



# PINNACLE PREP SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

January 10, 2022

## Happy New Year!

Happy New Year from Pinnacle Prep! We are so excited to have everyone back at Pinnacle after our winter break. We had a wonderful time meeting parents during our parent-teacher conference and during our "A Night at the Theater". We have some very talented actors amongst our students! We look forward to a semester full of learning and so much fun!



**No Classes on:**

**MLK Day: Monday, January 17, 2021**



## 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!

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

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

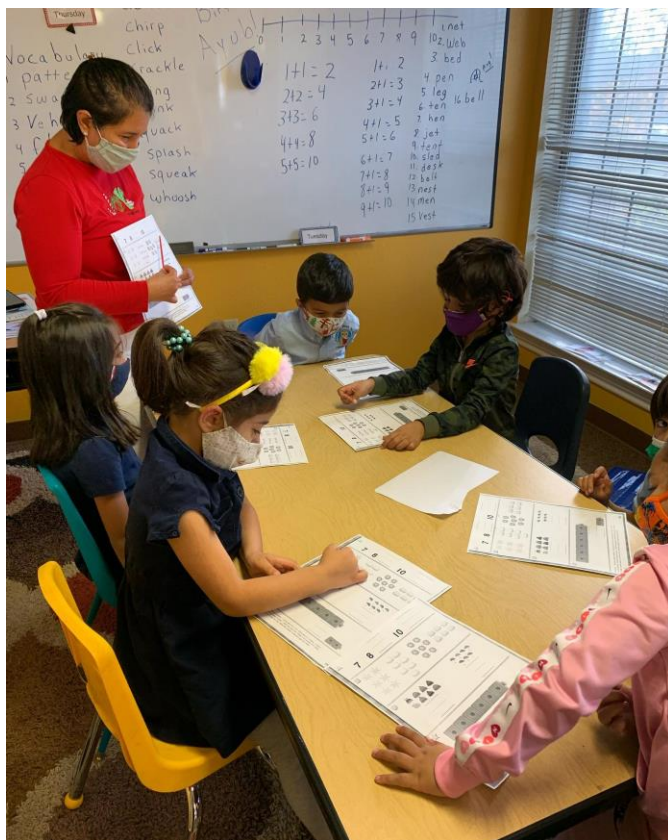
# Ms. Laura

## *Penguins*

Mrs. Laura's Shining Stars have been learning all about New Year celebrations. We will be learning how other parts of the world celebrate and welcome a new year. We continue to improve our vocabulary, comprehension, prediction, and other story element skills by reading books based on our theme for the month: winter! We will also continue to practice sounding out words during our phonics time. We will also continue practicing our sight word list.

During our math time, we will continue to learn the numbers that come before and after up to 100. We will also be working on learning our ordinal numbers. Thanks again for letting me be a part of their educational journey.

Stay warm,  
Mrs. Laura



# ELA- Writing

## Mrs. Chavez

Hello there, Pinnacle Parents!

While December rang in with cheer and delight, Ms. Suzy's little elves did not miss a beat. As Santa assigned a fun project for all, (comprising a tale with a "twist and a yank",) prewrites and drafts and revisions abounded. (Who knew Little Red Riding Hood could be such an outlaw, and the Big Bad Wolf-a pretty nice fellow?) As stories were posted and displayed with great joy, each little elf smiled with pride, for Santa was proud of all their hard work. We will continue to work on organization of writing and using the grammar we have learned in our writing.

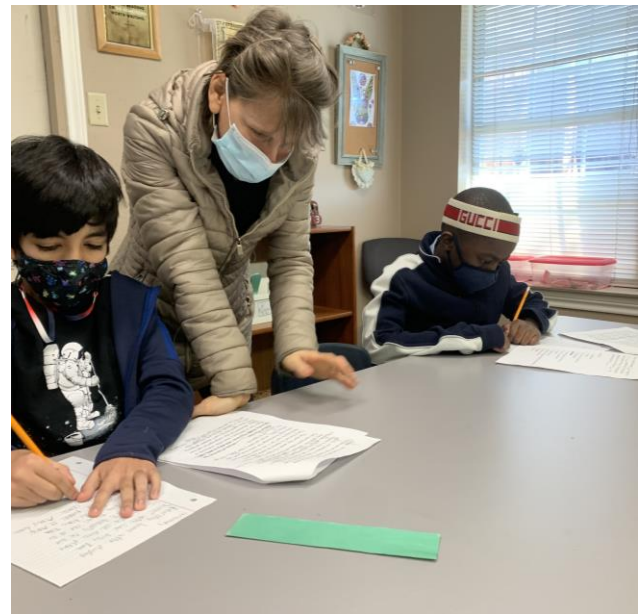
As we bid farewell to 2021, I pray your break was relaxing and peaceful. That being said, "Happy New Year!" to you all. I hope you all feel rejuvenated and have entered 2022 with more vigor and tenacity to make changes for a brighter, more productive future. Godspeed!

