



# November 2024 Family Newsletter

Preble Shawnee Local School District



Letter from the Superintendent

As we settle into November, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many things we have to be grateful for in our school community. This is a season of gratitude and connection, and I am continually inspired by the dedication of our staff, the profoundness of our students, and the unwavering support of our families. From recent academic successes to outstanding performances in arts and athletics, it's clear that our schools are thriving. These achievements are a testament to the hard work and collaboration of everyone in our community.



I want to personally thank our staff for their unwavering commitment to nurturing our students' growth and well-being. Families, your partnership plays a vital role in creating a supportive and enriching environment for all learners. Together, we are shaping a future filled with promise and potential.

As the weather turns colder, please ensure students are dressed appropriately for outdoor activities and stay informed about any weather-related schedule changes. Keep an eye on the district website, app, or email communications for updates.

May this season of gratitude bring warmth and joy to your homes. Whether through shared meals, meaningful conversations, or simple acts of kindness, I hope you find time to connect with loved ones and create lasting memories.

Thank you for being an essential part of our school community. Together, we make our schools a place where every student can succeed and thrive.

Sincerely,  
Todd Bowling

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## Preble Shawnee Preschool (Early Learning Center)



### Learning with Pumpkins

We are learning about pumpkins in our literacy unit this month. We talked about the pumpkin patch and how pumpkins are all shapes and sizes. We created our own pumpkins with finger paints and made our own pumpkin pies during our imaginative center time. Incorporating hands-on activities like finger painting pumpkins and making pumpkin pies really helps bring the topic to life and deepens the students' understanding. Plus, it's a great way to combine creativity with learning. These experiences stick with

students far beyond the classroom. There is a lot of room for imaginative play and creativity during our center time. We are learning how to identify shapes in math. We learned about matching and sorting by attributes like color, size, and shape. We are making math both fun and practical by focusing on hands-on activities like sorting and identifying shapes. Learning how to match and

sort by attributes like color, size, and shape is such a great foundation for early math skills. It helps students build logical thinking and classification skills, which will serve them in more complex math concepts later on.

## Fire Safety

October was Fire Safety Month! We explored fire safety with our local fire department. We conducted a fire drill and had a visit with our local fire fighters. They talked to our students about fire safety, their equipment, and we also were able to look at their equipment and truck. Fire Safety Month is such an important time to teach students about fire safety, and having the local fire department come in makes it even more memorable. It's not every day that students get to meet real-life firefighters, learn about their gear, and even explore a fire truck first hand! We also practiced our fire drill. This is a great way to ensure that students not only understand fire safety but also know what to do in case of an emergency. We appreciate our local firefighters who took the time to talk to our students about their equipment and how it's used, which likely made the information feel more accessible and less intimidating. Thank you to our Camden Fire Department and Firefighters for their visit and demonstration!







## Fall Party

Our students enjoyed our fall party and enjoyed trick or treating with staff and students in the elementary and preschool classrooms. Students enjoyed wearing their costumes and having a fall celebration. It is a wonderful way to celebrate the season! A fall party with trick-or-treating, especially when it involves staff, students, and classrooms from all across the school, is such a fun and inclusive way to bring everyone together. Celebrating with the younger elementary and preschool students is also a nice way

to build connections between grade levels and foster a sense of community. It's always so heartwarming to see the joy these events bring!



# Preble Shawnee Elementary

## From the Principal

As we move through the month of November, we are grateful for the many opportunities to work with your children and watch them grow. November marks a time for reflection and gratitude and I want to take a moment to express my appreciation for our entire school community. I especially want to thank the wonderful staff we have at PSE. Everyone is working extremely hard to ensure our students success.



