

WHITE PINE CHARTER SCHOOL March 2021



March Newsletter 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, April 2nd - **Spirit Day**

Tuesday, April 20th - **White Pine**

Lottery

Tuesday, April 27th - **Regular School
Board Meeting**

TEACHER HIGHLIGHT: Ms. Ashley

Our teacher highlight this month goes to one of our incredible Kindergarten teachers, Ms. Ashley! There's no question that teaching kindergartners is probably the most difficult job in the building, and Ms. Ashley has proven to be patient and innovative with her teaching approach. She's a trailblazer with sensory learning and has been implementing new strategies into the curriculum this year to help those little ones learn to read! Ms. Ashley has also taken on a big role in the RTI (response to intervention) team and keeps everything running smoothly each month. Hats off to you, Ms. Ash! Thank you for setting a strong foundation for these little one's

A Note From Mr. Graham:

White Pine Families,

It is that time of year again for the lottery at White Pine Charter School! The audience of this newsletter is parents and students who are already associated with our school. That being said, you can be one of our biggest recruiting tools based on your experience.

Please share the provided links and information about our lottery with your friends and family. Be sure to let them know they can set up a tour with myself at the K-6 location

(grahamke@wpcscougars.org)

and Mrs. Tyler at the STEM Academy

(tylerde@wpcscougars.org).

During the tour we will show prospective families our facilities and answer any questions about what sets us apart.

Lottery Registration

Charter (Enrollment procedures found on pages 40-41)

education.



We are currently planning on Tuesday, April 20th for the lottery itself, so get those applications in! Thanks as always for being part of our White Pine Family!

Ken Graham
Elementary Principal
White Pine Charter School
grahamke@wpcscougars.org

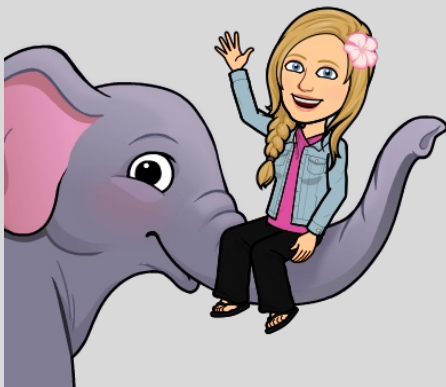


PFA UPDATE

Hello!

The PFA wanted to send a big thank you to the parents who donated food and money to feed the teachers during conferences. We appreciate the support!

Sincerely,
Hanna Glodowski
PFA President



From Mrs. Peterson: School Counselor

This month we continued with the theme of being a cognitive scientist. Students K-3 learned about big problems, medium problems, and small problems. We used a stoplight as a visual with the small problems being green, where they can solve the problem by themselves and keep going. A medium problem is yellow, they might need to slow down to decide what the next steps are or use some coping strategies. A large problem is red, when this happens students should stop and get an adult. They also talked about tools they can use when they experience each of these types of problems. Grades 4-6 practiced mindfulness activities to use when they are starting to feel emotionally escalated. These activities included the lazy 8, colorful dots, the body scan, and grounding.

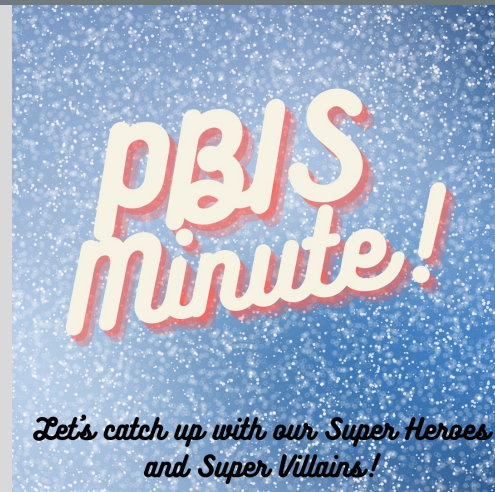
Students in 3rd-6th grade have been preparing to take the ISAT. As parents and guardians, you can help the students prepare also. Some things that will help are

getting a good night's sleep, eating a healthy breakfast, and using the days before and the morning of the test to help build your student's confidence. During the test, many students are able to focus better if they snack while they take the test, sending them healthy snacks can really help them maintain that focus for longer periods of time. At school, we will help your students prepare by helping them be familiar with the testing format, providing motivation to put in their best effort, providing a small snack, in addition to other interventions. We are excited to see how well our students will do!