Until next time, here's a chuckle for your thoughts:

"Don't worry if plan A fails. There are 25 more letters in the alphabet."

Quote for December:

"Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind," – Dr. Seuss



# ELA & Math

## Mrs. Hill

I hope everyone had a relaxing winter break! Our plan for January will resume the same routine that is in place...Please remember:

- Reading Log (M-Th), a minimum of 20 min. and must be initiated by an adult
- Spelling Tests are on Fridays along with completed packets. Please help your child with learning how to study and be prepared for tests
- Abeka Language—2 pages daily (M-Th)...I check randomly and choose pages to grade!
- Our novel study, *The One and Only Ivan*, is back on! Occasionally, I have the kiddos bring home their books to read to you so that you are able to assess their progress. We either read or do a corresponding activity each day.

I hope you enjoyed the hard work and positive attitudes of my precious Pandas as showcased during the play *'Twas the Day Before Winter Break!*

### Lions (ELA):

My lovely Lions continue to shine! Our number one priority for January will be to finish our MJET projects...

- Glue in all components for the Lapbook folder and place on our presentation boards.
- Complete 8 symbolism summaries, along with pictures/visual aid for each and put on presentation boards.

When all projects are completed, I will video each one and send them to you! After that, we will resume our regular schedule that was in place during the first semester: Spelling, Abeka (Grammar), and we will begin our new novel: *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis...

### Giraffes:

During January, our Giraffes will be celebrating MLK Jr. and learning all about his life and accomplishments! Additionally, we will resume our routine with regards to spelling, and sight words, and completing daily reading...

- Just a gentle reminder...For those kiddos who do Spelling, packets MUST be turned in on Friday mornings. Since we have tests on Fridays, I strongly encourage each student to practice his/her words at home during the week...
- Each student is required to read 20 minutes daily, and record on their reading logs inside their purple folders. PARENTS, PLEASE INITIAL EACH ENTRY!

### Lions (Math):

In December, our Lions presented their amazing Vacation Projects! I was so impressed with their hard work and creativity—Thank you to Ms. Jaya for stepping in to answer questions and guide them to success!

In January, we will begin by doing a mid year assessment so that I can ensure to fill in any gaps in their mathematical thinking. After that, we will resume work on our Measurement Unit—this will include aspects of length, capacity, time, area, and perimeter. You can count on lots of critical thinking, real-world applications, and word problems!

On a personal note, THANK YOU for your prayers and well wishes during my unexpected appendix emergency. I am looking forward to a productive and busy second semester with my lovely students!



# Math

Ms. Jaya

**Tigers:** Tigers did an amazing work on their projects. They will start working on Data and Statistics in which they will learn different types of surveys and graphs (like line graph, Bar Graph, Histograms, Stem and Leaf Plots). Some of the tigers will work on solving linear equations in which they will learn single and multi- step equations, solving equations having like terms, solving inequalities using different operations. Few of the students will work on metric measurements in which they will learn to relate metric units of length, capacity, and mass, relate customary units of length, capacity and weight, compute different time zones and problem-solving applications.

**Giraffes:** Giraffes worked hard on their projects and did a wonderful job. Giraffes will start working on fractions, in which kids will learn to partition circles, rectangles, and other masses into two and four equal shares. They will be able to describe the shares using the words - halves, fourths, and quarters, and will be able to use the phrases half of, fourth of, and quarter of. They'll be able to describe the whole as two or four of the shares.

**Lions:** Lions did a great job with their dream vacation projects and fractions. Students will be working on Geometry in which they will learn points, lines, ray, line segment, angles parallel and perpendicular lines. They will also work on circles and different types of polygons. Difference between similar and congruent figures and transformations. Some of the lions will be working on geometry in which they will learn to measure and draw different angles, angle pairs, constructions with angles, polygons, area and perimeter of different polygons, circles.

