

URSA MINOR



Words from Our Principal:

Dear Ursa Minor School Community,
We are mid-way through our last quarter for the 2020 – 2021 school year! Students are loving the great spring weather we are having and their time outside during recess. Figuring out gear for recess is proving to be a bit of a challenge until the snow is off the grounds. We want the students to stay dry, and yet we still have lots of wet snow on areas of the playground. On the pavement play areas there isn't snow. So, please send gear to keep clothes and feet dry such as rubber or snow boots and rain or snow pants. I am hopeful that into May we can say bring on summer!
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**Chromebook Returns
are May 3 - May 7.
More information
to come!**



During the month of April, Ursa Minor is celebrating all of our students and all military children. Each Wednesday students and staff are asked to wear purple. We are also changing Spirit Fridays. Each Friday in April will have a different theme.

4/23: Support your branch!

Army - Wear Green
Air Force - Wear Light Blue
Coast Guard - Wear White
Marines - Wear Black
Navy - Wear Navy Blue

4/30: Pajama Day - Wear your comfy cozy PJs.
(No house slippers, please)

Please remember to follow ASD dress code guidelines

Scholastic Book Fair

April 23th - May 5th

Information on Page 3

Stay Connected to Our School & The District

Website: <https://www.asdk12.org/ursaminor>

Facebook: [Ursa Minor Elementary School](#)



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

Website: www.asdk12.org/page/1442

President: Elisa Vakalis

Vice President: Margo Bellamy

Treasurer: Starr Marsett

Clerk: Andy Holleman

Superintendent: Dr. Deena Bishop

SEL Star Winners

4/9/2021

K: Adam S.

1st: Carter T.

2nd: Micah M.

3rd Ashlye

4th: Olivia

5th Corban B.

6th: Lillyana O.

4/16/2021

K: Mason T.

1st: Caroline S.

2nd: Carter S.

3rd: Adalynn C.

4th: James C.

5th: Alyssa D.

6th: Janisha S.

Letter from our New Principal (2021-2022)

Hello, amazing Ursa Minor community. I am thrilled to be joining the Ursa Minor team. I come to you after teaching fourth, fifth, and sixth grade at Willow Crest Elementary for 11 years and am currently finishing up my first year as an Assistant Principal at Muldoon Elementary. My family and I are strong supporters of the Military and the incredible families that support their service members. My husband is a Lt. for the State Troopers and is a member of the SERT team which requires him to leave for extended periods of time and without much information or notice as to where he is going. This life I love has given my children and myself a unique perspective of preparing ourselves to be resilient in situations of the unknown. I am here to support you all and come with compassion, empathy, and understanding of the need for resilience in uncertain situations.

I recognize that it truly takes a village for us to grow self-sufficient, resilient, and capable children. My passion for education stems from growing up in this great state working my way through the Anchorage School system. Teachers inspired me, believed in me, encouraged me, and cheered me on when my homelife was difficult and now it is my turn to give back to the community that gave so much to me. I believe making data informed decisions, empowering teachers and students, relationship and community building, collaboration, and open communication are essential factors in successful leadership. I look forward to working with all of you very soon. Thank you for service in protecting this great nation.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Tina Bartlett

Nurse's Corner

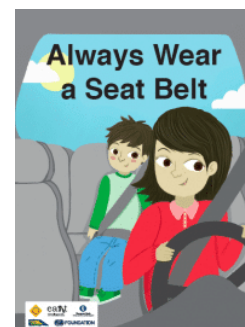
The promise of Spring is all around!! As we are walking and biking around be aware of students and families, please remember to be safe!!

Many children have been seen not properly seat belted in the car seats upon arrival or dismissal. Please remember to have all children buckled in when leaving the parking lot. Most vehicle accidents happen within a few miles from home.

If you hit a pedestrian: at 40 mph there is a **90 percent** chance they will be killed. at 35 mph there is a 50 percent chance they will be killed. at 30 mph there is a **20 percent** chance they will be killed.

<https://www.roadwise.co.uk/using-the-road/speeding/the-chance-of-a-pedestrian-surviving/>

Blessings,
Nurse Kathi



Scholastic Book Fair:

Our link below is live and will take you directly to Ursa Minor's Online Scholastic Book Fair. ***Only purchases made using this official link will count as credit for Ursa Minor to purchase books and materials for our school library.*** You may purchase books online every day starting tomorrow, April 23rd, and all your online purchases will be shipped directly to your home.

In-person Shopping and Payment

We will accept cash or checks from students and staff. Our preview days are April 29th and 30th. Purchase days will be May 3 - 5 or so as we may open for in-person shopping sooner.



Our live link is below. Please use this link for Ursa Minor to get credit for your purchases - Thank You!

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/ursaminorelementaryschool2>

Teacher Appreciation Week (May 3-7)

Don't forget Teacher Appreciation week is May 3rd to May 7th! PTA has asked our wonderful teachers about some of their favorite things they enjoy and sent a favorites list home with your students. Please help us thank our teachers for all the hard work this year!



