

# URSA MINOR



## Words from Our Principal

Dear Ursa Minor Community,

February is almost here and the days are getting longer! We are welcoming our 3rd through 6th graders back to face-to-face learning. This is a great time of our school year to have all of our students in the school house. Please read through this newsletter and my piece for information on a smooth transition. Our pre-K through second graders came back on Tuesday, January 19th and we want to build on their success. It was a bit bumpy the first day, and yet the team improved transitions and movement every day from then on. Students are making gains every day. Cont pg 5

## Bricks Kids & Gears

Our school has received new building kits for 3rd-6th grade. There are only 15 kits available. We also have five kinder-2nd grade kits. Please email [schoolcraft\\_jessica@asdk12.org](mailto:schoolcraft_jessica@asdk12.org) if your student would like to participate.

Military and Family Readiness Centers presents

# Koats for Kids

Mon - Fri • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Bldg. 600, Rm A139  
384.1517/552.4943

We have FREE gently-used coats, hats, mittens, and more to help keep your children warm this winter.  
Open to all Service Members and their families.

ACE COMMUNITY SERVICES  
JBERLIFE.COM

## It's Cold Outside

Please remember that students are to arrive to school in the proper snow-gear: snow pants, snow-boots, winter jacket, waterproof gloves/mittens, and hat. Even when students are being dropped off by car they need to be in the proper gear as they will be lining up outside. If your family is in need of winter gear Koats for Kids is a free program. Please call Building 600 at 907-384-1517/907-552-4943.

## First week Back

. We have had a great start to having Pre-k -2nd grade students back since January 20th. Thank you to our families and staff for all of the support over the last week. Also please send an extra change of clothes with your child(ren).



Kindergarten Recess

## Stay Connected to Our School & The District

Website: [https://  
www.asdk12.org/ursaminor](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](http://www.asdk12.org/page/1442)

President: Elisa Vakalis  
Vice President: Margo Bellamy  
Treasurer: Starr Marsett  
Clerk: Andy Holleman  
Superintendent: Dr. Deena  
Bishop

## New Bell Schedule

9:15 am- First Bell

9:30 am- Tardy Bell

12:00 pm- End of 1st Recess

12:35 pm- End of 2nd Recess

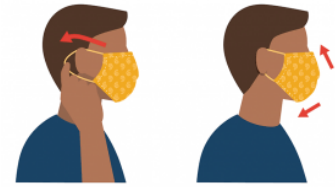
1:10 pm- End of 3rd Recess

3:00 pm- Dismissal

\* Students are NOT to be on  
school grounds before 9:10am



## Nurse's Corner



**Please remind students how to  
wear their mask correctly:**

Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before putting on your mask. Put the mask over your nose and mouth. Make sure to secure it under your chin. Fit the mask snugly against the sides of your face, slipping the loops over your ears or tying the strings behind your head. **If you must continually adjust your mask, it does not fit properly and you might need to find a different mask type or brand.** Make sure you can breath easily.

When fitting for a cloth face mask , the mask should cover from below your chin to above your nose and be pinched to fit the bridge of your nose snugly. If you need assistance finding the right mask for your student, please contact the school nurse, Mrs. Moore. She will be happy to assist.

Combating dry winter hands:

With the winter season's cold dry air and hand-washing multiple times a day you may be finding your hands are overly dry. Here are a few tips to help against hand dryness.

Choose soap carefully. Use a moisturizing hand soap. Soaps that resemble a lotion and/or labeled moisturizing/ conditioning.



Use creams, not lotions. Look for products that are described as creams. These are richer and have more staying power than lotions and create a better barrier. Creams will help trap the moisture. Applying after bathing can help too.

Three Step Approach:

1. Regularly apply cream to hands
2. After a few days if there is no improvement move on to petroleum- based ointment. Try using at night after bathing and even putting cotton gloves or socks over hands to lock in moisture.
3. If conditions change after a few more days, try an over-the-counter hydrocortisone cream.



