It is amazing that we are approaching the holiday season. As you think about your travel plans for Christmas, consider incorporating some reading and writing activities. Magnetic words are fun to place on the fridge, and have children create sentences or stories. How about a family book club where everyone reads the same book? Even older children enjoy a read aloud; especially a holiday story. Don’t forget about poetry books. Mrs. Crist has a new collection in the library that is available for check-out. Consider starting a family diary that is traded back and forth between family members.

We wish you a peaceful and safe holiday.

~Mary Peterson

Winter is a wonderful, busy season! It is a time to reflect on what has been accomplished during the year while looking forward to the arrival of the new year. The next time you are at Plew, please take a minute to look around our facility. If it weren’t for all our volunteers, our grounds would not be as beautiful. We have many volunteers working in the classrooms tutoring in reading and math, mentoring, and supporting our educational activities. This year our PLA has added the concrete pad on the playground for four square and ball games, picnic tables outside our first grade wing and playground, purchased our front fence, and 20 Chromebooks!!

We appreciate all you do for our children and staff. Without our families and friends we would not be where we are today.

I came across the following quote recently and loved it. “There are exactly as many special occasions to celebrate in life as we choose to celebrate.” - Robert Brault

Over the holidays take some time to read aloud to your child and make it a special occasion. Every family member can participate either by bringing their favorite story book to share, making hot cocoa, or participating as a listener. There is nothing more special than spending time together to enjoy a great story. And, it does not cost a thing, but the memories last a lifetime.

~Carolyn McAllister

Notes from Our Principal, Mrs. McAllister:

Notes from Our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Peterson:

~James E. Plew Elementary

PLEW’S NEWS

December 2017

Notes from Our Principal, Mrs. McAllister:

Winter is a wonderful, busy season! It is a time to reflect on what has been accomplished during the year while looking forward to the arrival of the new year. The next time you are at Plew, please take a minute to look around our facility. If it weren’t for all our volunteers, our grounds would not be as beautiful. We have many volunteers working in the classrooms tutoring in reading and math, mentoring, and supporting our educational activities. This year our PLA has added the concrete pad on the playground for four square and ball games, picnic tables outside our first grade wing and playground, purchased our front fence, and 20 Chromebooks!!

We appreciate all you do for our children and staff. Without our families and friends we would not be where we are today.

I came across the following quote recently and loved it. “There are exactly as many special occasions to celebrate in life as we choose to celebrate.” - Robert Brault

Over the holidays take some time to read aloud to your child and make it a special occasion. Every family member can participate either by bringing their favorite story book to share, making hot cocoa, or participating as a listener. There is nothing more special than spending time together to enjoy a great story. And, it does not cost a thing, but the memories last a lifetime.

~Carolyn McAllister

Notes from Our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Peterson:

It is amazing that we are approaching the holiday season. As you think about your travel plans for Christmas, consider incorporating some reading and writing activities. Magnetic words are fun to place on the fridge, and have children create sentences or stories. How about a family book club where everyone reads the same book? Even older children enjoy a read aloud; especially a holiday story. Don’t forget about poetry books. Mrs. Crist has a new collection in the library that is available for check-out. Consider starting a family diary that is traded back and forth between family members.

We wish you a peaceful and safe holiday.

~Mary Peterson
Thank you for all the donated rocks. They look great after the students painted them and placed them along several paths in the school gardens.

K-2nd have started an artist study of Henri Matisse.

K-Painting still-life of apples and discovering double loaded paint brushes are awesome!

1st-Cutting paper in organic shapes to make a collage

2nd-Painting a still-life of goldfish

3-5th-Started an artist study of Dale Chihuly and making a collaborative sculpture “Chihuly Style”.

Thanks to the students who have brought, and have been wearing their art t-shirts to class. Having their names on the front has been very helpful since over 800 students come to art. It’s not too late to send them with your student.

*‘EVENING OF THE ARTS information will be coming soon!*

~Mrs. Wilbourne

Art teacher

---

**ART CORNER**

---

**MEDIA CENTER**

Students may access a wide variety of online books free at

http://abddigital.com/

username: Plewpanther
password: panther10

~Shawna Crist, Keeper of the Books

---

**MUSIC**

~5th grade Chorus at Val P Heritage Museum

Dec 9th at 10:00 am

~5th grade Chorus Concert Plew Café December 11th at 6 pm.

---

**P.E. NEWS**

**MILE CLUB RULES**

1. No Food/Drink at PE—Water ONLY
2. Athletic shoes must be worn on the track.
3. Students must travel to nurse/restroom with a class buddy, NOT a visitor.
4. Parents must supervise non Plew students at ALL times.
5. Do not pick up students.
6. Strollers need to be pushed on the outside of the track.

---

**SUPPORTING PLEW!**

The Coca-Cola Give program is another way for you to raise money for our school. It’s easy!! Just save your caps and carton codes from any Coca-Cola product (this also includes Dasani Water and Powerade) and send them to school with your child. Should you wish to donate directly, you can go to their website: us.coca-cola.com/give/ to enter your codes. Thank you for your participation! Go Panthers!

~Eileen Marello

---

Box Tops are an easy way to raise funds for Plew. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents. Send them in with your student anytime!

We raised over $3,000.00 last year and the money goes to the PLA to purchase items for your students. Thank you!