Clean Sweep (May 3-6)

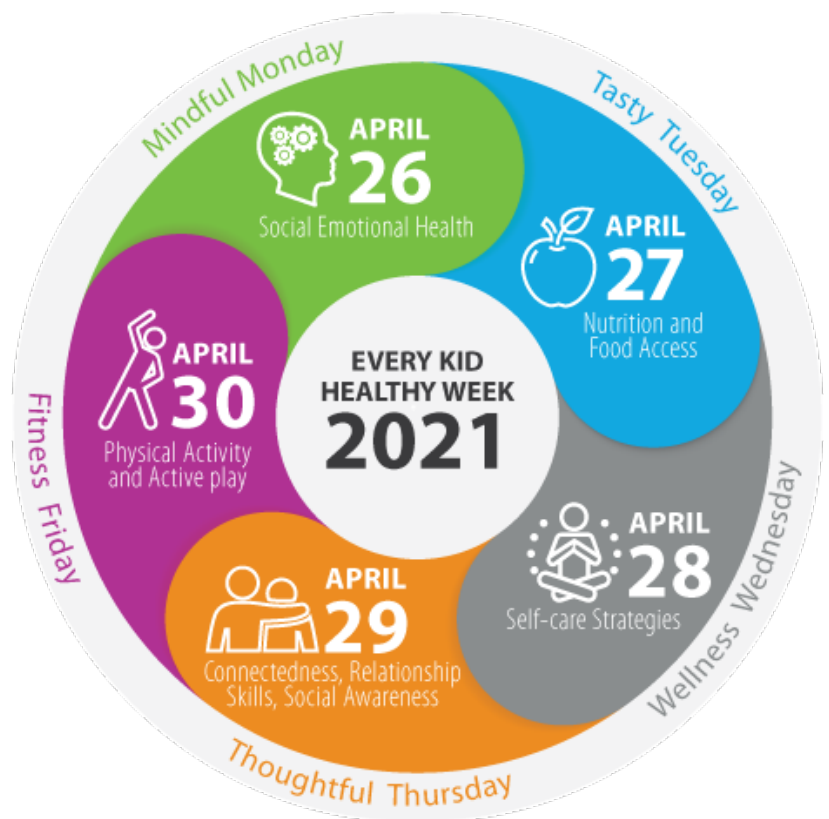
We will be holding our annual clean sweep of our school grounds and surrounding areas. Students may take home a trash bag beginning the week of May 3- May 6. Bags used for Clean Sweep can be thrown away in the Ursa Minor dumpsters.



Every Kid Healthy Week

April 26-April 30

Every Kid Healthy Week is an annual observance to celebrate school health and wellness achievements. Each day of the week shines a spotlight on the great actions schools and families are taking to improve the health and wellness of their kids and the link between nutrition, physical activity, mental health and learning. Everyone can take action during Every Kid Healthy Week by following the Every Kid Healthy Week daily themes or building your own activities based on your needs or schedule. For more information, please visit our school website.



APR 2021



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

April Fools' Day

02

International

03



Children's Book Day

04

05

06

07

08

09

10



Easter Sunday

Picture Retake Day

Wear Purple for Military Kids

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Wear Purple!



National Librarian Day

18

19

20

Wear Purple! 21

Administrative Professionals Day & National Kindergarten Day

22

Online Book Fair Begins

23

Support your Military Branch Day!

24

25

26

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29

30

Wear Purple!

Pajama Day



(Continued from Page 1)

To review a few guidelines for warmer weather school attire, shorts need to be longer than finger tips when arms are along their side; and no spaghetti straps unless there is a cover shirt.

We are now welcoming students to ride their bikes to school with some safety guidelines in place:

- 1.) Students need to wear a helmet.
- 2.) Students are to walk their bikes on school grounds.
- 3.) Park bikes in designated bike racks.
- 4.) No scooters please. Our classrooms and school grounds do not have a place or room to store them.

We will be having an ALICE drill soon. This drill will require that student go off school grounds to Aurora Housing, so they know our rally point. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. This is to practice for if there ever is a dangerous situation where we need to take measures to keep students safe during an extreme emergency. Please go to <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/5325> for more information on what is and why ALICE drills are practiced in Anchorage School District schools. If you have questions, please feel free to call the school at 908-428-1311 and I will be happy to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Please take time to complete the form for the 2021 – 2022 school year inquiring if you will be returning to Ursa Minor or not. This will assist us in securing supplies, teacher assignments, and schedule planning. Remember, you have until Friday to complete the School Climate and Connectedness Survey at Family Survey: <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/aasb/asdfamily>. We use this information to plan for improving our school climate and safety.

Thursday, April 29, at 6:00 pm we will be hosting a Meet and Greet for our new principal, Mrs. Tina Bartlett. Please join me in welcoming her and making that connection as she transitions from one school to our school family. She will give a short bio so you will know a bit more about her.

With the end of the school year quickly approaching, we have lots going on. Please read through this newsletter to get what events will be happening soon.

Warm regards,

Wendy Brons, Principal