



Thursday Thoughts 3-14-2024:

**Success to Significance:
*Never underestimate the significance of a wish...a blessing...***

***"A wish that every day for you will be happy from the start,
And may you always have good luck and a song within your heart."***

***"May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow,
And may trouble avoid you wherever you go."***

~Traditional Irish Blessings

LINKS and INFORMATION:

- Thursday Thoughts are available and archived each week with pictures included on our [Pegasus/GT web page!](#)
- Bravo to all involved with the attendance record breaking PHS production of *Mary Poppins!* It was "practically perfect in every way"! The floor sold out for every show and the balcony was opened for overflow....On Sunday, not only was the floor full, but the balcony was full too!
 - I took hundreds of pictures of both casts (Saturday and Sunday Performances) and am working on uploading them all in a folder to share with everyone!



- I hope everyone was able to celebrate Sunshine on the Street Day yesterday in some way! Here are a few pictures from around the district 😊



- Happy Irish American's Month and Women's History Month! Celebrate the spirit of "The Luck of the Irish" and all the amazing women in history and in our own lives! In March everyone is "A Wee Bit Irish"...[Celebrate with Celtic Folk at one of their concerts at the Plymouth Arts Center](#) on March 16 (7:30pm), March 17 (2:30pm), March 23 (7:30pm), and March 24 (2:30pm). [Check out Celtic Folk!](#) Prior to their matinee concert on March 17, Celtic Folk will perform some of their songs (11:45-12:30) at Devour after the Plymouth St. Patrick's Parade....Come by for some great food and entertainment. Then, to round out your St. Patrick's Day, see the full "A Wee Bit Irish" Celtic Folk matinee concert at 2:30pm or one of their other performances at the Plymouth Arts Center!



- **From We Are Teachers:**
 - [42 Mathtastic Pi Day Activities for the Classroom](#)...Don't be intimidated by math—it's really easy as pi!
 - Celebrate Women's History Month by sharing one of these fabulous [female illustrators with your students](#). Or one of these [amazing women scientists](#). We love these [inspirational quotes from female leaders, too](#).
 - This year, St. Patrick's Day falls on a weekend, but you can still share these fun [poems](#), [facts](#), or [jokes](#). You might also try one of these [activities](#) or [crafts](#).
 - **The Big List of Student Contests and Competitions**....[50+ contests for STEM, ELA and the arts, and more!](#)
 - [March is National Reading Month! Don't miss these free National Reading Month activities](#) for grades K-8
- **From NAGC:** [7 strategies to help gifted autistic students be successful in college](#).
- **From DPI:**
 - [State Owes Debt of Gratitude to School Librarians](#). This speech was delivered by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Jill Underly, at the WI Educational Media and Technology Association Conference.
 - [March is School Breakfast Week and School Nutrition Month!](#) Thank you to our amazing food service!
 - [The Look Back](#)...Explore Historical Eras with PBS Wisconsin Education's New Series "The Look Back". 4th-6th graders can experience Wisconsin historical eras through short videos on interesting artifacts.
 - **On April 8, excite children's sense of wonder about the world around them by viewing the solar eclipse!** [Max view in Plymouth, WI is on Apr 8, 2024 at 2:08 pm](#) and at [0.889 Magnitude](#). The solar eclipse starts across the US on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 12:53 pm and ends at 3:21 pm. Here are [stories from different cultures](#). [Read here about the Anishinaabe \(Ojibwe/Chippewa\) cultural understanding of solar eclipses, and how to connect that with your solar eclipse teaching](#).
- From Bright and Quirky:
 - [BRIGHT & QUIRKY PRESENTS: FRIENDSHIP WEEK](#)--March 25-29, 2024 ...a 5-day workshop for parents of kids ages 5-18, with social expert Caroline Maguire, Med.
 - Quick Tips for Social Anxiety, with Sharon Saline, Clinical psychologist and PsyD says reducing social anxiety... [children can discover healthier ways of interacting](#). (5-minute video)
- [Beast Academy Playground](#)...K-12 Beast Academy Playground helps kids build numerical literacy and problem-solving confidence with **free** and fun tabletop-hands-on math activities. It has filters for ages 3 through 11+ and most all math concepts. (Click on the filter links to get all the free activities!)
- This August, UW Oshkosh will once again be holding the Summer Oshkosh Mathematics Academy (SOMA), a 4-day summer math camp for students entering grades 6-8. Dates: Monday August 12 through Thursday August 15, 2024 at the UWO Oshkosh campus from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm daily for students entering Grades 6-8. Registration Fee: \$360, \$240 or \$120. For more information about SOMA, including how to register, please visit <https://uwosh.edu/mathematics/outreach/soma/>
- **From TILT:** [What giftedness is not: A list to share with those who don't get it](#).
- **Byrdseed Puzzlements for 3-14-2024**
 - [New York City has a tree map!](#) Zoom in. You can click on individual trees. [Here's a Thornless honeylocust](#) across the street from MoMA. Each tree has a photo and measurements.
 - *Treelated:* In Melbourne, [Australia, each tree has an email address](#) you can use to report problems. But people used them [to write love letters](#) to their favorite trees!
 - A [timelapse showing the construction of a Maersk Triple-E ship](#). Does it leave and then come back at 0:29? What's that little piece chasing after the ship at the end? More about the [Triple-E class of ship at Wikipedia](#).
 - I enjoy seeing the process behind everyday objects. Here's a [video showing how rubber bands are made](#). I did not expect the ovens at 2:11!

