

PLAINVIEW INTERMEDIATE NEWSLETTER

February 2020

JULIE ALTOM, PRINCIPAL

We are already closing out the first month of our second semester. The 2019-2020 school year is whizzing by us. As I look at the calendar and count the weeks of school left with students, I am left totally shocked. We have about fifteen weeks left to work with your students and a lot to accomplish.

If you have not scheduled a parent/teacher conference, please contact Mrs. Melissa Denton in the front office. You can reach her at 580-223-6437, and she will be happy to help you. The conferences are scheduled for February 10th from 3:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. **There is only one conference night, so please call.** This is a great opportunity to visit with the teacher about your student's strengths and weaknesses and what you can do at home. The classroom teachers can review the NWEA MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) scores for reading and mathematics with you. Students took the online tests in December. Many students have shown improvement from their fall scores to winter, and, if here last year, they were from winter to winter.

In case you do not have spring break marked on your calendars, please mark the week of March 16th through March 20th. We are very appreciative of those of you who have scheduled your family trips around the school calendar this year because attendance is one of our campus goals. We are held accountable through the state accountability system for our attendance percentage, and the state is now tracking chronic absenteeism. Students being at school and on time is extremely important and is a beginning step for forming life-long habits. Mrs. Kelsey Tucker and Mrs. Alicia Foster are tracking our attendance, and "top finisher" treats are being awarded monthly in each grade level.

KIDS HEART CHALLENGE

I spoke with Coach Fincher about the upcoming "Kids Heart Challenge." This event allows us to learn things we can do to be



healthy as well as raise money for the American Heart Association to help children facing heart issues. You can download the app called "Kids Heart Challenge." You can earn prizes for raising money. More information will be sent home soon. The official kickoff will be on February 20th, in which we will get to honor one of our own heart heroes.

By Samuel Haught

PLAINVIEW AMBASSADORS

This year we have started a new program called Plainview Ambassadors. Our ten 5th grade Ambassadors are leaders with the goal of making Plainview Intermediate the best school possible. These students welcome everybody on Monday mornings, present awards during Indian Beat, provide tours to those who are new to Plainview and much more!



From left to right: Ethan Eads, Isaac Duran, Bo Rudisill, Talen Johnson, Jake Wallace, Gracie Bryant, Ally Brown, Maggie Nance, Journey Keith, and Reese Pollard

UPCOMING DATES

Feb 3rd & 24th: Discovery Club

Discovery Club students will meet on these dates

Feb 7th: Indian Beat

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

Feb 10th: Parent/Teacher Conferences

3:30-9:30 p.m. by appointment

Feb 13th: Valentine Parties

3rd: 1:30 p.m.

4th: 2:15 p.m.

5th: 1:00 p.m.



Feb 14th & 17th: No School

Parent/Teacher Conference Release Day (14th) & Professional Day (17th)

Feb 18th-21st: Random Acts of Kindness Week

Students will be challenged to brighten the days of others through acts of kindness

Feb 20th: Kids Heart Challenge Kick-Off

Students will attend a presentation about the "Kids Heart Challenge"

Feb 21st: Indian Beat

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

CHARACTER WALL OF FAME

Life Principles:
Thankfulness & Common Sense



Teegan Woodley, Brooklynn Miller,
Rylan Brannock, Brinley Christensen,
Joel Lassahn, & Journey Keith

Life Principles:
Service & Generosity



Jewels Parker, Eli Glenn,
Keely Wilson, Ben Hall,
Ethan Eads, & Emerie Millan

Life Principles:
Giving & Charity



Presley Charnock, Ford Anderson,
Alyssa Grover, Boston Neher,
Jake Wallace, & Hannah Mai

Attention 4th grade parents:

Your child should have brought home instructions for our "Bottlehead Biography" project. Please read the material and assist your child as needed in order to meet the **February 27th** deadline. The finished projects will be on display in the library.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

The following 5th grade students wrote the articles for the December newsletter: Samuel Haight, Kamrey Martin, Arianna Nowell, Ariel McCabe, and Asa Rudisill.

To see a color edition of the newsletter, please visit the Plainview website and select Plainview Intermediate.



MEET THE TEACHER

Third grade teacher, Vonda Dotson, has been married to her husband, Gary, for 30 years. They have been in full-time ministry for 20 years. They



have two daughters, Jamie (27) and Josie (19). She attended Tahlequah High School and Northeastern State University.

Mrs. Dotson has been teaching for 13 years, 4 of those being at Plainview.

Who do you look up to as a mentor?
Jana Hitt, her final internship teacher

What is your favorite thing about this time of year? *I like winter and want to see more snow.*

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be? *Australia*

What is your favorite children's book?
The War that Saved my Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Tell us something about you that we probably don't know. *I have been on 9 cruises.*

What are your favorite hobbies? *Family time and watching movies*

What made you want to become a teacher? *I want to spend time with children every day and make a difference in their lives.*

What is your best piece of advice?
Always pay attention to the situation you're in and be kind.