**READING**  
Makes You  
**BRIGHT!**



Nov. 11-15  
Nov. 18-22  
Dec. 2-6  
Dec. 9-13  
Dec. 16-20  
Jan. 6-10  
Jan. 13-17  
Jan. 21-24  
Jan. 27-31  
Feb. 3-7  
Feb. 10-13  
Feb. 18-21  
Feb. 24-28  
March 3-7  
March 10-13  
March 17-21

Level 1: Glow in Dark Sticky Hand  
Level 2: 5 DOJO Points  
Level 3: Free Book  
Level 4: 5 DOJO Points  
Level 5: Free Book  
Level 6: Glow Smile Bouncy Ball  
Level 7: 5 DOJO Points  
Level 8: Lunch with the Principal (and nachos)  
Level 9: Free Book  
Level 11: 5 DOJO Points  
Level 12: Free Book  
Level 13: 5 DOJO Points  
Level 14: LED Lighted Glasses  
Level 15: 5 DOJO Points  
Level 16: Free Book  
Level 17: Dance Party with Glow Stick!

## R.A.H. Kickoff

On Friday, November 8th, we will have our kick off Read At Home assembly. Our band and cheerleaders will be joining us once again. We also have a special portion of our assembly planned that will be lots of fun. Starting on Monday, students will be reading at home for practice in order to earn prizes. This will run through March 21st.

## Pumpkin Decorating

During the last few weeks of October, the staff had an optional Pumpkin Decorating contest. They were to decorate a pumpkin without carving it. We had lots of great entries. They were on display in the office and voted on by staff. The winner of our contest was Darcy Powell with her entry " No Crying in Baseball".







## Santa Shop

Santa Shop will run December 9-13th. Family night will be Monday December 9th from 6-7:30pm. There will be pictures with Santa and light refreshments available that evening. PTO will be looking for volunteers and be sending home information on this soon.

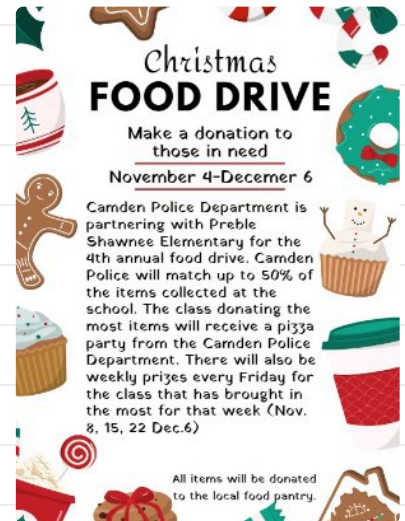
## Christmas Food Drive

November 4th - December 6th

Camden Police will Match up to 50% of the items collected at the school!

Class donating the most items wins a PIZZA PARTY!

Weekly prizes for the class with the most donations!



## Veteran's Day Program

PSE hosted a Veteran's Day Ceremony on Monday, November 11th. We honored veterans within the school district and the nation. We also used this ceremony to educate the students about the importance of Veterans day. The students presented, music was played, and all veterans received recognition. Thank you again to ALL Veterans those in attendance with us and those who were not.





## Students of the Month

Students of the Month:

Preschool: Joyce Hunt, Ryver Lovely, River Ronto, Trey Tucker,

Kindergarten: Laken Armbruster, Jim Glenn, Mary Kuhbander, Cassie Robinson, Myla Werts

First Grade: Lilly Lunsford, Boen Maddox, William Manning, Elsie Root, Maverick Schmidt

Second Grade: Wyatt Anders, Adam Collins, Lennox Eugenio, Samuel Lawson, Austin Mathews

Third Grade: Skyla Delver, Eli Forrer, Carlee Jones, Jamison Nystrom

Fourth Grade: Kaydence Crout, Koby Herrmann, Cali House, Clara Robinson



## Counselor's Corner

October has been an exciting time at Preble Shawnee Elementary. We celebrated Red Ribbon Week October 28th-November 1st with a fun spirit week, activities, and giveaways. Each student was given the opportunity to decorate and add an arrow to our "Aim to be Drug Free" display. Red Ribbon Week is a fun way to remind

kids to make healthy choices now and in the future. As we begin the season of Thanksgiving, let's take a moment to teach our students how to be grateful. Please reach out with any questions or concerns. Please feel free to reach out to me via email [longb@psarrows.com](mailto:longb@psarrows.com) or call me at 937-452-1204 Ext 3007.



