Happy New Year! It is hard to believe we are almost halfway through the school year. With the return to school we have a lot happening here at Plew. This month our children will be completing our mid-year progress monitoring assessment, MAP. This assessment will provide information to the teachers so that they can provide the appropriate instruction.

January 28th through February 1st is Literacy Week, and there will be literacy activities every day of that week. Plew’s theme this year is The Giving Tree which supports our school wide theme on kindness. Starting early on January 29th, we will have a very special guest reader day where our VIPs will read to all classes sharing a favorite book of their own.

Speaking of reading, research shows there is a direct correlation between how much time a child spends reading and school success. Like any sport, it takes practice to be the best. You can help by listening to your child read every night, talking to them about what you are reading, and reading a book together. Our Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) focuses on finding the evidence to support an opinion or statement.

Below are a few ideas where your child can formulate an opinion with evidence and have a great discussion with you and the family:

1. Read a book and see the movie together. Discuss how the book and movie were the same and different. What was your opinion of the book/movie? Cite your evidence.
2. Read an article in the newspaper (online version is fine). What was your opinion of the issue? Cite your evidence.
3. Explore an interesting subject either through a book or online. Discuss what you found interesting. Cite the evidence.
4. Read aloud to your child. This builds language development as well as oral comprehension. Discuss the plot, characters, problems and solutions. Cite the evidence.

Your child has had lots of practice citing evidence. You will be amazed at what they can do!

I want to thank all the parents and friends who volunteer at our school. Your efforts help us provide the very best academic environment for our students and staff.

~Carolyn McAllister, Principal

This New Year’s Eve, I thought a lot about setting goals and how this is beneficial for students. I was reminded of the groundbreaking research of Dr. John Hattie, who is a professor at the University of Melbourne, Australia. Dr. Hattie wrote a book entitled, Visible Learning for Teachers where he researched what really impacts student learning. The number one ranking is self-reported grades/student expectations. What does this look like for our students? We encourage our students to set academic and behavior goals. This can be done at the beginning of the week, month, or a unit of study. Recently, I visited a classroom where the teacher had the students individually graphing their progress. Providing our children the opportunity to set goals and learning intentions, may also boost self-confidence. Happy New Year!

~Mrs. Mary Peterson, Assistant Principal

Just a friendly reminder-

The first bell rings at 8:15 and the start of school bell rings at 8:20. If you are dropping your child off after 8:18, it is necessary that you park your car and sign your child in at the front office. Thank you.
NEED TO KNOW…

BOX TOPS:
An easy way to raise funds for Plew is by collecting Box Tops. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents. Send them in with your student anytime!
~Peggy Barnes

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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.

P.E. REMINDERS
Athletic Shoes must be worn to PE Every day
Water ONLY at PE
Please send a note when student cannot participate
Remind your child to bring their jackets home
Mile Club is on Thursday (Weather Permitting)

FROM Anita Devuyst, Speech:
From the SLP: Social communication skills are at risk in our society. Recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics has the following suggestions for media usage, this includes smartphones, TV, etc: no more than 2 hours a day for ages 5-18, nor more than one hour a day for ages 2-5, and no screen time for under 18 months. Anita Devuyst, M.S., CCC/SLP

COUNSELOR’S CORNER

PLEW PANTHERS: Change a life with your Change and win an EXTRA PE Class!
Bring in your coins and spare change on January 15, 16, & 17
The classroom that raises the most will win extra 40 minute PE class.
Proceeds will be split 50/50
Between:
Children’s Neighborhood & Harvest Hands

Parent Leaders Association (PLA)
Happy New Year All!
I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break.
The PLA had a great December! Family Fun Night and Holiday Spirit Store were both very successful. Thank you to everyone who volunteered & all who came to join us.

Has your child told you about the new basketball hoops on the playground? They were finally completed in December and the kids have been having a fantastic time at recess! Hopefully in the coming months we will get some more playground improvements completed for the kids to enjoy.
Be sure to join us for the next PLA meeting Tue Jan 22 at 8:30am in the cafeteria where we will discuss playground improvements and Evening of the Arts. Hope to see you there!

Mari Plante plewplapresident@gmail.com

FSA SCHEDULE
FSA testing Grade 3-
April 3 and 4 (ELA-Reading Session 1 and 2)
May 6 and 7 (Math Session 1 and 2)
*ESE students with IEP accommodations may test on different days
FSA testing Grade 4-
April 2 (ELA Writing)
May 1 and 2 (ELA-Reading Session 1 and 2)
May 6 and 7 (Math Session 1 and 2)
*ESE students with IEP accommodations may test on different days
FSA testing Grade 5-
April 2 (ELA Writing)
May 1 and 2 (ELA-Reading Session 1 and 2)
May 6 and 7 (Math Session 1 and 2)
May 9 and 10 (Science Session 1 and 2)
*ESE students with IEP accommodations may test on different days
We will need several processors. If you are interested in helping out in this way please contact:
heather.mcclaren@okaloosaschools.com

2019 HAPPY NEW YEAR

Visit our website at www.okaloosaschools.com/plew and Like Us On Facebook