



# PINNACLE PREP SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

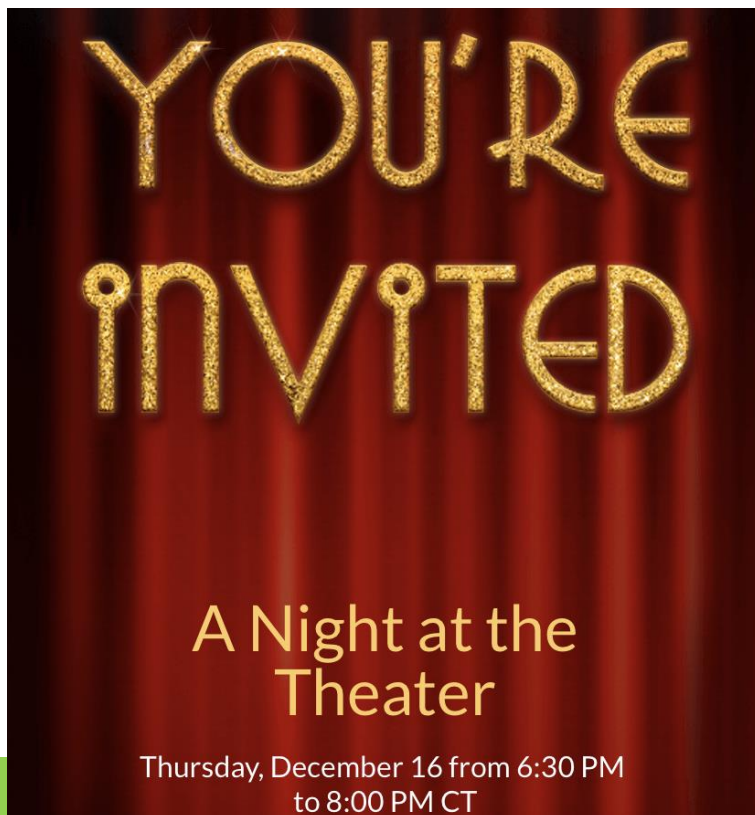
December 5, 2021

## Winter Wonderland

Happy December! Our students have worked so hard this semester and are so excited to share what they have learned during our Parent-Teacher Conferences. They have also been rehearsing and memorizing their lines for the fall play.

Here are a few important dates for December:

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences: December 15, 2021**
- **A Night at the Theater:** December 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- **Winter Break:** December 20<sup>th</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup>.
- **Classes resume on January 5, 2022.**



## Inclement Weather Policy

Keeping you informed is always our priority. We will notify you about school closure due to inclement weather via Remind 101 on or before 7 a.m. on the morning of closure.

## 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.

# Ms. Laura

## *Penguins*

Mrs. Laura's Rockets have been learning all about holidays, their traditions, and traditions in different cultures. We've learned about Kwanza, Hanukkah, Christmas and many more. We have also learned that December has three syllables and begun learning that we can clap every time we hear a syllable. We continue to learn about story elements. We've read books about Christmas and have spent time making text to text comparisons to find fact, fiction, similarities, and differences.

Last month, we started learning about the differences between fact and fiction. We learned that we can use our imagination to make up stories. We tied this over to our science lesson and learned about living and non-living things. We will continue to explore more concepts to understand the stories we read.

In math, we continue to work on ordinal recognition for sequence and understanding addition concepts. We have covered numbers up to 30 and learned the place value and order. We use the calendar to play a game to find the numbers in the correct sequence. We continue to enjoy our hands-on arts and crafts.



# ELA- Writing

## Mrs. Chavez

Hello there, Pinnacle Prep Parents!

