

URSA MINOR



Upcoming Events:

- **August 30, 2021**
5th Street road/sidewalk closure begins
- **September 6, 2021**
Labor Day - no school
- **September 2, 2021**
PTA Meeting 5pm - MPR room
- **September 18, 2021**
Cross Country Meet at Kincaid Elementary
- **September 22, 2021**
Cross Country Meet at Chugiak High
- **September 28, 2021**
Picture Day

SEL Winners:

N. Carroll (McAdams)

Looking to Join the Ursa Minor Team?

We are in need of Noon Duties, subs, and sub TA's. If you are interested please reach out to the front office.



Welcome Back, Ursa Minor!

Ursa Minor Families,

Wow! We have had a great start to the school year and that is due to our home and school collaborative efforts. Teachers have been working so hard to build relationships, routines, procedures, and expectations to enable them to do what they do best, that is setting high expectations for rigorous learning while balancing the incredible need and opportunity to build relationships and focus on our Social Emotional Learning. Families you have been so supportive of our return to school and we are most appreciative of that. We really appreciate the understanding that our entire office staff are fairly new in our roles and we have many new teachers on staff as well, so some procedures and routines are different than they have been in the past. We are working hard to do what is best for kids each and every day and sincerely appreciate you understanding the newness of this year.

(Continued on Page 7)

Daily Schedule :

8:50 am - 1st Morning Bell

9:00 am - Tardy Bell

3:30 pm - School Dismissal

Lunch Schedule :

K: 12:00-12:20pm

1st: 12:30-12:50p

2nd: 12:45-1:05pm

3rd: 1:00-1:20pm

4th: 1:00-1:20pm

5th: 12:15-12:35p

5/6th: 12:15-12:35p

6th: 12:15-12:35p



Stay Connect to Our School

Facebook: [Ursa Minor Elementary School](#)



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

Cross Country Running Club:

Our Cross Country Running club began this week. Our students will practice twice a week, and will attend 2 Cross Country meets with other students within our school district. We are still welcoming volunteers during practices. Please contact the school office or Mr. Linderman (Linderman_James@asdk12.org) if you are interested!

Ursa Minor

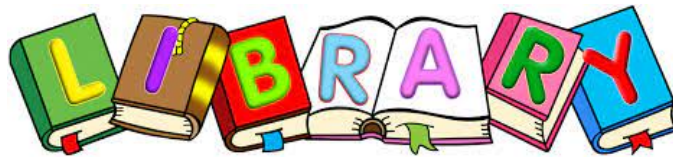
CROSS COUNTRY

Running Club
August 25 - September 22



3:30 - 4:30 PM

K-1 Grades: Monday & Friday
2-3 Grades: Wednesday & Thursday
4-6 Grades: Tuesday & Wednesday



Dear Families,

It's been a great beginning to return to school in person with your awesome children! I'm so glad to have our students back in the library face-to-face! Our library classes have been a time of a sharing a read aloud book and participating in discussions about the stories shared and what we've learned. Like classroom teachers, we're reviewing library expectations and procedures. In our week ahead we'll begin checkout during library class. Students in K-1 will begin the year checking out one book at a time and returning it for another. I'm looking forward to increasing that to 2 books each week once consistent return and book care is established. In grades 2-6, students may check out 2 books at a time. If a student needs a book for a class paper or project a 3rd book can be checked out for their research needs. Books are due every 14 days, so students may keep them for 2 weeks without an overdue notice or they may return them weekly to exchange them for new books. I know your students LOVE for their parents and older siblings to read books together with them - their faces light up when they talk about your shared reading times! May your reading time at home be greatly enjoyed!

Kindest Regards ~ Ms. Susanne Wilkins

Nurse's Corner:

My name is Nurse Amanda and I am the new school nurse for Ursa Minor Elementary. I am so excited to be here and to help keep your children healthy. Just a friendly reminder if your child isn't feeling well, please don't send them to school. I have included COVID testing sites that are free to everyone along with COVID vaccine locations and hours for children or adults age 12 or older. Enjoy the coloring activity that shows what germs we are washing away every time we wash our hands. Please encourage your children to wash their hands often to prevent the spread of germs. I am looking forward to a great school year with your children. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Nurse Amanda
907-742-

9855



Beacon

ASD COVID-19 Testing Instructions

STEP #1 – Drive Up and Scan QR Code



Hover over the QR code with camera and select link to complete sign-in. Use cell phone as sign-in phone number. Enter name, cell phone number and location. You will receive a text message outlining next steps. Wait in car until prompted to present to trailer.



STEP #2 – Testing Registration

Receive text message from Beacon tech to complete the preregistration form.

Select the following

- Provider: **John Hall, MD**
- Location: **ASD On-Site**



STEP #3 – Approach Trailer with ID and Insurance Card

Patient must wear mask at all times.

Receive a text message prompt to approach the trailer for test collection. Provide Beacon tech with ID and insurance card.

STEP #4 – Testing in Trailer

Tech will collect nasal swab.

STEP #5 – Return to Vehicle

Testing process complete. Return to vehicle and expect results within 24 to 48 hours via email.