## Important Dates

### November:

11th: Veteran's Day Assembly

14th: Picture Retake Day

26th: Shoes for the Shoeless Day

27th-29th: Thanksgiving Break



### December:

9th-13th: Santa Shop Week

12th: PTO Meeting

19th: Pizza Party for Food Drive Class Winner

21st - Jan. 3rd: Winter Break

## Preble Shawnee Middle School



### The Positivity Project

This month we will be focusing on the following character strengths: Bravery and Gratitude. Each strength is highlighted below. Please watch for your weekly email via Final Forms for more ways that you can connect with your child by discussing the weekly character strength.

Bravery—You act with mental, moral, or physical strength even when you know things are difficult or scary.

Gratitude—You are aware of and grateful for good things that happen

### Students of The Month

These students were chosen based on our guiding principles of respect, responsibility, and integrity. Way to go students, we are very proud of you!

5th: Austyn Hoff and Connor Hicks

6th: Danica Guckian and Owen Garnett

7th: Mae Proeschel and Luke Garnett

8th: Ameilia Duskey and Eli Duckworth



### Middle School House System

Current House Standings:

1st Place: Reveur with 365 pts

2nd Place: Altruismo with 353 pts

3rd Place: Isibindi with 335 pts

4th Place: Amistad with 321 pts

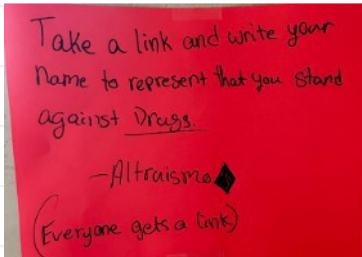






## Red Ribbon Week

The Theme for Red Ribbon Week was "Life is a Movie, Film Drug-Free." Throughout the week, each house under the direction of the grade level house leader created images and videos to spread awareness about the dangers of drug abuse. There were several great videos that were made by the grade level Houses. There were also many great displays throughout the hallway, promoting a drug-free lifestyle. We hope that our students really thought about the meaning of this year's theme: Life is a Movie, Film Drug Free, and how making healthy choices will help them achieve their goals in life, while having fun in the process. "



## After School Tutoring

The Middle School is going to start offering after school tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30-3:30. The tutoring is free of charge and will be led by our teaching staff. The tutoring will begin on 11/18/24. We are excited about offering this opportunity for our middle school students.



## Upcoming Events

### November:

13th: Art Club kickoff in room 301

13th -Spiritwear Fundraiser Kickoff (6th Grade Camp and

Washington DC)

21st: Washington D.C. Trip Deposit Due (\$250.00)

26th: ID Project (8th Grade Only)

27th-29th: Thanksgiving Break (No School)

## Preble Shawnee High School



### Perfect Attendance - First Quarter

**Freshman:** Robert Allen, Dakota Asher, Hunter Bates, Jozie Beiser, Damon Eldridge, Ava Fields, Lyla Ford, Chloe Guckian, Jordin Keegan, Preston Kramer, Alexis Leach, Ethan Mauller, Gabe Maulier, Jillian Murphy, Blake Osner, Elijah Parker, Addison Pergram, Oliver Quenette, Jackson Tincher, Klara Turner, Wynter Wagers

**Sophomore:** Rosa Arcuragi, Laci Arvidson, Clayton Brandenburg, Angel Coots, Josh Garner, Cora Geise, Dennis Hall, Lainey Hawley,

Casey Hildenbrand, Nicolas Keegan, Luke Keesler, Kady Merillat, Hannah Moore, Mason Moore, Alex Myers, Rosaline Radenheimer, Rileigh Salyers, Ethan Scott, Evan Schields, Ryder Taylor, Sarah Taylor

**Junior:** Country Ford, Jaysa Lewis, Deanna Martin, Brianna Matheny, Kellen Sargent-Eckert, Jozey Sperry, Jaydian Sullivan, Lexi Taulbee

**Senior:** Kylen Childress, Emma Fields, Jackson Holbrook, Derrick Housewright, Graceie Leach, Lane Lovely, Tyler McGriff, Lizzie Meadors, Ally Rike

## Miami Valley Career Technology Center

Sophomore Career Day will allow tenth grade students to visit two career programs at MVCTC that they are interested in. This is an opportunity to "try on" a career program and to help students plan for their future.



