



# PINNACLE PREP SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

November 6, 2020

## Happy November!

We had a fun-filled month of October! Thank you for allowing us to teach your children! With the number of COVID cases rapidly rising, we want to continue to stay safe as a school and want to emphasize the importance of social distancing. Please continue to avoid large gatherings so that our school can continue to stay healthy. Please continue to emphasize to your children the importance of frequent hand washing.

If your child is not well, please do not send them to school for the safety of all our staff and students.

It is important that parents monitor their children for any COVID-19 Symptoms. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if their child has COVID-19 symptoms.



## Follow us on social media!

You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube!

You will be able to keep up to date with everything that is happening at Pinnacle Prep!

**REMINDE 101** is our preferred method of communication for everyday activities and reminders.

- If you have quick questions, feel free to send a remind message.

All our holidays are on the calendar:

### November:

No school from Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.

# Ms. Laura's Brilliant Stars

## *Giraffes & Pandas*

In Mrs. Laura's Class, we have been working on reading comprehension and asking questions about the story we read to achieve understanding through interaction. We continue to practice our calendar, days of the week, months of the year and weather songs during circle time. We had so much fun learning about the life cycle of a pumpkin! We have also been working on sounding out syllables and consonants along with vowel pairing. We will continue practicing our phonics by sounding out our consonants and vowels.

In math we have continued using the number line to add, subtract, and skip count. We have also continued learning our place values. We now know the difference between our ones and tens place. We are still practicing adding doubles (2+2, 3+3) and counting by 2's and 5's.

During story time, we are focusing on our characters, the problem, and the solution of the story. Each week we reread favorite books. This is imperative for development of their memory, story sense, and comprehension skills. Keep reading those favorite books at home until they can "read"/repeat each book with you. At home, draw lines then have them cut along those lines, make a grid on paper then have them tear it, and glue those pieces onto paper in a simple shape or have them draw a picture of their favorite part of a story you've read to them. Acquiring language through books and conversations, songs, and movement is crucial at this stage of their development.



# Mrs. Hill

## *Pandas and Zebras*

### Pandas:

We thoroughly enjoyed the month of October with four awesome Halloween books...but I am the MOST proud of the amazing Monster Manuscript writing project that our Pandas completed! This month we will focus on voting, Veteran's Day, and Thanksgiving, while we learn about the differences between fiction and non-fiction.



### Zebras:

The Zebras continue to impress me with their determined work ethic and perseverance! For Halloween, we completed an extensive critical thinking unit that involved problem solving using addition subtraction, multiplication, patterns, money, elapsed time, and graphing...Wow! Additionally, kids have been earning treats when they have mastered each multiplication fact — Almost everyone is ready to celebrate with a GIANT sundae...Next, we will be diving into DIVISION— PLEASE keep practicing your multiplication/division facts!

## Lower Math/Spanish

### *Ms. Alma*

**Pandas:** During the month of October, we have been focusing on learning our addition facts. We will continue adding more addition facts until mastery is reached. We also learned how to add two-digit numbers with and without regrouping! We reviewed comparing numbers, telling time and graphs. In November we will continue practicing our addition, subtraction, graphs, and measurement. We have also learned how to count by 3s and are focusing on counting by 4s.

**Zebras:** In October we have continued practicing our addition and subtraction strategies, 3-digit addition and 3-digit subtraction. We also worked on place value, money and problem solving. We will continue working on place value and will move on to fractions and multiplication in November.

In Spanish we have focused on verbs. We have learned some “ar” verbs and how to conjugate them. We continue to review our subject pronouns, adjectives and vocabulary.



# Lower English

*Ms. Jessica*

Happy fall, everyone! I'm so grateful for the cooler weather. The kids and I love being outside for lunch and recess.

Our themes for November include: National Sandwich Day, Pumpkins, and Thanksgiving. For Sandwich Day, we are going to be doing a sandwich book report over a book that we have read. We will discuss characters, setting, problem/solution and summaries. For pumpkins, we will be doing a variety of activities. Some include: vowel sort, graphic organizers, ABC order and fall writing. Thanksgiving activities include: poems, Turkey Fact and Opinion, vocabulary and Thanksgiving Dinner Nouns.

Writing topics include: finishing our mystery essays for Halloween, candy research, "If I Could go to the Future," and "I'm Thankful." Students have class time to write and the essays are due on Fridays. When students have finished writing, they turn it in to me so that I can edit. After I edit, I return it to them so that they can make any corrections. The corrected essay should be turned in again for final grading.

My Zebras have enjoyed reading Matilda by Roald Dahl. After we finished the book, we watched the movie and used a Venn diagram to compare them. Our novel studies include vocabulary, chapter quizzes, response journals and other activities related to our reading. So far, we have learned about point of view, main idea, fact and opinion, and fiction and nonfiction texts. In November, we will study non-fiction text elements, informational texts, context clues, and literal-nonliteral meanings of words or phrases. We are starting Tuck Everlasting! This is one of my favorite novels and I'm excited to share it with the kids.

All students should be reading at least 30 minutes every day. Reading comprehension is a very important skill. After students read, they can write a brief summary, discuss their favorite part, describe a character, and/or discuss the problem and solution presented in the text. Also, if your student has me for spelling, they should practice those as well. We practice spelling every day in class; the students write the words, use them in sentences, identify parts of speech, and identify patterns.



# Upper Math

## Ms. Anu and Ms. Jaya

Wolves worked extremely hard on adding & subtracting fractions with like and unlike denominators. They also solved problems on estimating sums and differences of mixed numbers. I am so proud that they picked up the fraction concepts quickly. We will continue to focus on multiplying and dividing fractions with whole numbers, followed by fractions and mixed numbers followed by estimating products and quotients with mixed numbers. Towards the end of the month, we will work on problem solving strategies.

