



# TERRIER TIMES

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 4  
JANUARY 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It's hard to believe the first semester is already over! It's been a whirlwind to say the least; but I have to say our students and families did a fantastic job adjusting to a semester full of Covid-19 changes. Thank you to our entire Terrier Family for trusting our staff to teach your child(ren) during this difficult and uncertain time. While there were many things we couldn't do because of the Covid restrictions and protocols, I want to focus more on what we were able to do for our students. Obviously, the number one thing is our teachers and staff have gone above and beyond educating your child. We continued to have high expectations of learning for every child and our students met that challenge head on! Over 300 students were recognized for earning A and B Honor Roll for 1st quarter. Each Honor Roll student received a certificate in a special honor roll folder along with a special Champs Café cookie ticket. Out of those Honor Roll students, 49 earned straight A's and were rewarded with a delicious 4.0 Luncheon sponsored by Applebee's. These students also earned a special honor roll lanyard. Honor Roll certificates for 2nd quarter are going home at the end of January and another 4.0 Luncheon is scheduled for early February. In December, our great National Junior Honor Society inducted 15 new members and we recognized them in a wonderful Induction Ceremony in our gym, which allowed us to social distance.

Our after-school clubs are in full swing with more students involved in some clubs than we've had in the past. Our after-school math tutoring is always full and PCMS teachers are happy to provide the free service for extra help. It is clear our students are finding ways to stay focused on their learning and this shows in the tutoring rooms.

The girls' volleyball team competed very well against the other middle schools. This was a great example of how students can participate in team sports and stay safe at the same time. As I write this article, our student athletes are preparing for the county track meet held at Charlotte High School. We are also in the midst of boys' and girls' basketball tryouts, which is always exciting for our Terriers, as we are consistently the County Champions each year.

We just completed a virtual assembly with the popular band, Attaboy. Their message focused on making the right choices and accomplishing goals. The Attaboy message was right on target because we want our students to finish the year stronger and more focused than first semester. Our students definitely enjoyed the virtual assembly.

*continued on next page...*

## ADMINISTRATION

Principal

**John LeClair**

Assistant Principals

**Matthew Kunder**

**Tara Whisenant**

Dean

**Jon Hock**

Guidance Counselors

**Eric Grzechowiak**

**Alexa Manaskie**

ESE Liaison

**Marjorie Lauture**

Social Worker

**Brittany Baumhardt**

School Resource Officer

**Deputy Mings**

23000 Midway Blvd.  
Port Charlotte FL 33952

**Phone:** 941-255-7460

**Fax:** 941-255-7469

**Attendance Line:** 941-255-7467

**Office Hours:** 8:00 - 4:30





## 📣 TERRIER SHOUT OUTS! 📣

Thank you, **Sonshine Baptist** and **Trinity Anglican Churches** for your donations!

Thank you, **Applebee's** for providing the food for our 4.0 luncheon ree of charge!

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Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1052

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our family engagement activities were virtual first semester and we've had some great responses with them. The most recent activity was the 12 Days of Winter Break. Thank you to all the families that were able to participate and we hope it was a great experience for your family. Thank you to the several local businesses that were able to donate prizes for this wonderful activity. We also had phenomenal participation in our virtual Art Show earlier in the year.

Just before the holiday break we conducted our Terrier Pride Grade Level Challenge. The challenge was what grade level could focus on having the least amount of discipline referrals and unexcused absences. 8th grade was the winner and were treated to a pizza and ice cream social.

The bottom line is that PCMS found ways to recognize our students and continue with things that have made our school a great learning environment for our students. I can't thank our teachers and staff enough for working so hard to bring some normalcy to our students' lives and making sure our students get the best education they deserve. I'm looking forward to a great second semester and the many great things our students and staff will be doing in the next several months. Once again, thank you to all our families for all you do to help us educate your child(ren) and keep them focused on their learning.



Respectfully,  
John LeClair,  
Principal



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## OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

- Aiden Roettinger
- Camila Guido
- Madison Valentz
- Daniel Acosta
- Stefany Estevez
- Marcos Garcia

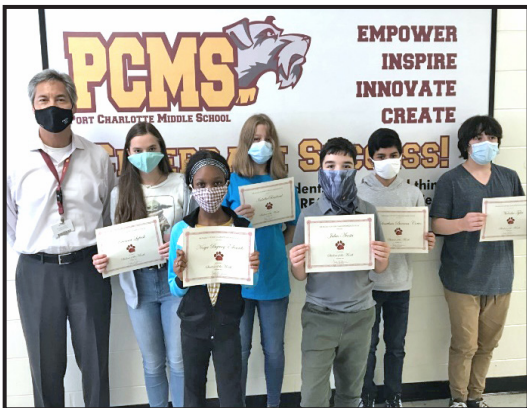
## NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

- Rock Vuolo Suza
- Shameika Charles
- Vanessa Villalva
- Pedro Quijije
- Karen Martinez Vega
- Drew Stanley



## DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

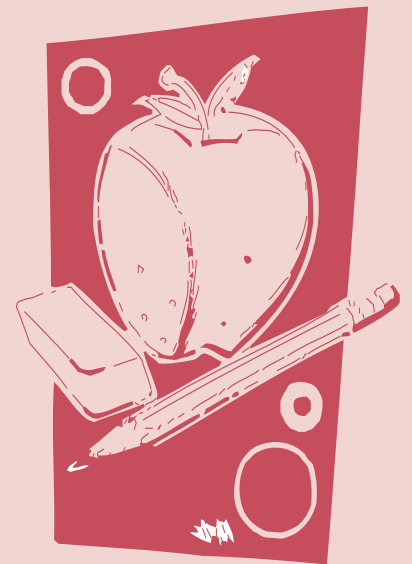
- Roshan Sojan
- Angelica Villalva
- Jordan Haddad
- sabella Slaughter
- Caleb Schultz
- Angel Gorewitz



## OUT OF FIELD TEACHERS

The following teachers are out of field for 2020-2021:

- Ms. Banks, ESE
- Ms. Carriera, Reading Endorsement/ESOL
- Ms. Declat, Reading Endorsement/ESOL
- Ms. Ford, ESE
- Mr. Livermore, ESE
- Ms. Marsh, ESE
- Ms. Wheatley, ESOL



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## FREE MATH AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

Parents & Students, do you know that after-school MATH tutoring is offered FREE at PCMS? Tutoring is held Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons until 4:45 and Thursday mornings from 8 am – 9 am. To ensure a successful program, we ask that all students sign-up in advance (in the appropriate classroom) and arrive at tutoring prepared. They should bring work to complete and/or questions about concepts with which they are struggling.



## MATH NOTES

Sixth grade students completed a rigorous first semester of math. Some of the learning goals for the semester were: operations with decimals and fractions, understanding ratios and rates, using integers to represent real-world situations and graphing on the coordinate plane. As second semester begins, sixth grade students will begin to develop algebraic thinking skills. Students will learn how to identify and use numbers, variables and operations to write, evaluate and simplify algebraic expressions. The algebraic expressions unit will lead students into solving equations.

Seventh graders have been busy studying angle and triangle relationships, proportional relationships, and percent of a number. Currently they are busy working in the percent unit. Students are learning to apply their understanding of percent to real world situations. Students will be able to calculate discounts, tax, tip, markups and simple interest. We are halfway through the 2020-2021 school year, so reviewing and studying topics we have already learned is extremely important as we approach the FSA.

Pre-algebra students are finishing up their study of exponents, writing and computing with scientific notation, and simplifying/estimating the roots of perfect and non-perfect squares and cubes. The study of geometric concepts begins and includes the Pythagorean Theorem and solving for the volume of cones, cylinders, and spheres. There is no formula reference sheet on the FSA (Florida State Assessment) – therefore students are required to know the formulas and apply them to real-world situations. The last unit of study teaches students to differentiate between transformations that maintain congruence and those that do not.

Algebra 1 students start semester two by learning to simplify exponents and radicals and add/subtract/multiply polynomials – all necessary skills for success in our study of quadratic equations. Students will factor polynomials and solve quadratic functions by factoring, graphing, and using the quadratic formula. Delving deeper into the curriculum – they have received and are using the Algebra Nation workbook. This workbook provides our students with the best opportunity for success on the EOC (End of Course) Exam. Algebra Nation provides students with insight on question format. It is crucial that students use this resource. The Algebra EOC will take place in May. Our goal is to have fully completed the text before the EOC.



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*Nicheal Fuller and Deputy Mings seen with the bicycle Nicheal won from all county drawing entries.*

CONGRATULATIONS!



### GRADE LEVEL CHALLENGE!

Terrier Pride hosted the first annual Grade Level Challenge at the end of third quarter. For 5 weeks, 6th, 7th and 8th grade competed against one another to see who could acquire the least number of referrals and least number of unexcused absences. Each week, the results were posted in the cafeteria, along with the running amount of points each grade level had earned.

At the end of 5 weeks, 8th grade had accumulated the most points. They earned a pizza and ice cream party during 7th period the day before winter break. All students who remained referral free were able to attend. Along with this, all students in attendance to the party received a raffle ticket to be entered to win a pair of AirPods.

It was great to see a fun and friendly competition between all of the grade levels and is something we hope to continue for years to come!



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## BOX TOPS LABELS

Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands are starting to change their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Top label. If you see this label, use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. Box Tops are still worth 10¢ each for your school. The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online.

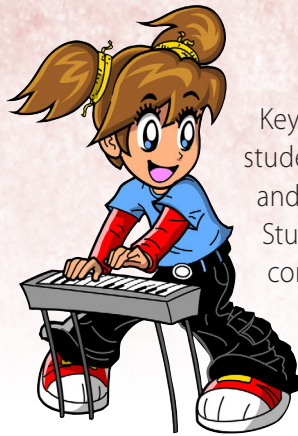


## TITLE 1 INFORMATION

All reports for our Title 1 program are available, upon request, in our Family Center, in the lobby of our front office, and on our website, under About Us - Title I. There you will find the link below.

