

PCMS

PORT CHARLOTTE MIDDLE SCHOOL

TERRIER TIMES

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4
MAY 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Terrier Families,

It's hard to believe that we've come to the end of the 2020-21 school year already! There is no way to compare this school year to any other and it was impossible to get through it without the professionalism and dedication of our entire staff. Each and every staff member contributed to our success in educating our Terriers. I am so proud of their heroic efforts and can't thank them enough for all they have accomplished this year. Please help me in thanking every Terrier staff member for always putting our students first.

A huge thank you to: Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Arias, Ms. Banks, Mrs. Brewster, Mrs. Carrier, Mrs. Cornish, Mrs. Cranmer-Sona, Ms. Deplet, Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Faustin, Ms. Ford, Ms. Gibson, Mrs. Guarente, Mr. Hazeltine, Mrs. Keating, Mrs. Linneweber, Mrs. MacIntyre, Ms. Marsh, Mr. Marshall, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Mashburn, Mrs. McGee, Ms. Merrigan, Mrs. Miller, Ms. Norris, Mrs. Orr, Mr. Petrey, Mrs. Pruey, Mrs. Pucci, Mrs. Renne, Mr. Robinson, Mrs. R. Robinson, M. Schmutz, Mrs. Schulz, Ms. Senat, Mrs. Smyser, Mrs. Tenk, Mrs. Weissinger, Mrs. Wheatley, Ms. Davis, Mrs. Walsh, Ms. Michael, Ms. Juan-Febus, Mrs. Kinley, Mrs. Ruger, Ms. Spires, Mrs. T. Robinson, Ms. Hibbard, Mrs. McCall, Ms. Webb, Ms. Canto, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Dawkins, Mr. Fernander, Mrs. Callaghan, Mrs. Nagy, Mrs. Kuyper, Ms. Keller, Mr. Chirinos, Mrs. Kittleson, Deputy Mings, Mr. Rivera, Ms. Morris, Ms. Warth, Mr. Kunder, Mrs. Whisenant, Mr. Hock, Mr. Grzechowiak, Ms. Manaskie, Ms. Lauture, Ms. Baumhardt, Mrs. Simmons, Mr. Sundquist, Mrs. Alkhawaja, Mrs. Burney, Mrs. Lonce, Mrs. Reyburn, Mrs. Reyes-White, Ms. Vitiello, and Mrs. Wilkes.

Thank you to all of our students for showing up ready to learn each day and giving us a reason to come in every day. Last but not least, thank you to all of our Terrier families for allowing us to educate your children during this most challenging year. Without your support and trust we would not have been able to accomplish all that we did.

I hope everyone has a well-deserved, restful summer break and I look forward to the start of another school year soon. Good luck to 8th graders as they begin a new chapter in their educational career and thank you for your leadership and hard work over the last three years.



Respectfully,
John LeClair,
Principal

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





MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



'Terrier Times'
May 2021 • Issue # 4
Published Four Times Per Year
Charlotte County Public Schools
1445 Education Way
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1052



Kevin Rivera, Kira Tuthill, Ya Rosabal Pence, Tianna Scott, Aniceta Vazquez, Milo Moreno

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.

APRIL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Julien Ball, Cady Murphy, Tristan Otway, Nina-Simone Costelo, Makayla Cavalierre
Not pictured: Kira King

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SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

by Ms. Ford's Creative Writing Class

When thinking about our language arts teachers at Port Charlotte Middle School, can you picture what their personal lives are like? Whether it's spending time with their families, thrifting, or spending their free time outdoors, for most students, it's hard to envision our teachers doing anything other than teaching in their classes.

Some of our language arts teachers have hobbies just like us. Melissa Wheatley's favorite activities are "doing yoga and reading a good book." Other teachers, such as Miranda Ford, would rather spend their time outdoors taking pictures of the wildlife around her home. "I'm planning on taking as many pictures of wildlife as I can," she says.

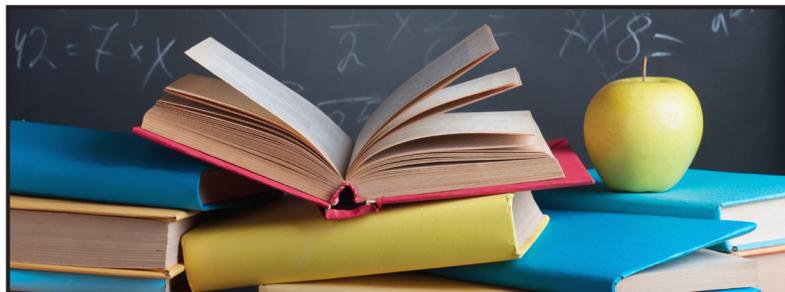
Shopping is another thing that our ELA teachers do in their free time. "I love thrift shopping and going to garage sales for bargains. You never know what you might find!" says Lori Schmutz, a teacher of 32 years.

Heather Mashburn, a teacher of 7 years, enjoys spending time with her family. Mashburn has a daughter named Mary June, who is six years old, and a son named James, who has just turned four. "My favorite activities to do outside of school are spending time with family, writing, reading, shopping, and traveling" says Mashburn.