Tigers successfully completed learning about application of percentages – in that they learnt to calculate discounts, sales tax, simple interest, and commission. They enjoyed learning these concepts. Students are now working on measurements, in which they will learn to measure and compute customary units namely gallons pints, quarts and so on. Further they will work on computation problems with time, calculate area and perimeter of different polygons, and area & circumference of circle. Some of the Tigers will continue to work on finding percentage of a number, calculate rate, find the original number, and solve percent problems.

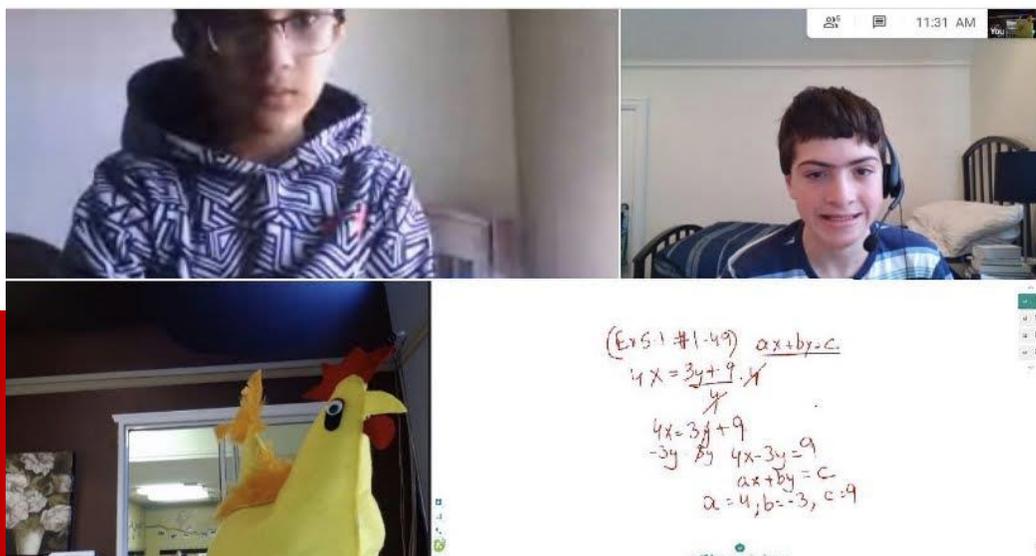
Pre-Algebra:

Black Panthers worked on real numbers and right triangles in which they learned to find square roots, simplify square roots, solve right angled triangle using Pythagorean theorem and distance & midpoint formula. We will continue to work on special right triangles, sine, cosine, and tangent ratios. Some of the black panthers are working on solving and graphing system of linear equation.

Algebra 1:

Black Panthers will be working on Linear Functions. We will be starting with identifying linear functions, intercepts, rate of change and slope, distance and midpoint formulas and direct variation. Students will be writing Linear Functions in Slope-Intercept Form and Point-Slope Form. Students will learn about slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines. We will be graphing and transforming linear functions.

Some of the Black Panthers will continue working on Inequalities which includes Compound and Absolute Value Inequalities. We will be introducing Functions in the month of November.



# Upper English

*Mr. Troxel*

Seasons change, bringing all the hope and wonder of the holidays. Even in the face of all this year's excitement and challenges, this time is always special both in and out of the classroom. I hope the joy of the season finds a home in 2020.

We have been keeping active in all classes. All students continue to write every day and share their thinking with their peers. The Interactive Student Notebook entries allow students to process learning, prepare for upcoming assignments, reflect on our novel studies. Of course, our journals have also provided opportunities for students to process and share their feelings on a wide variety of life experiences from dealing with the challenges of COVID-19 to thoughts on the recent election season. Each entry very purposefully asks learners to support positions with evidence and reasoning. This is a pattern that will support critical and strategic thinking for learning and life.

In all classes, we continue our work to expand our vocabulary. Words are the building blocks of perception, and the greater span of vocabulary equates to a broader understanding of the environment. In the last few weeks, we have put a very strong emphasis on writing construction. We are always working to perfect mechanics, but how we construct and order our ideas for effect is the more important skill. Sharing and analyzing our writing products together in Writers' Circle is a consistent way to deconstruct our work to determine more effective methods to build arguments. I am noticing a growing maturity as students continue to develop their voice in writing. We are also continuing our novel studies in class. In all, we keep plugging away and making the best of our time to keep students thinking about the content in meaningful ways.

Again, thank you for sharing your amazing kids with us here at Pinnacle Prep. Together we will blaze a new path for success for every child.



# Science Lab

## *Mrs. Hozie*

Zebras have been busy learning about different classifications of plants, parts of plants, and different plant life cycles. Next, we dug into comparing and contrasting the life cycles of all types of animals. Now we are reviewing nonfiction text features and how we use them to understand and get the most out of our textbooks.

Our Wolves have been digging into physical science. We reviewed measurement, tools for measuring, the metric system, SI learning about what matter is, how to describe its properties, and how to classify it. This included recognizing physical changes, phase changes, and properties we use to identify substances. After focusing on density, we are moving into chemical changes.

Tigers finished up their brain disorder research papers. Once complete, we dug into pathogens, their effects, treatment, and prevention. For the last two weeks, we have highlighted the different systems of the body and how they work together to keep us healthy. Now, we will be looking at other members of the animal kingdom; how their anatomy/physiology are similar, and how they differ from humans.

Black Panthers have been diving deep into chemistry. This includes atomic theory, elements, and the periodic table. We are now working on compounds and chemical formulas. In addition, we are looking at how chemistry knowledge is important in solving crimes.



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