**Pandas:** Pandas were great with their shapes and fractions project. Pandas will continue to work on fractions, in which they will learn to add and subtract fractions with like denominators, they will also work on learning times tables (up to 12) and then move on to division and relate between multiplication and division facts. Continue to work on math facts.



# Upper Humanities

## *Mr. Troxel*

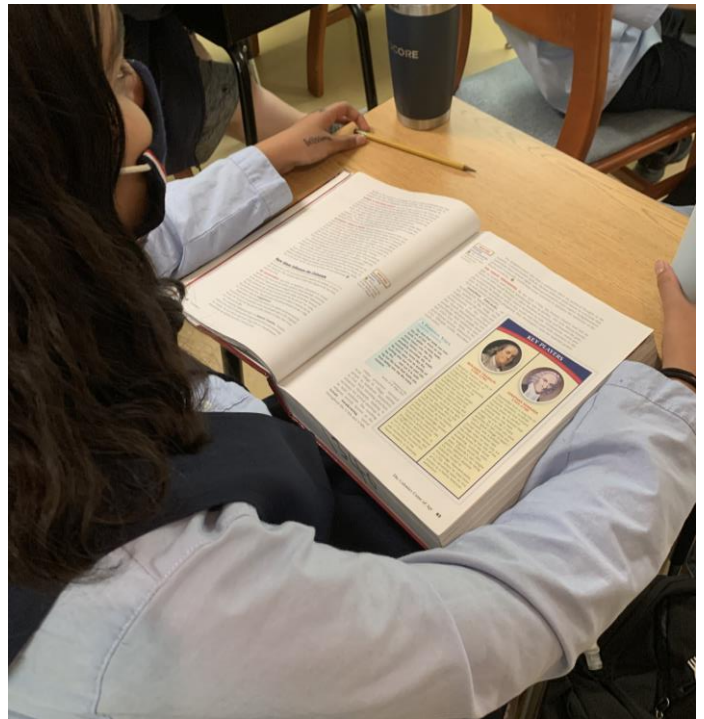
Happy new year, once again. It is always exciting to see how something so small as a date change can get us all thinking about the future and new potential for the next steps in life. First thing I want to write is how proud I am of the children's play performances before break. They all took ownership and stepped up to the task as teams. That is the best hope a teacher has for their learners—to see them own the outcome and do what is necessary for success. That is life.

The Wolves are about to take a great adventure. We are beginning the month with a study of ancient Greece, looking at the culture, philosophy, and political innovation that impacts our lives today. Integral to our study will be our formal exploration of public speaking. To introduce these important skills we will be taking a trip together through ancient Sicily in one of my favorite projects to teach. I know you'll hear of it as we get going. This will be an exciting time as students begin to learn the basic elements of human communication and how to make purposeful choices in our messages.

In Language Arts the Tigers will continue to read and write but will also now concentrate on the development of public speaking skill. Whole language means that we must learn to master all the nuanced choices to send a specific, clearly understood message.

Our exploration will examine how communication is a complex process, and our messaging success is often accidental. We will be learning the basic components of human communication and will develop strategic tools to be intentional speakers. In history we are continuing to examine development of the United States and formation of the constitutional republic we have today.

I'm excited about the potential of a to a wonderful new year in 2022. Again, thank you for sharing your amazing kids with us here at Pinnacle Prep.



# Science

## Mrs. Hozie

Thank you, Pinnacle parents, for your support during our Amusement Park Physics project! It was great to see so many of you at our parent play and conferences. The home-school partnership is key, and we thank you for coming to meet with the amazing teachers at Pinnacle! We think your kids are amazing, and I am sure it was great to hear that from their teachers as well!

If you were unable to make it to the conferences and would like to touch base with any (or all) of your child's teachers, feel free to email or call the office!

The car ride to and from school is a great time to ask your child specific questions about his/her day:

- What did you learn today? (don't settle for the "nothing" answer!! It's not true!)
- What was your favorite part of your day?
- What did you not understand?
- What assignments do you need to accomplish tonight?
- How can I help you?
- What are your goals for the week?

In the coming month, we will be exploring real-world challenges using coding and robotics. Working in teams, students will design, program, and test remote-controlled miniature robots. The robotics unit will culminate with spirited challenges such as obstacle courses.

Imagination+Technology+Teamwork=WHOLE LOT OF FUN!!

Without the engineers of our world, no one would be able to enjoy the use of modern-day technology.



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