Kimberly Pruey, a teacher of 18 years, has dreams just like ours. Pruey states, "In my fantasy world, I use my Olivetti Studio 44 to write my first book, become a successful published author, and volunteer my time at animal rescues."

Whether it's hanging out with family, spending time outdoors, or even just going shopping for clothing, it is obvious that our language arts teachers focus on spending their time outside of school just like their students - enjoying their free time.

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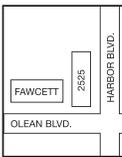
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OUT OF FIELD TEACHERS

The following teachers are currently teaching Out of Field:

- Ms. Ford.....ESE
- Ms. Marsh.....ESE
- Ms. Wheatley..ESOL
- Ms. Merrigan..ESOL
- Ms. NorrisESOL
- Mrs. Carriera ...Reading Endorsement and ESOL
- Ms. Deplet.....Reading Endorsement and ESOL



MUSIC



Two of our PCM choral groups are performing for the state of Florida's Music Performance Assessments (MPA). This year it is virtual, so each group recently submitted a video performance which will be reviewed by three vocal judges.

The 7th/8th Grade Girls Chorus sang "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burnin'", and the 7th/8th Grade Boys Chorus sang "Wayfaring Stranger".

Both selections are famous African-American Spiritual songs. Results from the judges will arrive in mid-May.

Do you like to sing? Mrs. Marshall is always on the lookout for new chorus members! Students who are entering 7th or 8th grade NEXT YEAR can talk with Mrs. Marshall before 1st period, 8:50 - 9:05.

SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF: ADMINISTRATOR/COUNSELOR

by Ms. Ford's Creative Writing Class

In addition to helping out at Port Charlotte Middle school, the administrators and counselors have their own lives outside of school.

The administrators and counselors provide a multitude of services to the school and students. As such a supportive role in the school, you might not realize they have their own hobbies. The admin and counselors all enjoy different types of activities, like sports and doing things outside.

Eric Grzechowiak (pronounced Grah-hah-vee-ak) is one of the guidance counselors. His name is commonly confused so he gets called Mr. G for short. He has one child named Gannon, a 2 year old. He describes some of his favorite hobbies as ice hockey and running.

The school principal, John LeClair, has a daughter named Erin Pilkington who is 30 years old. On top of that, Mr. LeClair has two grandkids; Josie and Carson. Josie is 3 1/2 years old and Carson is six months old. Mr. LeClair said he likes trail running, fishing, boating, riding a motorcycle and reading.

Alexa Manaskie, one of the school counselors, states, "I love to walk my dog Riggins, read books, go to the beach, and bike ride through my neighborhood."

These three all enjoy partaking in some sort of sporty activity during their freetime; however, they also take part in more casual activities.

Mr. Ggrezchowiak said on his summer break he is going to relax.

Likewise, during the summer, Mrs. Manaskie says, "I will be traveling back to New England to see some of my friends and family and going to Michigan for my cousin's wedding."

Tara Whisenant explains that on the weekends that she loves being outside, "I enjoy the beach sitting by the pool and spending time with family and friends." Mrs.Whisenant said her favorite activity to do with her family "Both of my children live out of town... So when we are all together, I love cooking big meals for them and playing games."

Similar to Mrs. Manaskie and her family time, Mr.LeClair says during his summer he is going to "spend time with grandkids."

The administrators and counselors at Port Charlotte Middle School not only play a large role in the success of their students, but also enjoy their time away from school.

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MATH CARNIVAL

PCMS math students celebrated pi (3.14159265...) this year at our 6th annual Math Carnival. The Math Carnival was held on Friday, March 12th. The carnival was held outdoors for the first time to allow for added safety measures and social distancing.

The Math Carnival planning began in January with our Penny Wars fundraiser. Each math class competed to be the top donor in the fundraiser. Students contributed pennies as well as other monies. The top class was Mrs. Weissinger's period 1 with a grand total of \$144.53.

All students attended the Math Carnival and had the opportunity to play 11 math themed, carnival style games including two new games: Make Egg Pi and 1,2,3 Pong. Students were given carnival tickets after winning a game. They were able to trade in their tickets for small carnival prizes or use their tickets to enter raffle drawings for larger prizes. Another new feature this year was the carnival concession stand. Students had the opportunity to use their tickets to get treats such as cotton candy, popcorn and ice pops. The concession stand was a big hit with the students!

The math department wishes to thank all the math carnival volunteers as well as Publix Supermarket for sponsoring our Penny Wars fundraiser reward party.



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See you on
March 12th
at the math
carnival!



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/nclb spar/year1617/nclb1617.cfm?dist_schl=8_131

The start date for school in the fall is August 10th.

