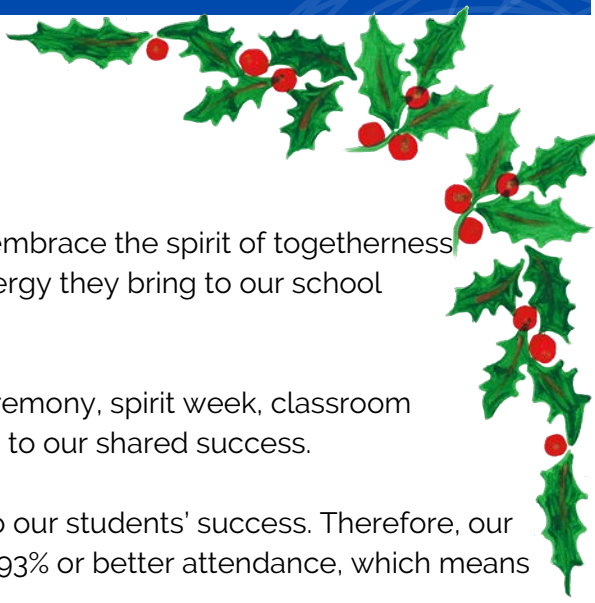




PURITAS PRIDE NEWSLETTER

December 2023



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy December Puritas Lion Families!

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead! As we dive into December, let's embrace the spirit of togetherness and joy. Our students continue to shine, and I'm grateful for the positive energy they bring to our school community.

Remember to check for upcoming events, such as our monthly Awards ceremony, spirit week, classroom winter party and our Elementary only family event. Your involvement is key to our shared success.

Winter break will be here before we know it, however, attendance is vital to our students' success. Therefore, our December attendance challenge is a dance party for any student who has 93% or better attendance, which means students can only miss 1 day in the month of December.

Thank you for being part of our Puritas Lion family. Your support makes a difference!

Warm regards,
Principal Marshall and Assistant Principal Goss

MONTHLY CHARACTER TRAITS & PBIS CHALLENGE:

December's trait is caring/compassion. Each class will create cards, notes and/or pictures for a nursing home. Remember: Beginning with the 2nd quarter, students need to achieve 80% of the Dojo points. Any student who is suspended will lose 25 points for each day of suspension and every detention earned will lose 5 points.

Prepared
Respectful
Include Others
Dedicated
Engaged



Staff Highlight Corner

Alexandria Lacayo, Title I teacher

This is my 8th year teaching but my second as the Title I teacher for Puritas Community. I am a lifelong Clevelander with roots in West Park. I enjoy reading, writing, traveling, board games, and nature walks. I spend most of my free time with my ever-growing family; I have a husband, 15-year-old stepson, 13 siblings, 17 nieces and nephews.



Ann Telepak, 3rd Grade Teacher

I have 5 wonderful children and 5 grandchildren, and a dog named Sugar! I have been teaching for over 25 years - sometimes I lose count! I love how funny kids are and how they see the world. It makes me smile to talk with them each day. Sharing my day with kids is an awesome life!



CREATING FAMILY MEMORIES

December in Cleveland offers various family-friendly activities. Explore festive events like holiday light displays, visit the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for their winter lights, attend local holiday markets, and consider indoor activities like museums or holiday-themed performances for a joyful family experience.

Take a stroll in Cleveland's public parks adorned with holiday lights, organize a family game night at home, enjoy a movie marathon with holiday classics, or embrace the spirit of giving by volunteering together at local charities or community events.

Engage in seasonal baking with your family by making cookies, gingerbread houses, or other winter treats. For crafts, create personalized ornaments, decorations, or holiday cards together. These activities are not only enjoyable but also provide opportunities for quality family time.



A WARM WELCOME TO THE NEW LIONS IN OUR PRIDE!

Amerah Mustafa

MS Math

Sabria Berry

Middle School

Intervention Specialist

Tricia Allen

Second Grade

Remember:

- If you have moved or will be moving
- If you have a new phone number

Please notify Ms. Lovelace or Mrs. Zint of your new address and/or phone number!!



UPCOMING EVENTS...

23-24 SCHOOL GOALS

December

- 12/8 November Awards (1:00 KG/5th/6th) (1:30- 1st &4th) (2:00- 2nd &7th) (2:30- 3rd & 8th) & \$1 Puritas Spirit Wear Day!!**
- 12/18-20 Winter Theme Dress Down Days (more details to follow)**
- 12/20 Winter Family Event (5:30-7:30 pm) & Classroom Winter Parties**
- 12/21-1/2/24 NO School, winter break**

1. By the end of the 23-24 School Year, 90% of our students will attain at least a 90% attendance rating.
2. By May 2024 at least 65% of the students will meet or exceed the projected growth goal in reading as measured by the 2023-2024 i-Ready Diagnostic.
3. By May 2024 at least 65% of the students will meet or exceed the projected growth goal in math as measured by the 2023-2024 i-Ready Diagnostic.

**November
Attendance Percentage:**

87.5%

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING

December's counseling lesson will cover the topic of being caring / compassionate

Students will have a discussion with their school counselor and classmates about what it means to be caring / compassionate. Then, we will make cards, write notes or draw pictures that will be given to local nursing homes. This discussion and activity will help our scholars to explore cultural awareness, sensitivity and responsiveness as well as the many facets of empathy.

Group Counseling

Several counseling groups have also started around Puritas covering topics such as Sportsmanship, Friendship, Emotional Regulation, Being a Good listener, and Kindness. These groups will give students a chance to discuss what is on their mind and to learn from each other's different perspectives with the goal of contributing to academic and social/emotional success.

QPR / LifeAct

This month teachers will participate in QPR training during our Professional Development day. QPR stands for Question, persuade and refer. This training will help teachers learn more ways to identify students in need, the right questions to ask and the right help to reach out to for help. QPR is a training put on by the same Cleveland organization, LifeAct, which brings Puritas our suicide prevention program each school year. LifeAct for students will take place in January. <https://www.lifeact.org/>

College Credit Plus

Your school counselor will also be around to discuss college credit plus with 6-8th grade. Those who like to challenge themselves academically and plan to go to college may find this opportunity beneficial. College credit plus allows 6-8th graders to take college courses while still in middle / high school. There will be a college credit plus night with more information. Look to class Dojo for more information on this as the date/location is still TBA. Students will bring forms home for parents later this month. If you are interested in signing your child up for college credit plus, the first step would be to attend the college credit plus night. College Credit Plus Night will be on January 21st, 2024 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Constellation Parma Community High inside their Auditorium.