

December 7, 2023

Important Dates

December 13

Beginning of 3rd quarter

December 15

Family Movie Night

December 18- 21

Holiday Spirit Week

December 21

Report cards sent home

December 22 - January 8

No school

Please note, our winter break has been extended for a Teacher Development day.

January 9

School resumes

January 15

No school, MLK Jr Day

January 17

Hot day

January 22 - February 2

MAP Testing

January 29 - February 2

Winter Wonderland and Book Fair

February 2

No NorthStar

February 13-15

Parent Teacher Conferences

February 16

No School

February 19

No School, President's Day

February 29

No School, Scholarship Luncheon



Dear Parents,

The snowy weather has held off but the excitement of the holidays is definitely in the air at Phoenix Academy. Keeping the children focused can be challenging but with your support from home, we hope to keep two full weeks of learning strong before break. Report cards will go home on Thursday, December 21st in your child's backpack. Please sign and return the envelope but you keep the report card. Parent Teacher conferences will be held in February.

Phoenix Academy would not exist without the funding we receive from donors. Tuition only covers 30% of the cost to operate and does not cover the full cost to educate a student. We hold two fundraisers a year, Giving Tuesday and the Scholarship Luncheon. This year 75% of the donations we received for Giving Tuesday came from our alumni families. This truly is a testament to the difference Phoenix Academy makes.

Our 2024 Scholarship Luncheon will be coming up February 29th, 2024. If you have an employer, friends or family who would be interested in purchasing a table, please reach out to me for sponsorship opportunities. I hope that you will also consider purchasing a ticket to the event. We need and appreciate all your support!

Thank you for sharing your children with us!. On behalf of the staff and teachers at Phoenix Academy we wish all of you a happy, healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Nancy Liebermann



December Birthdays



Isadora, 3rd



Mrs. Scheneman, 9th



Alayna, 12th



Edith, 27th



Alexis, 28th



Adriel, 28th



William, 31st

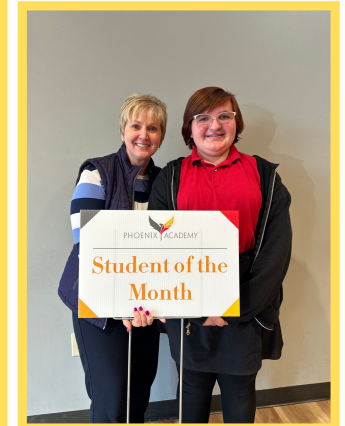
Not pictured: Gigi, 9th; Olivia, 17th



Loralei Shafer



**Congratulations to our
November Students of
the Month!**



Scarlett Murcek

*** Amazon Gift Card Winners ***

In the October and November Newsletters, we had several people sign up for a drawing of Amazon Gift cards! Communication between home and school is so important. We really appreciate you taking the time to read the newsletter which goes home the first Thursday of the month both in your child's backpack and by email.

The October winners are: Emily Moody, Sara Ramirez, Cindy Wheeler, Antoinette Wood and Anita Anderson.

The November winners are: Kim Goracke, Courtney Anderson, Lisa Hansen, Sheena Sanders and Donita Say

News, Events, and Reminders



Disguise a Turkey Contest Results

The students went above and beyond disguising their turkeys this year! The judges had their work cut out for them when deciding who received each award! Awards were given for the students with the best disguised, most creative, most artistic, and best written narrative. Congratulations to all of our winners: Maya, Shaniya, Lydia, Amari, De'Anthony, Arianna, Caden, Landon and JaVonta. Not pictured: Kort, Noa, Dalilah and Kiarra

December Spirit Dress Week

Monday, December 18th: **Merry GRINCHmas!** (wear as much green as you can)

Tuesday, December 19th: **My Eyes!!** (Ugly Christmas Sweater/Shirt Day)

Wednesday, December 20th: **Pajama Day** (the most relaxed time of the year!)

Thursday, December 21st: **Rockin Around The Christmas Tree** (Go all out for the last day before break! Let's see your best Christmas "drip"!)

Family Movie Night

Our first ever family movie night is on Friday, December 15 from 6 pm – 8 pm. Students and their adult(s) can enjoy a showing of The Polar Express. Popcorn will be provided. Beverages and additional snacks will be available to purchase. Feel free to wear pajamas or comfortable clothes!

Extended Winter Break

Please note the schedule change! We will not be having school on Monday, January 8th. School will resume on Tuesday, January 9th!

Classroom Supplies Needed

We are running low on kleenex, paper towels and pencils! When school returns in January, please send:

- Kleenex (2 boxes)
- Paper towels (2 roles)
- #2 pencils (1 box of 24)
- colored pencils or crayons (Ms. Micek's class only)

Lost and Found

There are a lot of unlabeled items in our lost and found that will be donated to charity on December 22nd. Please check, or have your student check, lost and found to see if any belong to your child!

