

Ptarmigan Elementary School

February 2022-2023 Newsletter

Principal's Corner

2023 is here! A big thanks to those families that were able to attend our Family Literacy Night. Each student left with a book and the next day, 8 students won Ptarmigan Spirit wear. I really enjoyed seeing everyone who was able to attend.

This past week we also had our 2nd Quarter assembly. Many students are working hard and it was wonderful to award them with their certificates of achievement.

I would like to request all families and/or community members take time to provide input on their child's teacher or Ptarmigan administration. Please use the following link to provide feedback.

Teacher form: <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/14913>

Administration from: <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/14912>

January 30th - March 9th, school will be extended by 30 minutes each day to make up for snow days. This means school ends/student pick-up begins at **4:00pm**. Families can help the line move faster if you have your number visible or with you. Please also remember that we need you to move up while waiting for your student to get into the car. When we all work together and follow expectations, you will spend less time in the dismissal line. It will be a long day for our students, so be on time to pick up your child!

Mark the date: Our next family night is March 30th starting at 5:45pm, we hope to see you there!

Mrs. Ramey



Ptarmigan Elementary Facebook Page

FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE



Snow Days Makeup Days

A graphic with a blue sky and white snowflakes background. On the left is a brown backpack filled with school supplies. In the center is a clock face with a green half and a blue half, with a green banner reading "+30 Minutes End of Day". To the right is a calendar showing January 30 and March 9 with a green arrow pointing from Jan 30 to Mar 9.

Important Dates to Remember:
February 22, 23, 24 full instructional days.
Students attend school.

Monday, Jan. 30th - Thursday, Mar. 9th:

- **School Day Extends by 30 mins** - 30 minutes will be added **to the end** of the instructional day (Restores 3 days of missing instruction from snow days). See ASD Guideline below.

Wednesday, Feb. 1st:

- **Rainbow Spirit Day** - Each grade level wears different color: (Pre-k Red) (Kinder Orange) (1st Yellow) (2nd Green) (3rd Blue) (4th Purple) (5th Black/White).

Thursday, Feb. 2nd:

- **Tutu/Twin Spirit Day** - Wear a tutu or dress like a twin.

Friday, Feb. 3rd:

- **Culture Spirit Day** - Wear clothes from your culture or wear Ptarmigan gear or school colors blue/gold.

Friday, Feb. 10th:

- **Pastries with the Principal:** 8:30am-9:10am In Library
- **Jersey Spirit Day** - Wear your favorite team jersey

- Clark Middle School Transition Visit w/ 5th Grade

Monday, Feb. 20th:

- President's Day holiday: NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, Feb. 22nd and Thursday, Feb. 23rd:

- Parent/Teacher Conference 1/2 days **CANCELLED**. Full instructional days in lieu of the scheduled parent-teacher conferences/ (Restores 1 day of instruction from snow days).

Friday, Feb. 24th:

- Teacher In-service **CANCELLED**. Full instructional day in lieu of the teacher professional development day/ (Restores 1 day of instruction from snow days).

Make-up Weather Closure Days-ASD Guidelines

(2022-2023 All School Picture)



NEWS FROM NURSE JOAN

Ptarmigan is again part of the Children's Lunchbox Program, a wonderful resource from Bean's Café.

We have meal boxes for families in need of food support. Each box provides a meal for 4 people. The items are shelf stable and non-perishable.

If you would like to receive food boxes for your family, please let the school nurse or counselor know. If you have a large household, we can provide two boxes at a time. Participating families will have boxes sent home with students weekly on Friday.



Please contact the school nurse, Joanie Lyke at 907-742-0417 or school counselor, Kylee Smith 907-742-0400, if you are interested in this program.



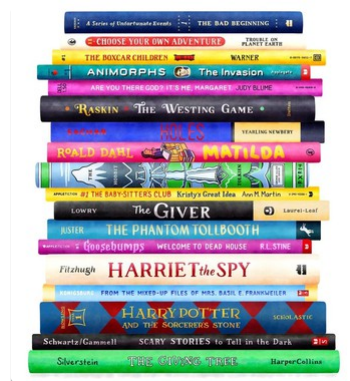
BOOKSHELF BULLETIN

February Display - It's February! And that means....drumroll....Valentine's Day! Grab a heart and illustrate/write one thing you love about our library OR a book that you love.

President's Day - Monday, February 20th is President's Day. In honor of President's Day, students will be learning about different U.S. Presidents. We will review where to find the biography section in our library which contains resources on different presidents.

African-American History Month - African American History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Students will learn about essential individuals and events related to African American History.

Open Library - Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9:00-9:40 is open library. Students are welcome to come down to the library to exchange books. This is a great time to stop by if you have any questions on where resources are located.



Mrs. Giammalva
Teacher-Librarian

giammalva_alyson@asdk12.org

Meet Our General Education Preschool Duo!



Mrs. Rivera (left) is our new General Pre-K teacher. She has been teaching since 2008, in Florida. She has taught Kindergarten - 8th grade, plus supported her former middle and elementary school soccer teams as their coach for three years. She moved to Alaska in 2018 and started working as a fourth-grade teacher at Huffman Elementary. Her main goal as a teacher is to support students improve their social, language, and academic skills.