### TITLE 1 PUBLISHED REPORTS & OTHER RESOURCES

SPAR: School Accountability Report link available on our PCMS school website on Title I page [http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbspars/year1617/nclb1617.cfm?dist\\_schl=8\\_131](http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbspars/year1617/nclb1617.cfm?dist_schl=8_131).



## PIANO KEYBOARD

The 7th & 8th grade students of Mrs. Marshall's Piano Keyboard class performed piano recitals in December. Each student chose his/her own Christmas carol in November and practiced it with minimal coaching from the teacher. Students also researched the history of their own song and composer. On the last few days before winter break, each student performed his/her piece for the class as well as volunteer staff members. The students did wonderful work, and they are now beginning to prepare special solos for the spring!

## NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Our induction ceremony was on January 11, 2021. Officers were pinned, senior members were announced in good standing (if they fulfilled the requirements), and new members were inducted.

### Members in Good Standing:

#### Officers:

- President Kira Tuthill
- Vice President Nicheal Fuller
- Secretary Kylie Caparo
- Treasurer Drew Stanley
- Historian Nina Castelo

#### Senior Members:

- Tyra Ariadna Andres
- Julian Ball
- Samantha Kulman
- Karen Martinez Vega
- Kaylee Morazes
- Diana Oliver
- Matthew Schuler
- Alyssa Stevens

### New Inductees:

#### 8th Graders:

- Vicki Do
- Stefany Estevez
- Kerrigan Goodspeed
- Angel Gorewitz
- Eric Legreid

#### 7th Graders:

- Kirrah Barone
- Lexie Gerlach
- Jordan Haddad
- Caleb Lawson
- Olivia Lonce
- Princesa Mederos
- Pedro Quijje
- Aryanna Reid
- Isabella Slagter
- Vanessa Villalva Garcia



## A few spots are left!



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## ATHLETICS

The Terrier Track team will be showcasing their abilities at the county track meet on Saturday January 30th. Our Terrier Basketball teams will kick off competition February 4th. Remember, for the 20/21 school year all athletic events are for immediate family members only.

## PE/KINDNESS/WELLNESS

### PE News:

Students spent the first semester learning about healthy habits that may be sustained for life. They participated in fitness activities that enhanced cardio-respiratory endurance, muscle strength, flexibility, and mental/ emotional well-being. Students did workouts each week that focused on upper body, lower body, and core strength. They also did yoga and meditation to help learn mindfulness. Toward the end of the semester, students were able to play in modified cooperative games to learn about teamwork, offensive and defensive strategies.

### Kindness:

Our kindness club students provided some study tips, words of wisdom, and quotes of positivity and support for mid-term exams. They helped plan for **The Great Kindness Challenge** which is a worldwide initiative to help promote kindness and positivity to others the week of January 25-29, 2021. At the time of this publication they are in the process of planning a week-long Kindness event for the students and staff at PCMS. The students in the club are truly committed to encouraging kindness among their peers and others.



### Wellness! Let's look at the benefits of two very different activities:

- **Benefits of meditation:** If stress has you anxious, tense, and worried, consider trying meditation. Spending even a few minutes in meditation can restore your calm and inner peace which will benefit your emotional well-being and overall health. Anyone can practice meditation; it's simple and it doesn't require any special equipment, and you can practice meditation wherever you are. Some of the benefits of meditation, as presented by the Mayo Clinic, are: Gaining a new perspective on stressful situations, building skills to manage your stress, increasing self-awareness, focusing on the present, reducing negative emotions, increasing imagination and creativity, and increasing patience and tolerance.
- **Benefits of walking:** You might be walking regularly already, but are you aware of the many benefits of walking? Besides getting exercise towards your fitness goals, some of the benefits include boosting metabolism and lowering your body fat. It also lowers blood pressure and the risk of heart disease. Getting outside in nature has been proven to improve your mood and increase memory performance for those with clinical depression. Do you say you are too tired to walk? Studies have shown that an afternoon walk can actually boost energy better than a cup of coffee. These two factors can be applied to the workplace as well. Studies have shown that a quick walk improves energy, focus, and productivity. Need to reduce stress levels and the pressures of the digital world? Put your headphones in and listen to some music while taking a walk. It is never too late to start working towards a healthier life for you and your loved ones. You can start with just 10 minutes a day and build up to longer walks and maybe even add some power walking minutes. So, go get someone you love and head outdoors for a walk.

## COACH CORSALETTI

On Friday, January 15, 2021 Coach Corsaletti hung up the stopwatch, whistle, and keys to the gym and retired after 43 years of teaching and coaching. He began his career in the late 70's in Connecticut, eventually moving to FL and teaching in northern FL before moving south. He taught in Ft. Myers before he started at PCMS in 2002 and finished his career here. Coach has touched the lives of many students and athletes, including some of our own staff members! He will certainly be missed but is ready to enjoy some well-deserved time off.







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