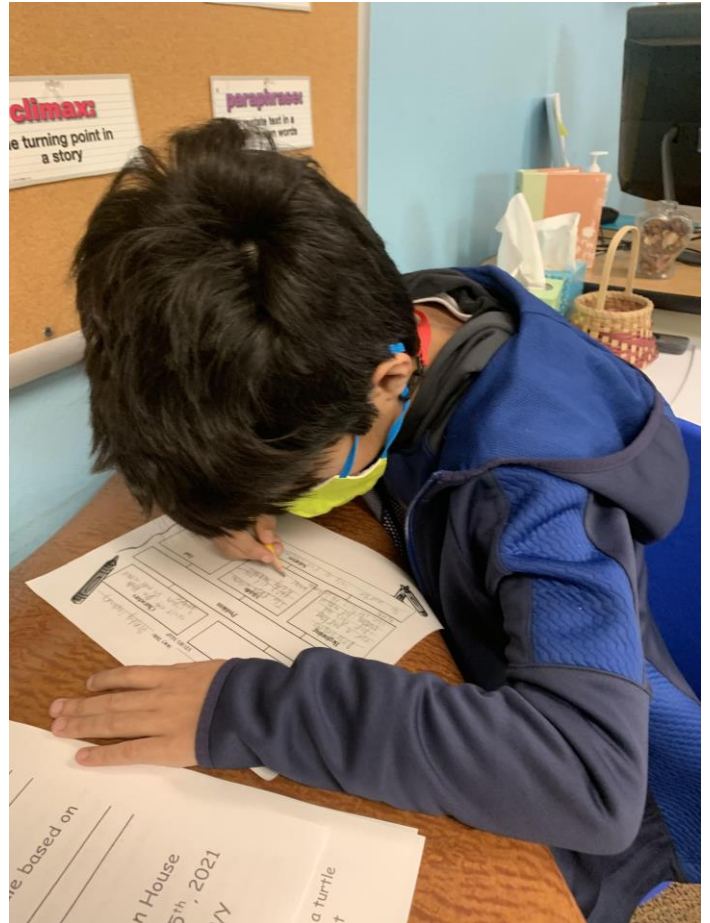
While November swept in with much cooler weather, Ms. Suzy's little turkeys were fast at work "gobbling" up their first novel, *The Secret Garden*, by Frances Burnett. We focused on cause and effect, analyzing characters, and author's purpose. Much discussion was held and summaries written for such chapters as, "There is No One Left", *Misselthwaite Manor*", *The Cry in the Corridor*", and "The Key to the Garden".

As we enter December, Ms. Suzy's classes will be working on a major project for Pinnacle Prep's Parent-Teacher Conference on Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Her students are looking forward to showcasing their work.

Until next time, here's a chuckle for your thoughts: "Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, you are a mile away and have their shoes." – Jack Handey


Quote for November:


"The greatest mistake a person can make is to be afraid of making one." – Elbert Hubbard





# ELA & Math

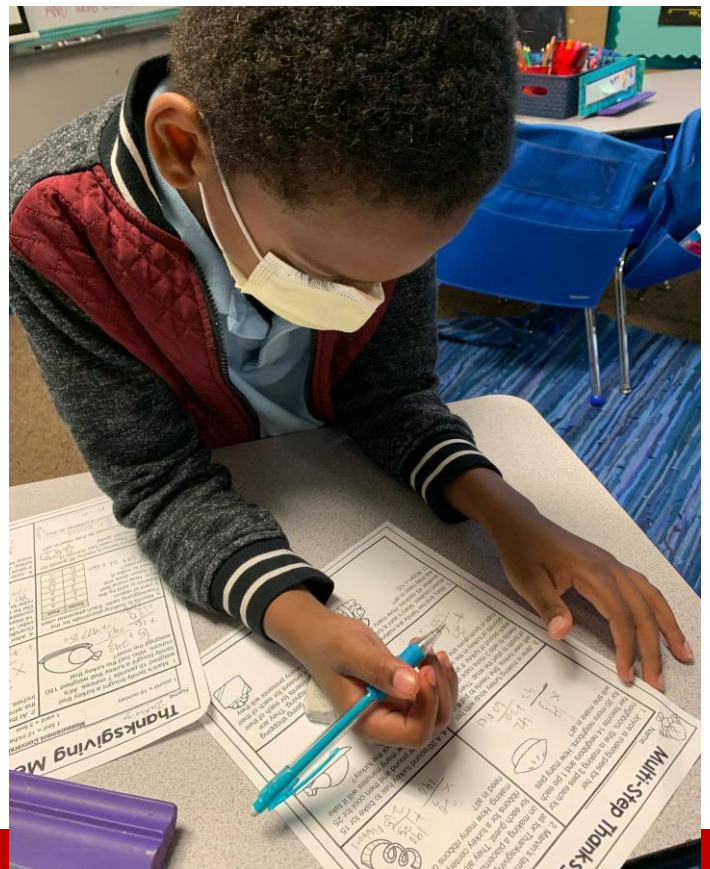
## Mrs. Hill

 Pandas: Our Pandas are reading "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" by Barbara Robinson. They will also participate in Pinnacle's "A Night at the Theater". We have selected a very short, very humorous play entitled "'Twas the Day Before Winter Break". I'm so excited to see them perform on stage!

 Lions (ELA): We finished our novel study on *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*. In December our Lions will be working on their final project that will be displayed during Parent-Teacher Conferences.

