



## **Thursday Thoughts 3-7-2024:**

**Success to Significance:**

*Think of the significance of the spirit of Spring...*

*The warmer sun of Meteorological Spring is here.*

*I'm ready for the coldness of winter to disappear.*

*As the buds and the sprouts emerge day by day.*

*The renewal in Spring is beautiful, this I will say.*

*The first blooms of spring will make my heart sing.*

*I love seeing their beauty and the joy that they bring.*

*It's a wonderful reminder of how beautiful change can be.*

*Far more than changing seasons, it's rebirth of spirit for me.*

*~RS*

LINKS and INFORMATION:

- [Cereal Box Domino Challenge Topple Video](#) (4 minutes) Thank you to all who helped! We were able to donate 475 boxes of cereal to the Plymouth Food Pantry, which is about a three-month supply of cereal! Congratulations to SJB for collecting the most cereal boxes for the topple and earning the PJSD Cereal Box Domino Challenge Traveling Trophy this year!



**OPENING NIGHT is TONIGHT of the PHS production of *Mary Poppins!***

It is sure to be “practically perfect in every way”!

“Fly” and get your tickets in the PHS Office....They are going fast....and, prepare to be “swept off your feet” by these incredible performers and this production team! March 7-10<sup>th</sup>!



- **Celebrate Sunshine on the Street Day March 13, 2024:** It is an all-day “Acts of Kindness Day”! The greater community will be outside from 12:30-1:00pm. However, if you can’t join in the outside festivities, there are many ways to spread sunshine in and around our schools....Just spread positivity everywhere you go!
- **From Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University:** [Play in Early Childhood: The Role of Play in Any Setting](#) (8 min. video)
- **From TechNotes:** [March Madness Activities for Your Classroom](#)
- **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!
  - W.A.T. [37 Women’s History Month Activities and Ideas](#) and [73 Inspirational Quotes by and for Women](#).
  - 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:**
  - For a laugh and to show your literary prowess, [here are WAT 60 Best Shakespearean Insults That Win Verbal Duels](#)
  - [March is National Reading Month! Don't miss these free National Reading Month activities](#) for grades K-8
  - [50 Eye-Opening Women's History Month Facts](#)
  - [36 Lucky St. Patrick's Day Activities for Kids](#)
  - **The Big List of Student Contests and Competitions...** [50+ contests for STEM, ELA and the arts, and more!](#)
- **From Zooniverse: [Sunspot Detectives!](#)** Help in the research of exploring Historical Solar Drawings to Understand Our Sun's Changes.
- **[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!)
- **Byrdseed Puzzlements for 3-7-2024**
  - Pinecone lion, fish copter, and a [cactus binky! Lots of fun and unexpected visual combinations](#) from the French creative agency Les Créatonautes.
  - This project is [recording the sounds of old technologies before they disappear](#). Listen to a rotary phone, an old coffee grinder, an original Nintendo, and more!
  - Oh gosh. This is the [cutest. Flamingos with bad knees](#) go for a recuperating swim with stingrays. I love how excited these "pink velociraptors" are to be walking across the zoo!
  - This [beautiful 1903 guide to Japanese waves was designed](#) to help craftspeople add wave patterns to their creations, whether they're swords, ceramics, or religious objects. [See the whole archive.](#)
  - Check [out these photos of butterfly wings](#) from Chris Perani! Perhaps let students see the photos first and then predict what they think they are. *How does he do it?*

**From ByrdseedTV for March...**tournaments, Pi, and St. Patrick! Let me know if you need any links!

- It's **March Madness** time! [Tournaments section](#).
- For **Pi Day** (March 14) [Writing In Pi-Lish](#) and a couple of [pi-related math videos](#).
- For **St. Patrick's Day**, students can think about how [people might react](#) to the *legendary version* of themselves. Also, some [fun writing practice](#)!
- Combining **Pi and Patrick**, this Notice, Wonder image is [both green and circle-y](#)!
- You can find **even more** [March-themed videos here](#)...
- **Applications are now open for [Inland Seas Education Association's 2024 Great Lakes Watershed Field Course!](#)** The GLWFC is a 4-day free professional development experience for teachers from throughout the Great Lakes region and runs **from August 6-9, 2024 in Suttons Bay, MI** on the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan. Training in the course includes watershed and environmental concepts, place-based education and environmental education pedagogy, and time for curriculum development. Educators will learn how to engage students in local environmental issues, investigate solutions, devise a plan, and take action during this course. Inland Seas supports teachers throughout the school year with additional training, online forums, and other forms of assistance to help teachers implement their watershed-based stewardship action projects. **There is no cost for this experience, but space is limited to 30 participants. Interested educators can learn more and apply at [schoolship.org/glwfc](#). The deadline for applications is April 21, 2024 by 5:00 p.m. EST.**
- **From DPI:**
  - **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 with a duration of 2 hours and 28 minutes. Here are [stories from different cultures](#), connections can readily be made to literacy, mathematics, and social studies. [Read here about the Anishinaabe \(Ojibwe/Chippewa\) cultural understanding of solar eclipses, and how to connect that with your solar eclipse teaching.](#)

- **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: Meteorological Spring** is based on the annual temperature cycle. **Astronomical Spring** is based on the position of the Earth in relation to the sun. The Earth's annual trip around the sun forms the basis for the astronomical calendar in which seasons are defined by two solstices and two equinoxes.

Meteorologists and climatologists break the seasons down into groupings of three months based on the annual temperature cycle as well as our calendar. We generally think of winter as the coldest time of the year and summer as the warmest time of the year, with spring and fall being the transition seasons, and that is what the meteorological seasons are based on. Meteorological spring in the Northern Hemisphere includes March, April, and May; meteorological summer includes June, July, and August; meteorological fall includes September, October, and November; and meteorological winter includes December, January, and February.

For Astronomical seasons, the Earth's tilt and the sun's alignment over the equator determine both the solstices and equinoxes. The equinoxes mark the times when the sun passes directly above the equator. In the Northern Hemisphere, the summer solstice falls on or around June 21, the winter solstice on or around December 22, the vernal or spring equinox on or around March 21, and the autumnal equinox on or around September 22. These seasons are reversed but begin on the same dates in the Southern Hemisphere.

### **Mindful Minute:**

***"As our nation celebrates Women's History Month,  
I am reminded of the consistent and persistent contributions  
women make to arts and culture in our nation,  
contributions that are critical to our reaching our full potential as a society.  
I am grateful to all those who have paved and continue to pave the way  
for more equal rights and opportunities for all."***

*~ Maria Rosario Jackson*

[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)

From FABOH: Currently, nearly half of Wisconsin adults have either diabetes or prediabetes leading to an estimated impact of \$5.5 billion in medical costs and lost productivity to Wisconsin employers. \$1 out of every \$4 in US health care costs is spent on caring for people with diabetes. On March 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-10:30 am Fond du Lac Area Businesses on Health is providing a FREE Webinar/Virtual event. To register, email Tammy Stephany at [office@faboh.com](mailto:office@faboh.com)

- **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.](#)

:~)

Roy

Roy Schwab, Med

Plymouth School District Elementary and High School G.T./Pegasus Coordinator

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

Share Positivity!

:~)

Roy

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"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." ~*Albert Einstein*

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