

# PLAINVIEW INTERMEDIATE NEWSLETTER

March 2019

## JULIE ALTOM, PRINCIPAL

Plainview Intermediate Parents:

As I write this article, I am realizing March is here! Teachers and students have accomplished a lot already this year; however, there is still much to do during the last three months of school. The inconsistent Oklahoma weather makes it difficult to sometimes buckle down with academics. It is imperative for us to work together as a team and keep our students focused on academics.

One way for us to work together is to keep striving for present and on-time attendance. Your student needs to be here every single day, if possible. Of course, if they are sick, we do expect you to keep them home and follow policies. Another way we can team up for students' academic success is communication between all parties involved: students, parents, and teachers. Ask your student to let you see his/her planner. Communicate about what was learned for the day, homework, or an area you can help your student be more successful in at this point in the school year. These are only a couple of ideas, and I feel confident you have more ideas.

I hope students will enjoy their spring break during the week of March 18th. It appears the weather is going to continue to be in the fifties and sixties which is very pleasant. As the students come back to school after their week off, it will be a time of final preparation prior to state testing. There will be only one week left before testing begins.

This year, our third graders will continue to take paper/pencil tests. Our fourth and fifth graders will participate in online testing this year. Third and fourth graders will take English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, and our fifth graders will take ELA including writing, mathematics, and science.

A letter will be sent which includes the testing dates for each grade level and classes testing each day. Keep your eyes open for this separate letter to parents.

## OKLAHOMA STATE TESTING

Hello Students & Families!

Oklahoma State Testing is right around the corner. State testing will begin on April 1st! Our 3rd grade students will continue to use the paper & pencil testing format while our 4th and 5th graders will be completing their state tests on laptop computers. The "OSTP Parent, Student, Teacher Guide" (PSTG) for 3rd graders will be sent out as hard copies, as they have in previous years. Parents and families of 4th & 5th grade students can access the PSTG at the following online link - <https://oklahoma.onlinehelp.measuredprogress.org/parent-student-teacher-guides/>

The practice questions you see in the PSTG represent the types of questions and interactions your student will see when they take the Spring 2019 OSTP state assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. If you have any difficulty accessing the PSTG online, please feel free to contact me.

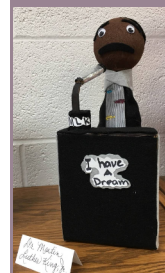
Thank you. Let's rock the test!

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## 4TH GRADE BOTTLEHEAD BIOGRAPHY

The 4th grade reading students recently read a biography and wrote a five paragraph essay about the person they chose. They were then given the challenge of creating a bottlehead to the likeness of the historical person. It is one of Mrs. Howard's favorite projects because it makes the library look like a museum. The reading teachers enjoy this project because they love seeing how the students are creative with the project. Fourth grade student Maggie Nance created a bottlehead of

Lucille Ball. Maggie said she chose her because "she reminded me of myself." Joel Lassahn learned some interesting facts about his person, Ronald Reagan. "He was the 40th president, and he successfully ended the Cold War. I thought he was a cool person and a cool president," stated Joel. If you get a chance, stop by to see the bottleheads on display in the library.



## UPCOMING DATES

### March 8th: Indian Beat

Join us as Mrs. Dotson's class leads Indian Beat

### March 8th: Spring Pictures

### March 11th: 5th Grade Track

Track meet at Plainview

### March 13th: 5th Grade Track

Track meet at Stratford

### March 18th-22nd: Spring Break

No School

### March 27th: Discovery Club Field Trip

Discovery Club members visit the Ft. Worth Museum of Science & History

### March 29th: Indian Beat

Join us as Mrs. Willis' class leads Indian Beat

## 5TH GRADE TRACK

The Plainview 5th grade track team has their first track meet on March 11th and their second track meet is on March 13th. Ever since 1st grade, the 5th graders have been preparing for track and field but now they are racing in their first actual meet. There are only two track meets for the 5th grade runners, but next year in 6th grade they will have a full schedule. Coach Gordon and Coach Fincher are looking for more gold medals than they can count. I asked two 5th grade students and Coach Fincher what they are looking forward to during the track season and why they enjoy track. Brooke Freer said, "I am looking forward to running the sprint races like the 100 meter dash and the 200 meter dash. I enjoy being with my friends and running my heart out!" Jhett Price said, "I am looking forward to winning because it will be cool. I also enjoy having a break from school, and I love the competition!" Coach Fincher said, "I love to help and be a part of the student athletes' journey in sports. Track is one of my favorite sports because it shows the students' true grit and determination as an athlete." Lets root on our Plainview 5th grade track runners!