PROGRAM UPDATES



Each year at White Pine, our students take three i-Ready diagnostic tests. They are taken near the beginning of the year, at the middle of the school year, and again at the end of the year. The purpose of these tests is to identify how individual students are performing against grade level standards for reading and math. Other shorter versions of the test are sometimes taken more often, to help monitor progress and growth. Students who are identified as being below grade level receive interventions and individualized attention to try to help them be more successful with grade level skills and understanding. The test results also help teachers to plan small group instruction, to target the individual learning needs of each student, whether they are struggling or they are ready for a challenge. The data is in for our mid-year progress monitoring, and the news is great! One of the data points from i-Ready results indicates progress against a year's worth of growth for typical students. Halfway through the year, we want that number to indicate we have made at least 50% of a year's worth of growth and improvement. For both math and reading, White Pine students have made an average of 72% of a whole year's worth of progress at the midway point of the school year. Your child's teacher can share with you the results for your individual student.



Do you know what time it is? Every Tuesday at the end of morning announcements, our students hear some upbeat music and they know *exactly* what time it is . . . It is Cougar Rally Time! At this time every week, Mr. Graham brings student attention to one of the WPCS behavior expectations on our PBIS matrix, which guides students to be Willing, Positive, Connected and Significant in different areas of our school. For example, he may talk about being Connected in the playground by being active and joining in, or Significant in the hallway by walking with a purpose. After the brief message from Mr. Graham, classes have discussions, watch videos, or do some kind of activity to focus on that expectation. Students look forward to this time, and teachers use it to focus on specific areas that students need to work on . . . or to give kudos for students doing well! We love our Cougar Rally Time!

We also had a new villain show up at White Pine! Who could it be? How can we help!?

We're proud of the hard work of students and teachers so far, and look forward to finishing strong!



Core Knowledge Corner

This month is so exciting for Core Knowledge! Students, teachers, the office, and specials have been working hard all month to put together an amazing event for families. Our annual Core Knowledge Night is going virtual! Over the last few weeks students have been creating projects and performances to share. There will even be activities to complete at home. Stay tuned for more information.

Anna Attebury
Core Knowledge Coordinator



MARCH READ-A-THON MADNESS!

All of March, we have been doing a Read-A-Thon to raise money for our classrooms! So far we have reached \$6,564.88!! White Pine gets to keep 80% of that amount. On average, the students have read about 275 minutes! This is amazing news! Great job White Pine Families! Let's finish the week strong! Don't forget to vote for your favorite books on the White Pine Charter School Facebook page to choose a winner for our read-a-thon March Madness Bracket!

COUGAR SIGHTINGS!



Ms. Trust's class works on their Core Knowledge projects.

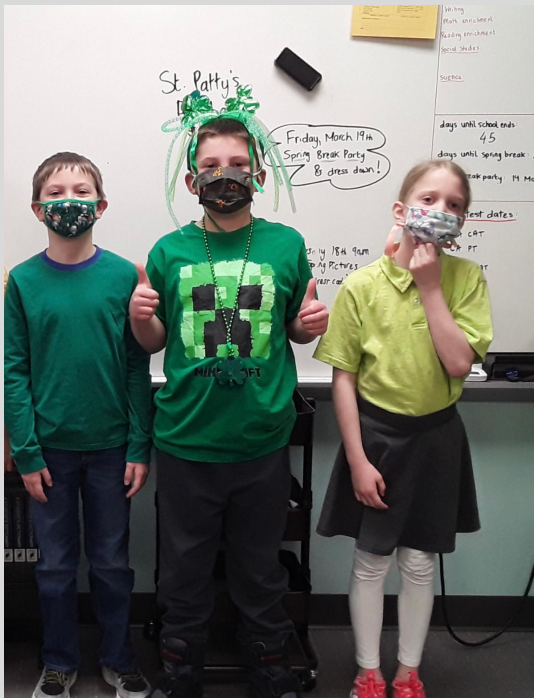


3rd grade read-in for the Read-a-thon.