- This [giant outdoor cross-stitch took artist Ana Martins 760 yards of yarn to create](#). Let your students predict how it was made before showing the close-ups of the screws (there are 2,300 of them) and yarn!
- **From UW-Madison Badger Precollege:** Applications for Badger Precollege summer programs are officially open! Badger Precollege offers a suite of residential and commuter programs designed to inspire learners in grades 2-12. In addition to an engaging academic challenge, our summer programs invite students to develop their growth mindset, prepare for college success and meet new friends — all at the top-ranked UW–Madison.
 - [Badger Precollege Senior, grades 9-12](#)
 - [Badger Precollege Junior, grades 2-8](#)
- **From MITY:** MITY is currently accepting applications for current 1st - 11th grade students. [Minnesota Institute For Talented Youth](#) provides advanced students with the opportunity to pursue their passions in a stimulating and inclusive environment. Financial aid is available.
- **Fun Facts about Shamrocks:**
 - While the national color of Ireland is unofficially green, you’d be surprised to learn that blue was the original national color. When a person hears ‘Ireland’, they probably think in green: the Irish flag, leprechauns, and—of course—shamrocks.
 - A four-leaf clover is not a shamrock, but a shamrock is a type of clover that always has 3 leaves. The word ‘shamrock’ comes from Gaelic and literally translates to ‘little clover’.
 - A shamrock display was punishable by death in the pre-partition Ireland of the 19th century...amazing how something as seemingly innocent as the three-leaf shamrock could become a political tool. During the reign of Queen Victoria, the shamrock became an important symbol of national pride for the Irish people. Even though she outlawed shamrock displays on military uniforms, making them punishable by death, those brave enough to wear them played a key role in Irish history.
 - The shamrock is not an official symbol of Ireland. While Ireland might have strong ties with the shamrock—and is looked at as the unofficial symbol of Ireland—but the left-facing Irish harp is the official symbol. The shamrock is the national plant of Ireland and worn by many in the annual St. Patrick’s Day festivities.

Mindful Minute:

*“Spring fever,
Spring is here at last.
Spring fever,
My heart’s beating fast.
Get up, get out.
Spring is everywhere.”*

~ Elvis Presley

Here are some reasons from *Total Wellness* why “[Nature Walks Are Essential for Health](#).”

[Meditation Video celebrating Women's History Month](#) YouTube Video

[Cultivate Compassion](#) Guided Meditation

Five [Calming Mind-Body Exercises](#) To Try With Your Students

ALWAYS...Be inclusive...ALWAYS...Be kind!

Kindness Meditation

Mental Health and the Great Outdoors Activities from Mental Health America-Lakeshore

March Youth and Family Resources (Thanks Matt Mueller, PJSJ PATH Coordinator)

- **Get some air and exercise** in our parks, on our trails, or in some upcoming Walks/Runs/Races:
 - [Enjoy our many State Parks, Forests, and Trails!](#)
 - [Enjoy our many National Parks, Forests, and Trails!](#)
- **Mental Health America resource links:**
 - [School Resources and Toolkit](#)
 - [Community Mental Health Resource Card](#)
 - [MHA Lakeshore Mindfulness Resources](#)
 - [Youth Mental Health Crisis Card](#)
- **From ByrdseedTV:** [Videos about anxiety, the brain, and calming down.](#)

SLÁN AGUS BEANNACHT (Salutations and blessings in Gaelic) pronounced: slawn og-us bann-ockt

Share Positivity!

:-)

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Education is the key to unlocking a world of knowledge, possibilities, and opportunities.

Turn the key!

Just be sure to turn that key with kindness, love, and gratitude to all that you bestow! ~RS