KEEP ASD SYMPTOM FREE



Students Protect Yourself and Your Classmates



- Wear your mask appropriately
- Wash your hands frequently
- Keep 6 ft of physical distance

Appropriate Face Coverings



Disposable Mask

Single Use Only

- Covers the nose, mouth, and chin securely
- Does not protect eyes



Cloth Mask

Wash daily after each use

- Covers the nose, mouth, and chin securely
- Does not protect eyes



Gaiter/Buf

Wash daily after each use

- Wear a gaiter/buff with two layers, or fold it to make two layers.



Face Shield

Clean and disinfect after each use

- Allowed without a face mask only when advised by teacher or principal (i.e. phonics lessons or speech therapy)
- Must wrap around the sides of the wearer's face and extend below the chin



Humanity Shield

Clean and disinfect after each use

- Full facial covering
- Can be worn with a mask
- Fits securely around head



#KeepASDSymptomFree

#MaskUpAlaska

www.asdk12.org

THE COVID-19 VACCINE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL DOD BENEFICIARIES 12 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER!

**Vaccinations are available
on a walk-in basis or by appointment.**



Location: Elmendorf Fitness Center
Bldg. 9510, JBER –E

Hours: Mondays and Fridays
from 1200-1630

Sign up directly by the QR code or go to:

[https://informatics-stage.health.mil/
JBERCOVIDApp/](https://informatics-stage.health.mil/JBERCOVIDApp/)



Or call the JBER Appointment Line at 580-2778 to sign up!

**You have an important
role to play in stopping
this pandemic.**



**The COVID-19 Vaccine is currently offered on a
voluntary basis.**

For more information on COVID-19 Vaccines go to:
<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines>

Contact your PCM if you have further questions or speak to a
medical provider to learn more.

WASH YOUR HANDS

Germes are tiny living things that are around us all the time. They live on hands and surfaces but are too small to see. To help prevent the spread of germes, wash your hands!





Spirit wear orders due September 17th!

Fun Fridays - Every Friday starting September 3rd

- School Store open before school starts.

-Popcorn - .50 cents

PTA Meeting - September 2nd @ 5pm in Cafeteria

- Please join us for our very first meeting. Just for coming, you will receive a "one free popcorn" voucher valid on any Fun Fridays. We will also have a limited number of shirts on hand for purchase, sizes are limited. If we do not have your size, we can order it for you! We will be accepting shirt orders and PTA membership forms if you wish to join. We hope to see you there.

Box Tops are all digital now!

1. Download Box Tops App
2. Connect to our School - Ursa Minor Elementary
3. Scan Receipts
4. Earn money for our school!!



Notes from the Music Room:

This school year has started with theme weeks. This week we are focusing on songs about Bananas. Dancing to the Banana Boat song by Harry Belafonte, learning movements to follow Go Bananas, and exploring silly songs like My Hands are Bananas has started the year off in a super fun direction. Students have been learning rhythm, call and response, and upper grades have been introduced to the xylophone. We have been working on proper singing techniques and new songs. Next week is all about Hot Dogs. I hope you get to enjoy the silly songs too!

I am Mr. Sterling, the new music teacher and I look forward to meeting you all!



The weather is getting a bit cold and chilly outside, so please be sure you are sending your child(ren) to school properly equipped with a jacket (rain jackets with a hoodie or sweater are a great idea this time of year). We will strive to go out to recess unless it is raining too hard or it is below -10. We do not have the capacity to keep kids in the office for recess or in their classrooms while their teachers have their lunch break, so please know students will be sent outside each day.

While we do have some extra masks at school, I encourage you to find the just right mask for your child so they are as comfortable as they can be wearing their masks while indoors and not eating or drinking.

The beginning of the year is always an exciting time of teachers getting to know their students and families and families and students getting to know their teachers. Please do know that we are keeping classes arranged as they are and are not moving students from class to class. The why behind this is that we are working to create a balance in classrooms for learning abilities, gender, and social emotional learning needs. We have had some students discussing moving classrooms and it is important that they are aware we are not switching classes, however, there are **rare** circumstances that do occur. Please encourage your students to give it their best effort each day with a positive attitude and to focus on building relationships with their school family.

I am thrilled to be your new principal and wanted to give a quick piece of information so you know a little about who I am:

I was born and raised in Alaska and am a proud former student of the Anchorage School District. I was a teacher at Willow Crest Elementary from 2008-2020, an assistant principal at Muldoon Elementary 2020-2021 and am now the proud principal of Ursa Minor Elementary.

We are a law enforcement family, so I have some knowledge of the uncertainty of day-to-day life when it comes to careers that call you at a moments notice for short and long periods of time and a sincere appreciation and admiration for our military community. Home of the Free because of the Brave. Thank you for your service.

We have two boys, 14 and 8, that both attend ASD schools. My family can be found at the hockey rink many nights, seven months of the year watching our guys play, hiking, or downhill skiing (we love to be outdoors!). I will lead our school with the understanding that relationships come first and then we are able to move to the academics. I have high standards and expectations for behavior and academics and express this to our students and staff. We are flexible when we need to be and hold ourselves accountable for our actions from our youngest learners in Pre-K to our staff members.

This is going to be a great year! I thank you kindly for entrusting us with your most precious treasures. I can assure you they will be loved and well cared for each day in our care.

Wishing you well,
Principal Bartlett