 Giraffes: In December, we will be using *Olive the Other Reindeer* as our main literary focus.

 Lions (Math): Lions are working on a dream vacation project. They will use the skills they learned during the semester by creating a budget to travel to their dream destination.



# Math

## Ms. Jaya

**Tigers:** Tigers are working on probability, compound events, permutation, and combinations. Next, they will start working on Data and Statistics, in which they will learn to analyze data using different types of graphs. Some of the tigers worked on sequences, in which they are learnt to find the  $n$ th terms of the sequence using either arithmetic or geometric sequence and are now working on angle relationships and polygons. Few of the students also worked on percent in which they learnt converting between fractions, percent, and decimals. The Tigers are working on creating a dream home project in which they will design their dream home, calculate area, and create a budget on the final cost of the home.

**Giraffes:** Giraffes worked on to record the survey results using different types of graphs (like Bar graphs, pictographs, line graphs ..) and answer related questions by reading the graphs. Giraffes are now working on projects using different shapes. They are also working on a marshmallow project in which they will focus on measurements and fact families using marshmallows. We will continue to work on math facts.

**Lions:** Lions worked on to learn equivalent fractions, finding the L.C.M and G.C.F. of given numbers, adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators, improper fractions. They will continue to learn finding part of number, and probability. Some of the lions worked on analyzing data and statistics, using different types of graphs (line graphs, bar graphs and histogram), find the mean, median, mode and range. Lions are now working on a dream vacation project in which they will create a budget to travel to their dream destination.

**Pandas:** Pandas had fun learning to take different surveys and record the results using tally marks and using different types of graphs (like Bar graphs, picto graphs, line graphs) and answer related questions by reading the graphs. They also learnt about the different 2D and 3D shapes. Pandas also worked on fractions, in which they learnt identifying numerator, denominator, find the equivalent fractions, and order fractions from least to greatest and greatest to least. They are now working on a project using fractions and another project on shapes. We will continue to work on math facts.



# Upper Humanities

## Mr. Troxel

It's hard to believe 2021 is about to end and the new year soon to take over. As is the Pinnacle Prep school tradition, we are shifting our focus into theater in preparation for the Winter play production. We began some of the theater basics leading into Thanksgiving break. Now that we are back, play production activities will take front and center. This is the beauty of taking a whole language approach to the genres of literature. Language serves life in every dimension, and appreciation of the word in drama helps learners make solid connections to new ideas, themes, emotion, and let's be honest—acting like someone else is a blast for all.

### Lions:

Just before Thanksgiving we had finished our last history unit for the first part of the year by examining the world changing impact of ancient India. For the students still online there will be a look at Japan and they will continue with history activities, but in a more independent study setting for the time being. The students in school will shift gears and are devoted fully to play preparation. All students should be close to having their lines memorized at this time. Our play is called *24 Plays in 24 Minutes*, and it is a fun ride with every student involved to make it work. The play is an homage to the classic comedy sketch pieces of the golden age of television.

### Tigers:

As with the Lions, all students should be close to memorizing lines, and we will be shifting focus to our play preparation full time. Their play is called *What the Dickens*. Their tale explains the difficulty for spreading a message of Christmas spirit in a world that has become technology based and much more dangerous for ghosts. This version of *A Christmas Carol* may not be exactly *classical*, but it should be interesting. The performances for both plays will be the evening of Thursday December 16<sup>th</sup>.

I'm looking forward to a great finish to 2021, with an exciting 2022 just around the corner. The challenges have been great, but the commitment of your children to keep pushing forward is going to set the stage for a great new year. Again, thank you for sharing your amazing kids with us here at Pinnacle Prep School.



# Science

*Mrs. Hozie*

“...Humanity has always sought to transcend barriers, overcome challenges, and create opportunities that improve life in our part of the universe...Technology allows an abundant supply of food and safe drinking water for much of the world. We rely on electricity for many of our daily activities. We can travel the globe with relative ease and bring goods and services wherever they are needed. Growing computer and communications technologies are opening vast stores of knowledge and entertainment. As remarkable as these engineering achievements are, certainly just as many more great challenges and opportunities remain to be realized.”

All student groups are working on Engineering Challenges. Engineering challenges teach students how to design and conduct experiments, to identify and solve problems, to understand and work within constraints, and communicate effectively. The theme for this year's challenges is Amusement Park Physics. Students are creating their own theme park rides. Students apply what they have learned about force, acceleration due to gravity, Newton's laws, friction, energy, and electric circuits through creating models of amusement park rides. We look forward to sharing our models during the Parent-Teacher conferences in December.



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