### Preble County College & Career Fair

Junior and Senior classes will be attending the Preble County College and Career Fair on November 22nd. This will take place at National Trail High School and over 900 Preble County Students will be in attendance.

## Rotary Club

Senior Class students, John Nestor, Faith Jessie and Elizabeth Meaadors, attended an Eaton Rotary Club meeting. They were excited to learn from multiple business representatives as well as





## 2024-2025 Graduation

The 2024/2025 graduation date has been changed from May 16th 2025 to May 15th 2025 at 7pm. The change of date will allow our CTC seniors to participate in our graduation and MVCTC recognition ceremony. Graduation will be held at the High School Stadium. If you have any questions, please contact Velma Moore at 937-787-3541 Ext. 2001

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## Special Education

### Enrollment

- Currently we have 45 students (23 typically developing students and 22 students identified with a disability) enrolled for the 2024-2025 school year. We will have two new students joining our preschool in the next few weeks.
- We received the completion of our review for Step Up to Quality. Preble Shawnee Preschool received a 5 star rating.
- We are always looking for students that may have a developmental or speech delay that are at least 3 years old and not eligible for Kindergarten. If you know of anyone, please have them contact Malissa Miller at 937-452-1204 ext. 2006.
- There have been 15 new enrollments of students with disabilities at the start of the 2024-2025 school year, Kindergarten to 12 grades.
- The Social Communication classroom at PS Elementary has been opened this year. Butler County ESC has provided staff training prior to school and continues to provide ongoing training for our staff.
- PS staff will receive IEP compliance training during monthly special education department meetings.
- We will enjoy our Thanksgiving Feast on November 21st during our morning and afternoon sessions. A Thanksgiving Feast is such a special way to celebrate with the kids and bring a sense of community to your preschool. It's a wonderful opportunity to teach them about gratitude and togetherness as well.



### The Importance of Special Education



The Special Services department at Preble Shawnee Local Schools provides students with support and services based on individual needs. We work together with parents/guardians, general education teachers, service providers, and administrators to develop a plan to address the students' academic and social

emotional needs. Our goal is to provide an inclusive environment with high expectations for our students.

Our Special Services department supports our students who have needs and challenges which require programming and services in addition to the core curriculum provided within the differentiated general education classroom by our teachers. Our support services include not only academic support, but also social-emotional and behavioral supports as well. We work alongside program partnerships offered within the district, as well as outside partnerships with various agencies. Please contact Malissa Miller, Special Education Director, at 937-787-3541 Ext. 2006 if you have any questions.

### Field Trips and Life Skills

Some of our Middle School and High School Students from Mrs. Heinkel's class visited Carillon Park in Dayton, Ohio in October. Students were able to see and hear about some of the region's history. Our students were able to see the original 1095 Wright Flyer III, the world's first practical airplane, and the 1835 B&O steam locomotive. Our students were able to listen to a guided tour about our region's history in regards to expansion, industrialization, and innovation. Students were able to see several historical buildings and interact with hundreds of artifacts in the exhibits.

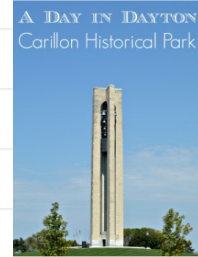
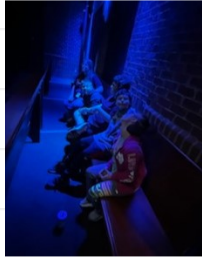
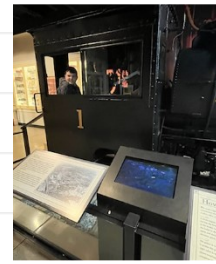


Our Middle School and High School students are also working on life skills and financial literacy. They have worked on ordering their own food and paying for their food. They have worked on currency and how it is used as a means of economic exchange. They were able to use their learned skills to purchase their lunches at a local restaurant. This is such a powerful and practical way to teach life skills and financial literacy! By giving students the opportunity to order and pay for their own food, you're helping them build confidence in managing real-life situations. Using currency as a means of exchange is such an essential life skill, and having the chance to practice it in a real-world setting, like at a local restaurant, is a fantastic way to make learning both tangible and meaningful.

