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# SCHOLARLY success

Wildcats show their ROAR at Student of the Month assemblies

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH ASSEMBLIES WERE HELD EVERY OTHER MONTH TO CELEBRATE THE ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL GROWTH OF WILDCATS.** Assemblies began with a performing arts class, either band, orchestra, or choir, performing a piece for the school. "I loved watching my fellow choir students go up and perform because their voices sounded amazing," said 6th grader Karina Aghi. These performances were typically followed by a variety of announcements from the administrative staff as well as leadership classes. Afterwards, teachers and staff members lined up on the stage to call their recognized students up. Family members often attended SOM assemblies to cheer on their students and watch them receive their awards. Student of the Month assemblies

also featured a Student-Teacher Challenge, run by PAL's SOM Committee. "I like helping plan SOM because I get to set up fun games for the school to participate in and watch," said 8th grader Renee Lee. These activities helped promote school spirit, along with the appearance of the school mascot, Willy the Wildcat. ASB prepared a schoolwide spirit dress up competition between the grade levels. Along with the various activities during the assembly, many students enjoyed seeing their friends and fellow classmates being recognized for their hard work. "Whenever my friends were called up I was super proud and made sure to cheer very loudly," said 7th grader Parker Luong. Throughout the year, Student of the Month assemblies provided an exciting and rewarding way to recognize students for their achievements.

## wildcats connect THROUGH SOM

Students share their opinions about the benefits of Student of the Month assemblies and awards



6th grade

"I received an award for science, and I'm glad I did because I enjoy science, especially learning about cells. It's my first year at Pioneer so it was a really cool experience getting Student of the Month."

**COLE GRESS  
6TH GRADER**



7th grade

"I think Student of the Month is great because it congratulates people who tried their hardest throughout each month, and it's a nice way to bring the entire school together."

**MATTIN SHOARINEJAD  
7TH GRADER**



8th grade

"Sometimes some people just need some praise to push them forward, which is why I think Student of the Month is great, because it shows that students can achieve things as long as they try."

**YIJIA FENG  
8TH GRADER**



**1** 8th graders Taven Epps and Bronden Brumley walk to the stage to accept their awards from Ms. Kieran. "Getting an award made me realize that I work hard in class just like everybody else," Taven said. They were recognized for their academic improvement.

**3** 7th grader Emma Refael poses with Mr. Payne for a picture. "I like Student of the Month because it is nice to be recognize for my hard work, and it also pushes you to work harder," said Emma. She received her certificate for her efforts and progress in coding.

**5** 8th grader Caden Galloway poses with Ms. Amsbary at the SOM luncheon. "I was really excited to find out I got an award and got to celebrate with Ms. Amsbary," Caden said. PTO set up a luncheon for recognized students and their teachers after each assembly.

**7** The school mascot, Willy the Wildcat, runs across the crowd at SOM as students cheer. "It was cool to see Willy the Wildcat interacting with the students and I think everyone enjoyed seeing him," said 8th grader Lucas De La Torre. Willy helped to encourage school spirit.

**2** "When my name was called, I felt amazed and excited. I didn't think I was gonna get Student of the Month," 6th grader Devon Greene said. Devon is new to Pioneer, and getting this award was such an honor. He earned it from PE teacher, Mrs. Connolly.

**4** 7th grader Paula Claronino hugs Mrs. Hamamura after receiving her SOM award. "I think Student of the Month motivates us to try our best and gives us something to look forward to," said Paula. Teachers often recognized students who participated in their classes.

**6** Advanced orchestra students perform the song "Deep Sea Fandango" at SOM. "Performing can be pretty scary, but being cheered on by the crowd helps," 7th grader Sadee Tran said. Orchestra, band, and choir were the opening performances of every assembly.

**8** Student of the Month award recipients and teachers pose on the stage for pictures. "I was surprised and happy when I was called, because I didn't think I would get an award," said 8th grader Lauren Chao. Receiving awards made students feel accomplished.