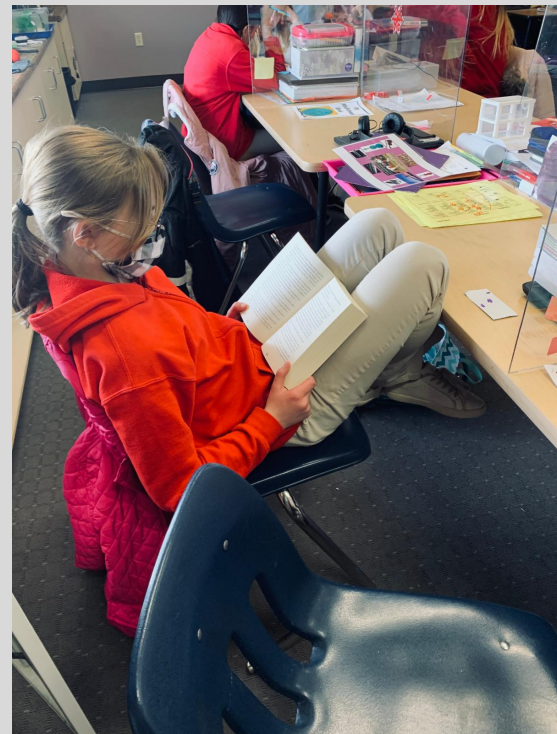
The Cougars makes the rounds to different classrooms.



1st graders are ready for Spring pictures.



3rd graders celebrate St. Patrick's Day in style.



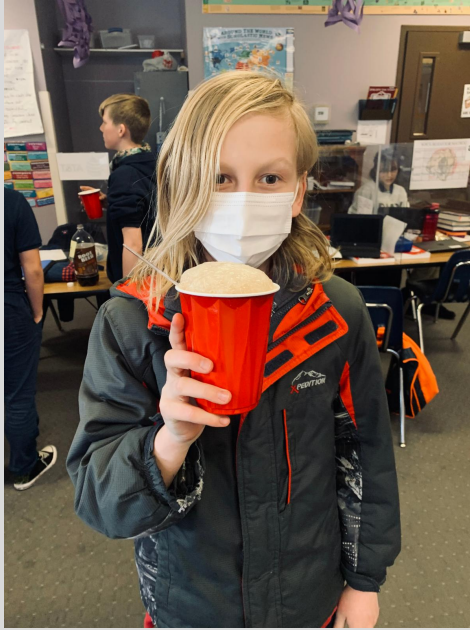
Mrs. Walker's class's read-in for the Read-a-thon.



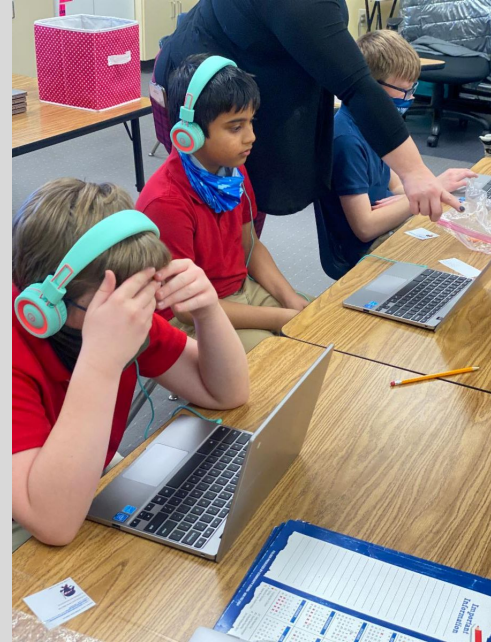
Mrs. Resendiz's class works on creating their planet for the Read-a-thon.



Mrs. Torgerson's class shows off their projects



6th graders celebrate achieving their goals with some Root Beer floats



STEM Club is working on learning to code.



5th Grade projects.



Spanish Club with Ms. Ortega

BIG THANKS!

We'd like to thank all of our White Pine families for the tremendous support of donations. We are grateful



for all the love you show our school and students. We have attached an image of items that you are always welcome to donate. We love you all, thank you!

-WP Charter School Elementary Office Staff