Experiences like this not only boosts their financial literacy but also helps with social skills, communication, and decision-making. It must have been really rewarding to watch them navigate the entire process—from deciding what to order to handling the transaction independently.







## Project Life

Our Project LIFE students came to visit some of our juniors and seniors this month at the High School. They introduced our Preble Shawnee students to their inspiring program. Introducing a new program like Project LIFE to special needs students can be such a positive step in helping them develop essential life skills and gain greater independence. This program has been a great opportunity for our Project LIFE students to connect with the younger students and start building relationships, while working on their communication skills and personal development.



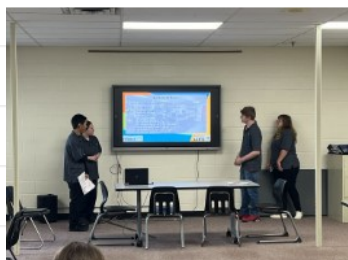
Project LIFE students were able to share with the audience about the various job opportunities and learning experiences they are currently involved in. They were also able to share some of the community projects they are involved in and new skills they are learning. Students have created an entrepreneurship making dog biscuits with their small business Life with PAWS. Our students work with and in local businesses within the community.

Students in the Project LIFE program work in various community settings. This is such an empowering way to help them build real-world skills. It provides them with valuable hands-on experience, fosters independence, and gives them the opportunity to interact with a variety of people in different work environments. Currently our students are working in various settings such as Bullen Ultrasonics Inc., Wings Etc, the Preble County YMCA, and they have created an entrepreneur business called PAWS where they make dog biscuits.

The Project LIFE program is designed to be a transition to adulthood learning continuum. The goal is to help young adults with disabilities develop skills for employment, independent living, and involvement in the community. Project LIFE is a comprehensive, multi-year transition-to-adulthood program in which individuals (ages 18+) with disabilities can develop, practice and strengthen skills that are high predictors for increased adult independence and successful, integrated community employment. This program offers a targeted course of study in combination with participation in experiential life skills education and authentic work-based learning experiences in the local community. Utilizing evidence-based transition education concepts, Project LIFE is a

proven program model that supports our student interns on their journey to adulthood and greater independence. Project LIFE began in 2007 and is currently impacting students like ours nation-wide.

We are excited to see our students participating in this program and watching them grow into young adults. It is incredibly rewarding to watch the students benefit from the Project LIFE program! Seeing them gain skills, confidence, and independence as they work in the community is truly impactful. The real-world experience not only helps them develop a stronger sense of self but also provides them with tools that will support them long after they graduate.



## Curriculum



### Exciting New Resources for Classrooms

#### Professional Development Days: Supporting Teachers with Tech and Planning for Students

We're excited to share how our recent and upcoming professional development days are supporting teachers in using technology and planning intentionally for student success! These sessions are all about giving our teachers practical tools and strategies to boost engagement and make learning more accessible for every student. By focusing on digital tools that enhance learning, we're helping teachers create experiences that are both fun and impactful. The training also emphasizes planning lessons that meet the unique needs of each student, ensuring everyone has the support they need to thrive.

Our commitment to professional growth means offering time and training where teachers can focus on the skills and resources they need most. This work is a vital step in our ongoing mission to provide classrooms where all students feel engaged and connected to their learning.

#### **CogAT Gifted Testing Coming Up for Grades 2, 5, and 6!**

In addition to our professional development updates, we want to share some details about CogAT testing for gifted identification. This year, students in grades 2, 5, and 6 will take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), which helps us understand their strengths in three main areas: verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning.

Here's a quick breakdown of what the CogAT measures:



**Verbal:** Language and vocabulary skills, like understanding words and making connections between ideas.

**Quantitative:** Math and pattern skills, looking at how students understand numbers, sequences, and relationships.

**Nonverbal:** Visual and spatial reasoning, testing how students work with shapes, images, and puzzles.

CogAT testing gives us a clearer picture of students' thinking styles and problem-solving skills, helping us identify those who might need more advanced or specialized learning opportunities. All testing will be complete by the end of December.