Please label your items, it is hard when we do not know which items belong to who,

Is your child interested in coding? On Dec. 23, Do Space is hosting a coding workshop for kids 6–12 years old. Kids will create their very own animated animal dance party using coding! You can sign up your child here:

<https://dospace.librarycalendar.com/event/kid-coders-lets-see-what-else-these-animals-can-get-3553>. (Membership is required, but it's FREE to become a member at Do Space!).

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR 2024 LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024
HILTON OMAHA
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

School Closings

Phoenix Academy generally follows OPS in closing due to inclement weather. If we close, it will be posted on [our Facebook page](#) and you will be notified via email. Please watch your email and check your local TV stations regarding school closures.

Once students are at school, we will not close. However, parents are free to pick up children early due to weather conditions.

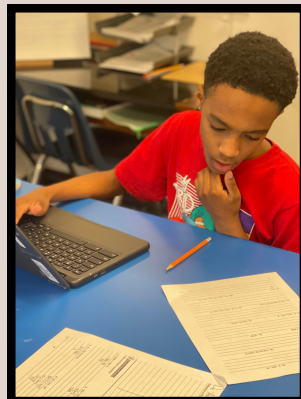
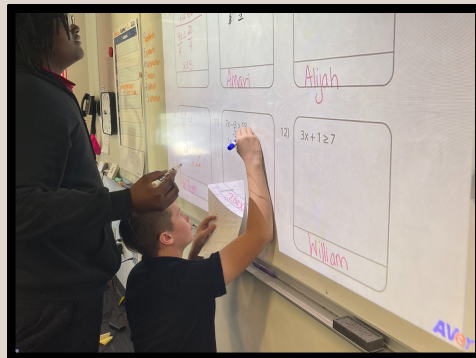
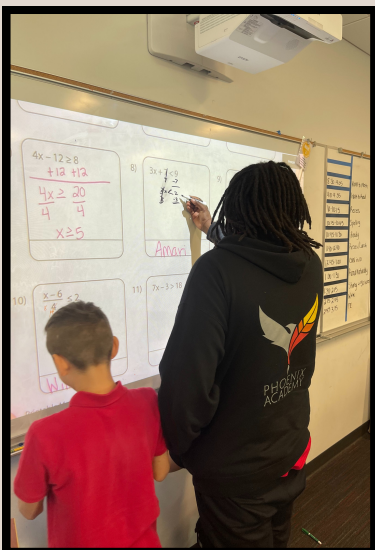
"Attitude of Gratitude" with Mrs. Lasenburg

November is the perfect month to appreciate all gifts, even the small or imperfect ones! Expressing gratitude

for these gifts helps increase happiness! Our class created turkeys to help each of them cherish the things and people that are the most important to them.



$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$



Mrs. Lasenburg's Walk to Math class has done a wonderful job as they navigate through Algebra! They will have a chance to show off their skills when they take their placement skills test!



December Therapy Tips

Kerrie Ivey, OTD, OTR/L Liz Anderson, MS, CCC-SLP

Easy Peasy Lemon Squeezy ways to build Phonological Awareness

Step away from the flash cards this holiday break. Instead focus on phonological awareness skills.

Phonological awareness lets kids recognize and work with the sounds of spoken language. It means being able to pick out rhyming words and count the number of syllables in a name.

Phonological awareness is a crucial skill to develop in children. It is strongly linked to early reading and spelling success through its association with phonics.

Easy Peasy Activities

Read Twas The Night Before Christmas

- practice rhyming
- discuss new vocabulary word
- point to each word on the page
- find words with the same first sounds
- count the syllables in words
- Listen to How the Grinch Stole Christmas on YouTube.
- Make up silly rhyming words together that could fit in to the story.

Fine Motor Development

Build Hand and Shoulder Muscles:

- Mix cookie or play dough
- Roll out dough, pinch, squeeze
- Build a fort and crawl under blankets and tables
- use different animal walks (polar bear crawl, crab walk, alligator)
- Draw a circle ornament.
- Decorate with horizontal and vertical lines.

Social Emotional Regulation

- Keep a routine
- Children at this age need your help to calm down.
- Wait to talk when they are calm.
- Identify what is calming to your child before they are upset (a hug, stuffed animal, song, sitting quietly next to your child, reassuring touch).



SKY ZONE

FREE

**ENDLESS PLAYTIME
LET THE FUN BEGIN!**

December

17

12PM - 3PM

Face Painting



Balloon Making



Engage with our Clinical
Team through Q&A
sessions.

 **ABA
BlueGems**

Where every Child is a Diamond

Questions?
Contact us Today!
402-807-7447

HOLIDAY EVENT

4215 S 133RD STREET OMAHA, NE 68137