By Abby Chaney

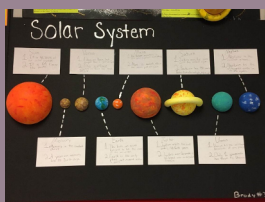
## 5TH GRADE SOLAR SYSTEMS

During the second semester, Mrs. Simmons challenged fifth grade students to construct a solar system. She told us that we could make the projects hang, sit, or be a diorama. Mrs. Simmons wanted the students to make a model that showcased their learning. The model showed the order of the planets



from the sun. I spoke to two fifth graders about the solar system project. Damion Martin said, "I enjoyed the experience and learning how the planets in the solar system went in order." Jamieson Melendez shared, "I learned what order the planets went in and which planets were made of gas." The fifth grade student projects are a sight to see! They are on display in the 5th grade hall if you would like to see them.

By Zimin Kwon



## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Four students from Mrs. Simmons' 5th grade class wrote the articles for the March newsletter. The students are Kasper Villarreal, Ben Harris, Zimin Kwon, and Abby Chaney. To see a color edition of the newsletter, please visit the Plainview website and select Plainview Intermediate.

[www.plainview.k12.ok.us](http://www.plainview.k12.ok.us)



## MEET THE TEACHER

Stacy Wilson is a 3rd grade teacher at Plainview Intermediate. She is married to Jeff Wilson and has two grown children, Shannon and Robbie, and baby Joe as a new addition to their family. She attended Lone Grove High School. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and her master's from East Central University. Mrs. Wilson has been teaching for 25 years, all of those years at Plainview.



Who do you look up to as a mentor? *Lisa Moore and Teresa Lawson*

What is your favorite children's book? *Tale of Despereaux*

What is the best compliment you've ever received? *"You make learning fun."*

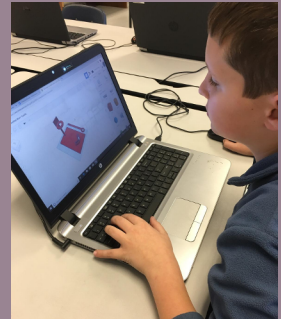
What is your favorite thing about this time of year? *Stormy weather*

If you could go on vacation anywhere in the world, where would it be? *A cruise to Italy*

What do you like best about being a teacher? *Helping kids*

## 3D DESIGN CHALLENGE

In Computer Technology class we have been working on a project to help teachers with some of their problems using 3D design. The teachers had a problem that needed fixing, so Mrs. Christensen said the students could come up with a solution. The students used Tinkercad, a 3D designing software to create the solution. This was a really good idea because the students got to learn how to use Tinkercad and help teachers. Fifth grade student Robert Crosby said, "My favorite part about the challenge was thinking the process through and figuring out how it works." Norah Orr stated, "Making the design was exciting because we got to help the teachers." Mrs. Christensen stated, "I enjoy seeing the creativity of the student designs and how students persevere even when it is tough." Stay tuned to see how the 3D designs look once they are printed!



By Ben Harris

## POETRY CONTEST WINNERS

Mrs. Perkins presented 5th grade students with the opportunity to write a poem which was submitted to a contest for the Pansy Garden Club of Ardmore. The topic of the poem was "Pop Goes the Seed." Students wrote the poems at school during Mrs. Perkins class. A former Plainview teacher, Mrs. Sandy Alexander, attended Indian Beat to present the poetry contest winners a certificate and cash award. The local winners of the contest were: 1st place Ethan Savage, 2nd place Anna Kate Ownbey, and 3rd place Amirah Stevenson. Ethan Savage also placed first at the state level, so his poem will move on to the national contest. The title of Ethan's poem is "The Tree." Congratulations to the poetry contest winners!



By Kasper Villarreal