



Adams Update November 12, 2021

Thank You to our Veterans

This Thursday, November 11 was Veterans Day, and many classes held activities and discussed the impact of veterans in our country's history. In one example, Mrs. Florey's class learned about Veterans Day, studied the different branches of the armed forces, made and displayed an American flag, discussed the timeline of the holiday, and discovered why the poppy is a symbol associated with Veterans Day. Mrs. Florey's father was a Navy officer, and her nephew is in the Marines. Students discussed their different relatives and loved ones that are also in the armed forces. We can all agree: **Thank you to our veterans. Thank you for your service, your example, and your dedication.**



Picture Retakes are Monday!

Our Picture Retakes and group photos will take place this upcoming **Monday, November 15.**

Chippewa Nature Center Field Trips Here at Adams

The Chippewa Nature Center continues to be a wonderful community partner, working with our teachers to bring nature-based science lessons to our outdoor learning spaces here at Adams. Mrs. Lipovsky's 5th grade class recently explored Food Chains and Food Webs, and other classes enjoyed CNC adventures, as well. Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring the field trips.



PYP Pulse

Be sure to check out the attached *PYP Pulse* newsletter from our PYP Coordinator Mrs. Ahearn. Good information in the newsletter about how PYP works here at Adams, and about how different cultures celebrate the harvest and thankful times. Thank you, Mrs. Ahearn!

Music Notes, from Mr. Webber

Kindergarten and 1st grade classes finished up vocal assessments this week. They continued learning *A Silly Winter Song* and improvised rhythms that the entire class imitated. They also mastered the game song *We Are Playing in the Forest*. It was great fun!

3rd grade started their ukulele unit this week. Our A groups learned their first chord, how to hold the instrument, and how to strum using their fingers. They should be able to describe how it went. Our B groups started learning our new song *For the Winter*.

4th grade has had to delay starting recorders for now. Until they can start, they are learning about reading music and playing on a variety of keyboard instruments, including xylophone, metallophone, and marimbas! This week they learned about the staff, treble clef, and the musical alphabet, and we had free time to explore our new instruments. Your child should be able to tell you how many lines and spaces the staff uses.

Next week will be similar to this one: lower grades will start honing new rhythm skills and learning more about resting tones. Upper grades will continue their studies on instruments and learning new winter music.

Vaping and Tobacco Use on School Grounds

Please remember that vaping and tobacco use of any kind are not permitted on school grounds. Thank you for respecting this, we appreciate it!

Great Turnout for Parent-Teacher Conferences!

Thank you to everyone who came to Parent-Teacher Conferences! It was a great time to share information, reflect on what is working, and strategize on how to help your children learn as we move forward. The partnership between our school and your family is the most critical one we have when it comes to educating and supporting your children. If you were not able to participate in conferences, please reach out to your child's teacher and set up a time to talk—you will find it helpful and rewarding!



Grove for the Garden Fundraiser, and PTO Update

Be sure to check out the PTO Update for important information, including the upcoming **Spirit Wear order deadline—November 15**. Order now to receive gifts in time for the holidays! You will also notice the **Grove for the Garden** fundraiser event. Swing by the **Grove Tea Lounge** this Saturday, 8am – 6pm, and \$1 from each donut sold will support the Adams Garden. Additionally, Grove Tea Lounge will match tips and donate that amount to the garden! Come for the delicious drinks and snacks, and you will contribute to the garden along the way. Thank you to the Grove Tea Lounge for your support of the Adams Garden!

[Adams Atoms Newsletter Nov 12](#)

Upcoming Events

Wed, Nov 24	Half-day of school, 11:51am dismissal
Nov 25 – 28	No school: Happy Thanksgiving!

It was a great week here at Adams, and we look forward to seeing you and your students again next week. Have a good weekend!

Educationally yours,
Scott Cochran
Principal

the PYP Pulse

[November Edition]



"An investment in KNOWLEDGE pays the best interest."
- Benjamin Franklin

PROGRAMME news

As our first marking period comes to an end, progress reports are being marked and delivered; parents, teachers, and students are conferencing with one another to highlight student strengths and work together to achieve common goals. A portion of these conversations will likely be centered around assessments and the relationships formed between students and teachers.

The PYP supports assessment as an integral part of the programme and says *"The purpose of assessment is to inform learning and teaching. It involves the gathering and analysis of information about student learning to inform teaching practice. It identifies what students know, understand and can do at different stages in the learning process. Effective assessment that achieves this purpose provides valuable information to understand what constitutes learning and how to support it, and is meaningful to all members of the learning community."*

This month, teachers engaged in professional development to consider what would happen if we used the words "evidencing learning" rather than "assessment". To explore this shift in thinking, teachers examined their current practices and considered ways in which they could increase student agency and involve students in the collaborative process. Alternatively, when reviewing your child's progress report- consider how you could shift your own thinking- where are your child's areas of strengths in terms of knowledge and skills? What are some areas for growth? Consider involving your student in conversations around how they are demonstrating their understanding in and out of the classroom.

You can find the MPS assessment policy on your school's website under Resources > IB PYP Policies > Assessment Policy.

Your PYP Coordinators:

Adams Elementary & Siebert Elementary: **Melissa Ahearn** ahearnm1@midlandps.org

Chestnut Hill Elementary & Woodcrest Elementary: **Sarah Westervelt** westerveltsj@midlandps.org

Central Park Elementary, Plymouth Elementary & Pre-Primary Center: **Whitney Jacobs** jacobswd@midlandps.org



LEARNING focus

Multicultural Thanksgiving

India: Southern India celebrates their harvest at the **Pongal festival** in January. The Pongal festival is named after a sweet rice dish of the same name, and features a community feast where neighbors come together to share crops and give thanks.

Korea: **Chuseok** also known as hangawi (한가위), is one of the biggest holidays in South Korea. It's a time when families gather together to give thanks to their ancestors for an abundant autumn harvest. Sometimes called the Korean Thanksgiving, Chuseok is celebrated with good food, and family gatherings. It typically takes place in September or October according to the lunar calendar.

China: Chinese Thanksgiving is called **Chung Ch'ui** or August Moon Festival and is a 3-day celebration in mid-August. During this time, Chinese families celebrate the end of harvest season with a big feast, consisting of roasted pig and mooncakes, which symbolize family unity and perfection. The Chinese also give mooncakes to their family and friends as a way of giving thanks.

However your family chooses to celebrate Thanksgiving, we hope that gratitude and giving back is at the forefront.

Source: www.primarybeginnings.com/blog

SCHOOL - HOME connection

Read Alouds to support the Learner Profile Attribute:

Knowledgeable-

To explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, people acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Ada Twist: Scientist

By Andrea Beatly

Weslandia

by Paul Fleischman

The Hard Times Jar

by Ethel Footman Smothers

Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth

by Oliver Jeffers