~Peggy Barnes
Counselor’s Corner

50 Questions to Ask Your Kids Instead of Asking “How Was Your Day?”

1. What made you smile today?
2. Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?
3. Was there an example of unkindness? How did you respond?
4. Does everyone have a friend at recess?
5. What was the book about that your teacher read?
6. What’s the word of the week?
7. Did anyone do anything silly to make you laugh?
8. Did anyone cry?
9. What did you do that was creative?
10. What is the most popular game at recess?
11. What was the best thing that happened today?
12. Did you help anyone today?
13. Did you tell anyone “thank you?”
14. Who did you sit with at lunch?
15. What made you laugh?
16. Did you learn something you didn’t understand?
17. Who inspired you today?
18. What was the peak of the day?
19. What was your least favorite part of the day?
20. Was anyone in your class gone today?
21. Did you ever feel unsafe?
22. What is something you heard that surprised you?
23. What is something you saw that made you think?
24. Who did you play with today?
25. Tell me something you know...today that you didn’t know yesterday?
26. What is something that challenged you?
27. How did someone fill your bucket?
28. Did you like your lunch?
29. Rate your day on a scale from 1-10.
30. Did anyone get in trouble today?
31. How were you brave today?
32. What questions did you ask at school today?
33. Tell us your top two things from the day (before you can be excused from the dinner table!)
34. What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
35. What are you reading?
36. What was the hardest rule to follow today?
37. Teach me something I don’t know.
38. If you could change one thing about your day, what would it be?
39. (For older kids): “Do you feel prepared for your history test?” Or, “Is there anything on your mind that you’d like to talk about?” (In my opinion, the key is not only the way a question is phrased, but responding in a supportive way).
40. Who did you share your snacks with at lunch?
41. What made your teacher smile? What made her frown?
42. What kind of person were you today?
43. What made you feel happy?
44. What made you feel proud?
45. What made you feel loved?
46. Did you learn any new words?
47. What do you hope to do before school is out for the year?
48. If you could switch seats with anyone in class, who would it be? Why?
49. What is your least favorite part of the school building? And favorite?
50. If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?

Have a wonderful Break! ~Heather McLaren

Parent Leadership Association (PLA)

Hello, Plew Family! It’s been a busy fall with the PLA and we’re rolling right into a busy winter season. You might have noticed new picnic tables behind the first grade wing. They were purchased and assembled by the PLA last month after a teacher suggested it to the board this summer. That’s teamwork in action! We also wrapped up our Fall FUNdraiser, we raised over $31,000 during our Prowl with the Panther write-a-check campaign. (Wow!!) The kiddos finished the campaign by breaking the $30,000 milestone to earn a PLA-sponsored popcorn party during P.E. The students in Mrs. Burnett’s, Mrs. Richardson’s, and Mrs. Leavins’ classes also received a PLA Science Experience as a reward for meeting a separate campaign incentive. Thank you again to our entire Plew Family (and friends) for your generous support!

In December we have Plew Family Night on Dec 5th. Please join us at one of the two sessions for an evening of bingo games, prizes, and holiday treats! Don’t forget to wear your “ugly Christmas sweater” and bring a donation for Sharing and Caring of Niceville. Sessions are 4:30-5:30 and 6:00-7:00 PM.

PLA business—our next meeting is December 15th at 8:30 in the Media Center. Also, our copy room volunteer, Stacy, has lost many of her co-volunteers already this year. Please look at your schedule and consider helping in the copy room for a few hours each week. Please contact me at plewplapresident@gmail.com if interested.

Heads up! In January we’ll start gearing up for Evenings of the Arts this spring; so please start thinking if you’d like to be the EOA parent rep for your child’s class and/or help on the greater EOA planning committee. Thank you!

~Bobbie Goodwin

PLA President 2017-2018

From the SLP

Check out this link:
https://www.kennedykrieger.org/professional-training/training-disciplines/special-education-fellowship/linking-research-classrooms-blog/language-literacy

The language-literacy connection and ways to strengthen it.

~Anita Devuyst, M.S., CCC/SLP

Plew Gardens

Hello Plew Families! 🌈autorities. There are about 5 gardens still available for adoption. Take a walk around the school and if you see a “Play in the Dirt, Adopt this Garden” sign located in a garden you and your family would be interested in caring for, please snap a photo with your phone of the garden and email to plewgardens@yahoo.com. We would also be happy to meet with you at the school, if you prefer.

Remind your child to use the paths when walking through the gardens and also to not pick up rocks, flowers or ornaments.

Also, We keep the black gate nearest the kindergarten ramp open until dusk if you would like to work on the gardens. If you are coming on Saturday, there is a key available.

~Melissa Rohde

PLA Beautification Chair, Plew Gardens

“Plant Dreams, Pull Weeds & Grow A Happy Life!”
*PLEASE NOTE: Bring ALL items into the Cafeteria (NOT the front office) and place in the box on the chair right when you enter the cafeteria by Dec. 4th.

Eglin AFB CGOC
Troop Care Drive

Items Needed:
- Blister care, foot powder
- Lip balm, sunscreen
- Baby wipes (small packs)
- Hand sanitizer (small bottles)
- Washcloths
- Coffee & Creamers
- Non-melting candy & gum**
- Chips, cookies, granola bars**
- Protein Bars, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims
- Nuts, pretzels, microwave popcorn**
- Non-perishable food**
- Microwaveable soups and meals
- Drink mixes, 5-hour energy
- CDs, DVDs, puzzle books
- Playing cards, card games
- Games, books
- Personal letters!! The more the better!!
(please no last names)

** Please make sure all food is individually wrapped if in big containers. Must fit in 11”x8.5”x5.5” box**

** Please check expiration dates on all food items

Eglin CGOC is a non-profit organization which is neither part of Eglin AFB nor an official part of the Department of the Air Force