# URSA MINOR IS HIRING

We are in urgent need of two Noon Duties, as well as Substitute TA's, Substitute Teachers and Substitute Office Staff.

If you have a degree and would like to sub as a teacher, please apply for a certified position here:

<https://www.asdk12.org/Page/5603>

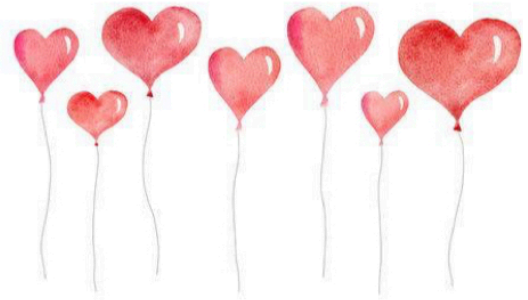
If you would like to sub as a TA or in the Front Office, please apply for a classified position here:

<https://www.asdk12.org/Page/5603>

The Noon Duty listing can be viewed [here](#), or found under ASD's list of jobs open to external applicants (narrow the search to jobs on JBER).

**Make sure you let the sub hiring team know that you want to work at Ursa Minor and please give our front office a call at (907) 428-1311 once you have applied. Thank you!**

# FEB 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01	02	03	04	05	06
		Groundhog Day 				
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
	3rd-6th grade students returning to the building!					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Valentines' Day 	Presidents Day Holiday. No School.					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Asynchronous Learning Day		
28						

Cont from pg 1

When our 3rd – 6th graders come back I expect we will be going through another bumpy time, yet back on track soon after. It is important that we work together on the new routines that follow Anchorage School District guidance for a safe and symptom free return to school.

A couple of helpful pointers are planning ahead and making sure your child(ren) and their teachers know if your child is going to be going to School Age Services (SAP), walking home (meeting siblings) or being picked up in the car line. This determines when students are dismissed. Have your child(ren) get out of the vehicle on the passenger side, ready to go: outdoor gear and mask on and supplies together. Please remember that students are still lining up outside in the morning unless deemed too cold (4 degrees in the morning and -10 degrees for recess). Parents, please wait in the car or off school grounds. We have appreciated your patience so much – thank you!! You all have been so awesome with your patience. First day dismissal took 45 minutes, Thursday it took 30 minutes. We are now at about 15 minutes.

I am so impressed by our attendance for students in pre-K through 2nd grade. We have been very close to 100% present since we returned! It is so important that students who are well are here. If students are showing symptoms and you are wondering if they should come to school please call Nurse Kathi or the school and we will problem solve with you. Yet, when in doubt, stay home. Teachers will have Canvas learning available so your child can engage in some learning, although your child will be marked absent. Attendance will be taken by 10:30 am and students arriving after 9:30 will be marked tardy. Nurse Kathi will be calling families if students are out and we do not know why to just check in. Parents are encouraged to call the school if you know your child will be out.

Breakfast and lunch are served in the classroom. Teachers have a procedure in place for removing masks while students are eating. When not eating or taking a drink, everyone is required to wear a mask. Distancing ourselves will be done to the best of our ability. Please keep in mind that there will be some movement in our classrooms and halls where students may come closer than 3 feet, this is why masks are worn and why if students must stay home if they are not feeling well. Our teachers complete an ASD Health Survey every day and the nurse follows up with staff too. We have a Health and Safety Plan for our school and each teacher has completed a plan too. If you have questions regarding your child's teacher's plan, please confer with the teacher.

Our goal is to provide a safe, healthy and great education to our students we serve. We believe having parents as partners has a positive influence on our ability to do so. Our partnership with our school community is valued and appreciated. We look forward to partnering with you as we complete our 2020 – 2021 school year.

On a final note, we have STEM building kits for K – 2nd and 3rd – 6th grade students to take home and use. There is a subscription that students can go on line and it walks them through it. This is such a great opportunity and if your child is into robotics, gaming, and/or coding this kit is for your child. It is free and they get to keep the kit. Please call the office if you are interested.

Enjoy your weekend and warm regards,

Wendy Brons, Principal