Ms. Shawanna (right) is our new Paraprofessional and supports Mrs. Rivera with their students. Ms. Shawanna has been working with kids for almost 20 years. She enjoys helping children learn, play, and grow. She has three kids of her own that all attended Ptarmigan.



Notice Regarding ACCESS Testing

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Beginning **February 1st** our school will be conducting a state required assessment for English Language Learners. This assessment is called ACCESS and provides important feedback about the progress of our English Language Learners in Reading, Speaking, Listening and Writing. Students will take the test using our school's computers. Only students who are currently identified as members of the English Language Learners (ELL) Program will be assessed. Most of the assessments will be completed during the first two weeks of February but some may continue into March. More information about the ACCESS assessment can be found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's ACCESS page, <http://education.alaska.gov/assessments/elp>.

If you have any questions about this test, you are encouraged to contact us here at school 907-742-0400. You may also contact the District's ELL Department at 742-4452. Information about the English Language Learners Program in the School District can be found on ASD's website.

As always, with testing, we ask that families plan so that their students are in school and are well rested for testing. Your patience and support for this process is very much appreciated as this assessment does provide useful information that helps our district and school improve programs for English Language Learners.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kelly Ramey
Principal
Ptarmigan Elementary



PE with Mr. G

Dear Ptarmigan Families,

Our **Kids Heart Challenge** program is kicking off on February 8th. We are proud to support the American Heart Association and *Be the Torch* in the fight against heart disease and stroke! Students will learn how to keep their hearts happy and healthy through physical and mental wellbeing, while helping others with special hearts by raising lifesaving donations. Our goal is to have 100% of our school families join the team and ***learn Hands-Only CPR through Finn's Mission***. Don't wait, get started TODAY! ***Students who join the team early AND students who complete Finn's Mission will get recognized at our kick-off assembly!***

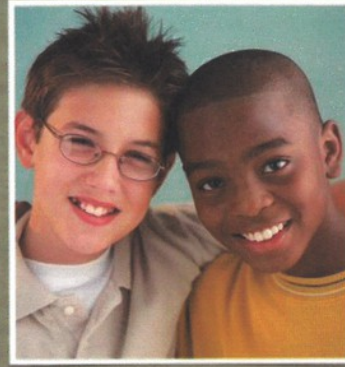
1. **REGISTER** at <http://www2.heart.org/goto/Ptarmiganak> or download the Kids Heart Challenge App for [Apple](#) or [Android](#)
2. **TAKE THE CHALLENGE** to Move More or Be Kind and earn the FREE Be the Torch Wristband when we kick-off!
3. **COMPLETE FINN'S MISSION** in your HQ to learn Hands-Only CPR, how to spot a stroke F.A.S.T., and how you can help kids with special hearts!

Thank you for supporting our school and this lifesaving program!

[Get a sneak peek of this year's Heart Hero Dragons!](#)

Mr. Chad Garner
Ptarmigan PE Teacher





Clark's Transitional Orientation Night

Thursday, February 23, 2023

@ 5:30 P.M.

We would like to cordially invite our new incoming students and families to our "Transitional Orientation Academy". These informative sessions are designed for Clark's incoming 5th and 6th grade students. Come and meet Clark's staff, learn about the plethora of programs offered, and ask questions.

We look forward to a great year of learning! If you have questions, please give us a call at 742-7772.



Clark Middle School

150 Bragaw Street, Anchorage, AK • 907-742-4700

21st Century Afterschool Program Bulletin

Afterschool Program Families,

The school board has officially approved plans to extend the school day by 30 minutes from January 30th (this Monday) until March 9th (spring break), to make up for school closures in December.

The after-school program **will continue to finish on time and students will be dismissed at 5:30 PM.**

Because parent/teacher conferences have been cancelled, **we will operate the week of February 21st-23rd.** This is a change and is not reflected on the paperwork you received when your student enrolled, so please make note.

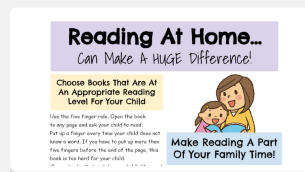


As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

Jamie Hobson

Coordinator

hobson_james@asdk12.org / (907) 742-0444



Reading at Home Handout

docs.google.com

Use the five finger rule. Open the book to any page and ask your child to read. Put up a finger every time your child does not know a word. If you have to put up more than five fingers before the end of the page, this book is too hard for your child.

Anchorage School District Board:

Margo Bellamy (President), Carl Jacobs (Vice President), Dora Wilson (Clerk), Kelly Lessens (Treasurer), and Members: Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, and Andy Holleman.
ASD Superintendent Dr. Jharrett Bryantt.

CONTACT US:

Ptarmigan Elementary School
888 Edward St.
Anchorage, AK. 99504

Phone: (907) 742-0400
Fax: (907) 742-0425

To Leave a Message on the Attendance Line: (907) 566-0400