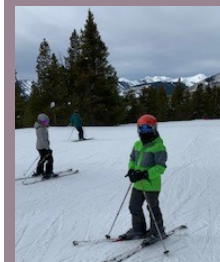
By Kamrey Martin

CHRISTMAS BREAK FUN

During Christmas Break, I think that the most important thing to do is spend time with family and friends, which I enjoyed. I visited with a few kids that spent time with their family and friends. 3rd grader Reid McMurphy had a great time going to Dallas and seeing OKC Thunder play the Dallas Mavericks. OKC won. One of the things he liked was staying in a nice hotel. 4th grader Lucy Harlow spent some of her time at a horse competition.



She didn't get to ride her pony, so she rode a different pony named Blaze. Lucy did very well riding Blaze and won 2nd place. 5th grader Malory Blanton went ice skating in Dallas and got to see her grandma. She also got to open gifts on Christmas Eve. 4th grader Jace Parker went skiing in Crested Butte, Colorado, with his grandma, grandpa, mom, dad, and brother. He liked hanging out with friends and family. There are many ways to enjoy Christmas and spend time with



friends and family while at home. I spoke to some students who stayed home to find out what they did over the break. Some students played with Legos and watched movies while others built gingerbread houses and played hide-and-seek. They also played board games, went to escape rooms and even enjoyed outdoor activities! Whether you went out of town or stayed home, I hope you enjoyed your Christmas Break!

By Arianna Nowell



We will be celebrating Random Acts of Kindness Week (RAK) during the week of February 18th-21st. It is a nationally celebrated week that officially started in 2018, although the Random Acts of Kindness Day first began in Denver in 1995. Mrs. Foster will encourage Plainview Intermediate students to complete kindness challenges throughout the week. Random Acts Of Kindness Week is a time to focus on spreading kindness in our school. Everyone can make a difference!

Our themes for the week will be:

Thankful Tuesday: "Appreciation Station" will be set up in the cafeteria for thank you note writing

Welcoming Wednesday: Special morning welcome team (Plainview Ambassadors)

Thoughtful Thursday: Complete a Random Act of Kindness (RAK) for your teacher or the school

Friendship Friday: Mix it up at lunch or recess and meet someone new

Also on Friday, we would like everyone to wear RED and/or PINK to celebrate spreading love and kindness!

#RAKWEEK2020

By Kamrey Martin



5TH GRADE ECOSYSTEMS



Students in Mrs. Simmons' 5th grade science classes have been learning about producers, consumers, and decomposers in different ecosystems. We learned what animals live in different ecosystems, and they have special features they have that help them survive in their environment. Examples of the ecosystems we learned about included arctic, savanna, forest, marine, and jungle. Mrs. Simmons wanted to see what we learned by having us research one ecosystem and create a diorama using a shoebox and craft supplies. We had to construct a model

of what a specific type of ecosystem would look like based on our research. Kate Brown said she chose an ocean ecosystem because she wanted to know more about the ocean. She learned that plankton live in water. Ally Brown chose a jungle ecosystem because she thought it would be easier to create. She learned that snakes live in the jungle. Santiago Acosta picked a desert ecosystem because he loves the animals that live there. He learned that bunnies live in the Sahara. This was a fun project for 5th grade science students.

By Samuel Haught and Arianna Nowell



HYPERBOLE POSTER CONTEST



In January, Mrs. Perkins' students learned about figurative language. She decided to have a poster competition in which groups of students would work together to create a hyperbole. Students had two days to draw a poster and logo (using a hyperbole) for each 5th grade teacher. A hyperbole is an extreme exaggeration, for those of you that do not know. A few examples of the hyperbole logos on the posters were, "Mrs. Roskam's lessons are so fun you'll want to go on

a multiplication vacation," "Mrs. Archer's class...where books come to life," and "Mrs. Kennedy's social studies...where learning is an adventure."

The winners were:

- ▶ Perkins: Jessie Ge, Allison Wollaston, Eli Brown, and Cooper Haisler
- ▶ Roskam: Ally Brown, Chloe Phelps, and Carson Herron.
- ▶ Archer: Carly Carlile, Grayson Renteria, and Abi Potter
- ▶ Simmons: Joel Lassahn, Brian Batts, and Derrick Dowd
- ▶ Kennedy: Creek Johnson

I talked to the group that made Mrs. Archer's poster. They said they were shocked that they won, but they were super happy. Jessie Ge's favorite part of making the poster was designing it. Chloe Phelps said, "I was confident that we were going to win, and we did!"

By Asa Rudisill