If you have any questions about the CogAT test or the process for gifted identification, please feel free to reach out. We're excited to continue creating learning experiences that challenge and inspire our students!

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## Free And Reduced Meal Application 24/25

Children need healthy meals to learn. Preble Shawnee Local Schools offers healthy meals each school day. Breakfast costs \$2.00 and lunch costs \$3.70 for High School and \$2.95 for Elementary. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits and detailed instructions.



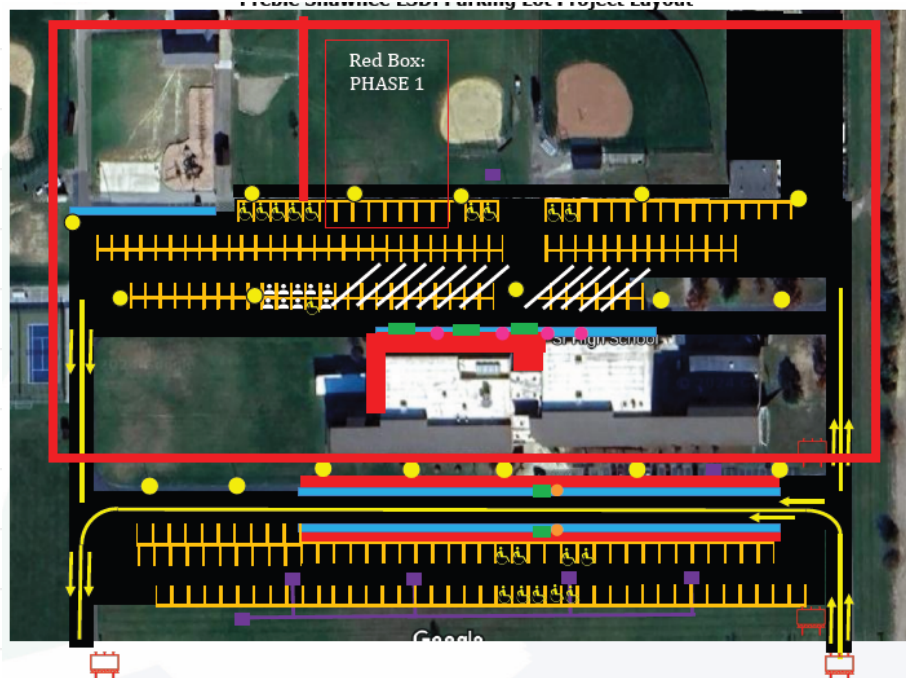
**Preble Shawnee.pdf**

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## Parking Lot Update



**BLACK:**

- BACK PARKING LOT (Phase 1 including driveways up to front parking lot)
  - Paving – Grind down and Asphalt
  - Remove existing grass island and asphalt curbing and pave in place
  - Remove existing concrete island and pave in place
  - Stripe car spots in one color, Stripe Bus Spots in another color (16 Total Bus Spots)
  - Replace Existing Lighting with New Lighting and New Concrete Bases

**BLUE:** New Curb

**RED:** New Sidewalks

**GREEN:** Handicap Accessible Curb

**PURPLE:** Catch Basins or Storm Drain, tie into existing

**PINK:** Bollards

**YELLOW:** New Pole Lights

**ORANGE:** Crosswalk Flashing Signals

**RED SIGNS:** Indication Signs for Entrance/Exit only and BOE, Sports Fields, Deliveries, etc.

**Person Icon:** Staff Only Parking designated for BOE

## Board of Education



### Board Members

Whether attending meetings, participating in community events, or collaborating with stakeholders, our board members consistently demonstrate a deep passion for education and a genuine concern for the success and welfare of every student.

We are truly grateful for all of their dedication, leadership, and vision, and we commend them for their outstanding service to our school district. Their contributions have helped make our school a better place to learn and grow, and we are fortunate to have them as part of our school community.

(Left-Right) Mr. David Akers, Mr. Nick Duskey, Mrs. Julie Singleton, Mr. Jeff Wood, Dr. Lisa Tuttle-Huff





**Preble Shawnee Local Schools**

Home of the Arrows

[psarrows.com](http://psarrows.com)



**Kassie Hosley**

Kassie is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters