 students in grades 6-8 to The Grinch performance at the Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis!

The Grinch himself arrived just in time to send students off on their trip!

The Grinch is just one of 8 different field trips offered to PWMS students this year, generously sponsored by the Taylor Foundation.





TOYS FOR TOYS

Our council is working to support the local Toys for Tots program, which collects new, unwrapped toys for families in need this holiday season.

While you're out over Thanksgiving, please consider donating a toy or sending a monetary donation with your PWMS student after break (checks payable to Toys for Tots).

Donations will be collected December 1-5.

A large collection box will be in the office, or students can give items to their Advisory Council rep. during 1st period.



IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF TOYS FOR TOTS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, CLICK THE LINK HERE FOR THE FORM.

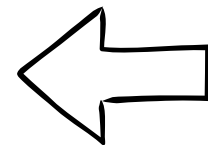
Questions? Contact Jim Tischler at JTISCH1@ISD77.ORG

The purpose of students taking the NWEA test is to measure their academic growth and identify their current skill levels in math and reading. Unlike traditional tests, NWEA assessments adapt to each student's performance, giving teachers a clearer picture of what students already understand and where they may need more support. This information helps our teachers to adjust instruction to ensure that every student continues to develop and succeed.

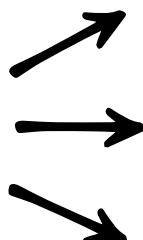
ELA- December 2nd through the 5th

Math- December 9th through the 12th

NWEA TESTS ARE COMING!



HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR STUDENT DO THEIR BEST ON THE NWEA TESTS?



Encourage them to turn off technology early and get a full distraction-free night of sleep!

Make sure they eat a healthy breakfast- either at home or at school!

Talk to them about the importance of doing their best on each of the tests! We want a true measure of where they are at!

PTO UPDATE

Thank you to all of the parents and guardians that supported conference meals by dropping off sides, desserts, and beverages. The teacher send their gratitude for all that you shared!

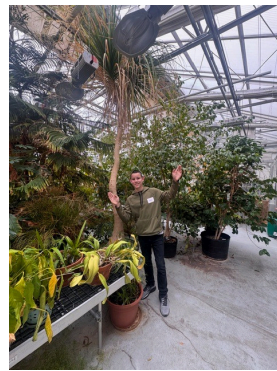
The game cabinet is up and running! Students who do not want to go into the gym after eating their lunch can now grab games and socialize with each other. It's been fun watching what games students grab first and watching students teaching each other how to play something new.

The next PTO meeting is scheduled for January 13th at 6:00 in the PWMS Commons. If you are not already on our mailing list, [please join it at the link here!](#)



MSU 8TH GRADE FIELD TRIPS

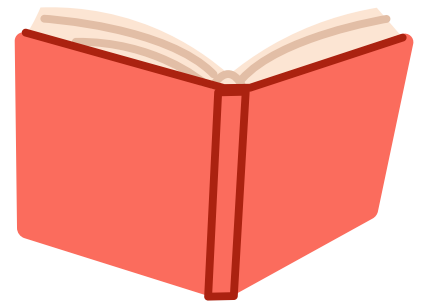
Last week Project Success organized tours of MSU for all of our 8th grade students! Students could pick from an athletic, behavioral health, or agriculture focus and had an opportunity to do some hands on learning and eat in a real college dining hall!



FAMILIES READ TOOLKIT

The Families READ toolkit helps Minnesota teachers give families ideas and tools to help their kids learn to read. This resource is designed for flexible implementation, allowing educators to adapt its content to the unique needs of children, families, and partnership settings. Toolkit materials are aligned with Minnesota's developmental standards and assessments for early language, literacy, and reading.

[CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE TOOLKIT!](#)



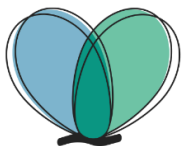
**CLICK THE SNOWFLAKE FOR A WINTER
WEATHER MESSAGE!**



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 27th & 28th- No school
December 1st- Choir Concert (7pm Mankato East HS)
December 2nd-6th- NWEA Reading
December 9th- Noodles and Company Fundraiser (Adams
Street location only)
December 9th-12th- NWEA Math
December 10th- Early Release
January 16th- 6th Grade Ski Trip to Mt. Kato

**ACCESS LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH
SUPPORT HERE!**



Greater Mankato
**MENTAL HEALTH
HUB**

**20% OFF ALL ITEMS NOW
THROUGH DEC. 23RD!**

PRAIRIE WINDS

Holiday Sale
Gifts For **KIDS**

20% OFF
SITEWIDE

DELIVERY BY
GUARANTEED
DEC. 2020

SHOP NOW

FREE Shipping On Orders Over \$75
SHOP AT: [1STPLACE.SALE/50998](#)

1ST PLACE
Spiritwear

Two t-shirts are displayed. The one on the left is yellow with 'PRAIRIE WINDS' and 'COUGARS' in black and gold lettering. The one on the right is black with 'PRAIRIE WINDS' and 'COUGARS' in yellow and white lettering. Above the shirts are several colorful Christmas lights (red, green, yellow, blue, red, green, yellow).

ORDER PWMS SPIRIT WEAR HERE!