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2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS



**TUESDAY,
AUGUST 10TH,
2021**

ART

April has been an amazing month for the art students at Port Charlotte Middle School. On April 8th we attended the awards for the Charlotte County Centennial Art Competition where all 3 middle school places were taken by PCMS; 3rd place to Kira Tuthill, 2nd place to Alayah Davis and 1st place to Karen Martinez-Vega. A couple of weeks later, the annual Charlotte County School Art show took place at the Visual Art Center in Punta Gorda. 1st place was awarded to Pedro Quijije, 2nd place went to Denisse Iglesias and 3rd place to Ayla Daumann & Julia Duong. Ayla & Julia were also chosen for the benefactor's award, earning them each \$25. Last, the annual Keep Charlotte Beautiful Calendar contest was decided and PCMS did very well! Shameika Charles won 1st place for 6th grade, Denisse Iglesias won 1st place for 7th grade and Honorable Mention was awarded to Yelitzabed Negrón in 7th grade and Chase Gedman in 8th grade. Port Charlotte Middle School students are creating beautiful, quality art and being recognized in our community. We are so proud of our Terrier artists!



Alayah Davis



Kira Tuthill



Karen Martinez-Vega



*Karen Martinez-Vega - 1st place
Charlotte County
Centennial Art Competition
with Mrs. Pucci*



*Pedro Quijije - 1st place
Charlotte County Public Schools
Annual Art Show
with Mrs. Pucci*

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PE

PE students continue to work on cooperative games and fitness. Through the duration of the school year we worked on endurance challenges with students. Some of the impressive records that were made were:

Dips:

- 6th grade: Ava Gilliard 48 and Martae Taylor 90
- 7th grade: Jussalynn Bowman 60 and Azar Jenkins 84
- 8th grade: Maryah Taylor 56 and Ryan Cox 99 (school record)

Leg Lifts:

- 6th grade: Riley Barrett 3:00 and Alex Colon-Vargas 2:24
- 7th grade: Alanna Pennel 2:20 and Christian Van Wormer 3:00
- 8th grade: Cha'Voynna Washington 3:20 and Ryan Cox 3:33 (school record holder)

Planks:

- 6th grade: Riley Barrett 10:14 & Daryl Burney 27:33 (record holder)
- 7th grade: Elia Le 5:42 and Ian Chase 10:53
- 8th grade: Hailey Hayes 4:50 and Henry Roman 11:00

Wall Sits:

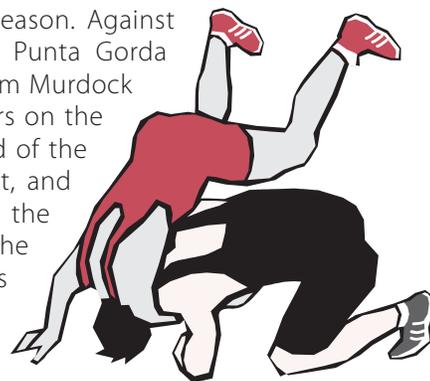
- 6th grade: Cadence Whitmore 45:00 and Martae Taylor 26:30
- 7th grade: Emma Southerland 40:00 and David Piekh 26:30
- 8th grade: Celeste Midolo 60:02! (school record holder) and Dylan Salcedo-Lara 14:00



WRESTLING

Update from Mr. Marshall

The PCMS Wrestling Team had a fantastic season. Against far larger teams, the Terriers were able to tie Punta Gorda 33-33, defeat LA Ainger 36-9, and steal a win from Murdock with a final of 33-30. With so many new wrestlers on the team, these results were unexpected. At the end of the season the district hosted a county tournament, and Port Charlotte earned 2nd place. A number of the better wrestlers are 6th and 7th graders, so the future looks bright. Ryan Cox and Nathan Cortes had undefeated regular seasons, and 7 of the 10 wrestlers had winning records. It was a pleasure to coach these determined athletes.



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Dr. Denise Billings has decades of experience caring for her patients with respect and kindness. When she's not helping her patients see the world more clearly, Dr. Billings enjoys exploring the great outdoors with her family.





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Spotlight on Staff

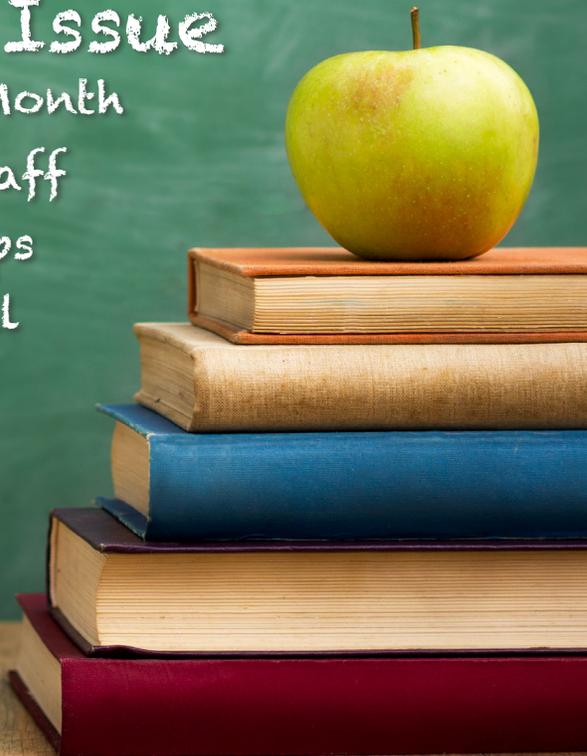
Choral Groups

Math Carnival

Art Awards

Sports News

and more!



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