

# The Plymouth Center School Connection

November 2022

## MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL KIM LOVELAND

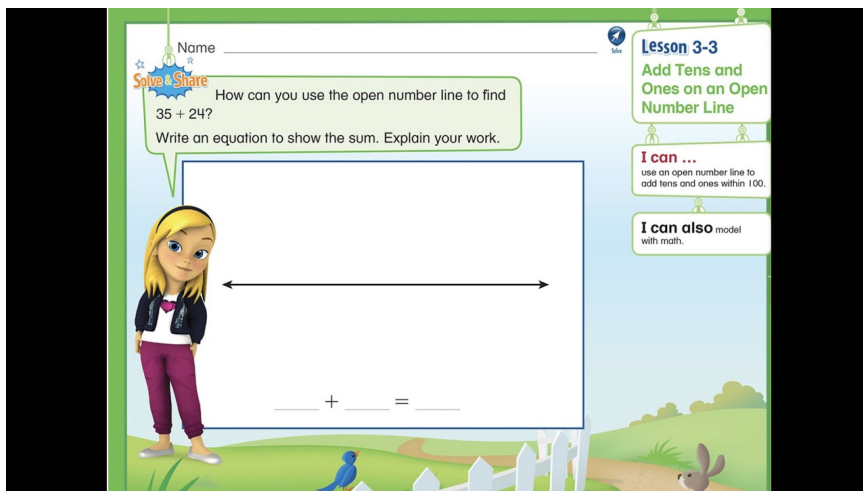
October has been a busy month for our students in PreK through 2nd grade. We were able to provide the Bristol Police Heroes Fund with \$600 and alongside FES, we raised \$1154 for the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief. These were amazing opportunities to teach our students how communities can come together to help each other. We closed the month with a spectacular dress up day where student wore costumes ranging from crayons to firemen to Paw Patrol characters. The building was filled with excitement as we brought in the fall season!

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

Teachers have been working hard utilizing their new math resource. Students in Kindergarten have been using hands-on activities to read, write, and count numbers from 0 to 10. First graders are learning strategies such as using a tens frame, doubles facts, and the connection between addition and subtraction to strengthen their fact fluency within 10. Second graders are learning addition strategies such as using a hundreds chart and open number line to find sums up to 100. They are also learning how to take apart and solve multi-step word problems by using bar diagrams and focusing on what is being asked in the question.



In reading, students are really growing their skills! Kindergarteners are focusing on using the sounds they have learned and blending them together to read and write words. First graders are using strategies such as checking the picture, looking at part of a word and trying a word two ways as they independently read. Second graders are working on solving multisyllabic words by reading the word part by part and thinking if it looks right, sounds right, and makes sense. They are also focused on visualizing while they read to increase their comprehension.



## ENGAGEMENT

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This month in PE, students have been working on traveling through shared space with various locomotor movements as well as exploring how our body feels differently when we exercise compared to when we are not. Students learned about parts of the circulatory system.

Kindergarten was introduced to the idea of a heartbeat and that your heart pumps blood to our entire body all the time. They are learning that their heart lives in their chest and beats faster when we move faster and longer. They practiced keeping a steady "heartbeat" with a circle activity where they kept a steady beat, clapping, and stomping and introduced the terms heart and lungs.

In grades 1 and 2, we took a deeper dive into what is happening inside our body when we feel our heart beating by exploring how a character "Buddy the Blood Cell" travels through our Circulatory System and picks up oxygen to deliver to all different parts of our body. Students did a simple tossing activity to simulate the pathway of blood through a simplified version of our "Circle System" over and over. Students in grade 1 are recognizing different "signs" of exercise" (tired, warm, sweaty, breathing fast, increased heartbeat etc..) while students in grade 2 are learning that they can feel their

heartbeat in places other than their chest, and learning to self-assess on how fast their heart is beating before and after different PE activities.

## WELL-BEING

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The Lions Club conducted their vision screenings with all students PreK through grade 2. This screening is done with a camera like device that takes a reading of how the eyes are working. There is no contact with the eyes. It is similar to having your picture taken and students received a print out of the results a few days later. This screening is much more accurate than the eye chart screening you may be familiar with and provides valuable information for parents.



The PCS PTA sponsored the annual Pumpkin Patch for our Kindergarten students. They were able to visit the “Pumpkin Patch” and choose a pumpkin to bring home to celebrate the fall season. Students read a book and learned about how pumpkins grow.

The PTA also hosted our annual fall book fair where students were able to purchase books during the school day as well as held an evening night for families to come in after school and access the book fair. It was a very successful event and brought great joy to our students.

Trunk or Treat was a huge success and combined activity hosted by PCS and FES PTAs. They coordinated families and community members to arrive with decorated trunks to give candy to our students and other children in our community. We were lucky to have FRC, the Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and Fire Department join in our festivities. They further were able to recruit Philly Joel Entertainer, who donated his time and services, to DJ this fun event and help to give out prizes for trunks such as the spookiest trunk.

