

URSA MINOR



6th Grade Celebrations

To encourage the safety of all students, staff and families, ASD elementary schools will not have 6th grade, or other grade level in-person recognition or celebration activities at this time.

We are very proud of our sixth graders moving on to middle school, as well as our other students going through important transitions this Spring. We wish them the best in their future educational endeavors!



Great Job:

Mr. Linderman and Mr. Feris for doing so much for our Students thru Covid-19 closure!



School Playground

Playground is open. Please adhere to social distancing guidelines!



Way to go!!!

Great job everyone who participated in the talent show.

From the School Counselor,

Thank you for the privilege of being your school counselor for the 2019-2020 school year. I loved working with you and look forward to getting to know you even better in the Fall. For those headed on to Middle School or beyond, I wish you well and believe that you will do great things! Before we break for summer, let me challenge you to some self-reflection and goal setting. Here are five grounding techniques that can help! What are...

5 Brain Goals: read a book, write a poem, learn a language, play a sport, plant something

4 People you want to stay in contact with: friends, family member, teacher

3 Problem solving strategies: Kelso's Choices, Calm Breathing (S.T.A.R), Talk to a counselor

2 Memories of last year that made you happy.

1 Word of advice for someone entering the grade you are leaving.

I can't wait to share how we spent the summer! Wishing you Well!

Mrs. Heather Butcher
School Counselor
Ursa Minor/Ursa Major
#HelpingtheWholeChildbeSuccessful
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A HUGE shout out to all the families this spring! You did it! Through this traumatic fourth quarter, you kept your families safe, made new routines, and persevered! We are proud of you! As for our students, you grew so much. We will miss you (especially those of you leaving), but we know you will LOVE first grade! Read, write, play, and record your S.T.R.E.A.M. adventures all summer long!

Hugs from Mrs. Moses & Mrs. B!

- Please thank the volunteers
- Please thank PTA from the staff
- Please thank the staff that is leaving the building

SUMMER LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students will be able to continue to have learning opportunities during the summer.

Paper packets (all students) . This round of work through paper packets will go through May 15. Then start up again on May25th for those who are currently receiving them for a couple of weeks. Then parents will have to call the parent HELP line to keep them coming through the summer. We want to be sure they are used and not wasted.

APEX - 5 & 6 grade

Lexia and Math Whizz - end of July - all students

Hope everyone has an awesome summer. Make sure to **Get Out and Play!**. Stay active, get outside, and take advantage of our beautiful state. I can't wait to get moving with you next year in PE!
Mr. Linderman

Library News:



Dear Families,

As your Ursa Minor Librarian and with a love for literature and reading, I'm reaching out with resources to encourage you and your children to dive into books and reading this summer! One resource that inspires our students to catch fire with reading is our Anchorage School District Battle of the Books program - also known as the Alaska BOB Program. The official link for the main page of our Alaska BOB Program used by ASD is the first link below. The second link will pull up all titles in each age category of K-6.

Wishing you and all your students an exciting and adventurous summer filled with memorable reading! Your Librarian ~ Ms. Susanne Wilkins

<https://sites.google.com/view/akaslbattleofthebooks/home>

[Final Version Working List 2020-2021](#)



Ms. Bautista's class:

"Miss Alaska, Maile Johnston visited our virtual classroom this last week! We talked about ways to spread kindness throughout the community and she led us in a mindful yoga session!"



Last day for student lunches at Ursa Major will be May 21, 2020.

There are other distribution sites over the summer break please go to www.Asdk12.org to find a location.

Nurses Corner:

Hope everyone has a safe and healthy summer. Be sure to get enough rest, fresh air, exercise, water and healthy treats! Look forward to seeing y'all in the Fall!!

Blessings and Good health to All!
Nurse Kathi

Easy Baked Flautas (taquitos!)

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 15 minutes

Yield: 14 flautas

2 green onions
1 1/2 cups refried beans, Homemade Refried Beans or vegetarian canned refried beans
1/4 cup salsa, plus more to serve
1 teaspoon chili powder
3/4 cup shredded cheddar or Mexican blend cheese
14 6-inch flour or corn tortillas
2 tablespoons olive oil, for brushing
1/4 teaspoon kosher salt, for sprinkling
For dipping: easy guacamole, salsa, or sour cream (or spicy sour cream mixed with hot



Preheat the oven to 425 degrees Fahrenheit. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper (necessary for cleanup!).

1. Thinly slice the green onions.
2. If you're using canned refried beans, take a taste and determine whether they're well seasoned. If not, add a few pinches of kosher salt and cumin.
3. In a large bowl, mix together the green onion, refried beans, salsa, chili powder, and shredded cheese.
4. Optional step: If you're using 100% corn tortillas, you may want to pan fry each one in a skillet with a drizzle of olive oil (or without in a dry pan) to prevent cracking and help them be easier to work with. Every tortilla brand is different, so if your tortillas seem brittle it's helpful to heat them before rolling. You can do this with corn tortillas too!
5. Lay a tortilla on a work surface. Spoon about 2 tablespoons of the bean mixture in a dollop onto the bottom half of the tortilla. Be careful not to use too much! Tightly roll the tortilla from the bottom (the filling will spread out and hold the tortilla together). Place the flauta seam-side down on the baking sheet. Repeat for the remaining tortillas.
6. When the flautas are assembled, brush the tops with oil and sprinkle them with a bit of salt.
7. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes, until crisp and browned. Some of the beans will come out the ends of the rolls, which is expected (enough filling will remain to perfectly flavor them!). Serve with salsa, guacamole, or sour cream.

Dear Ursa Minor Community,

Every year just keeps going faster and faster! This year has zoomed by! It is hard to believe that the 2019- 2020 school year is coming to an end! What an end it has been! It will go down in the history books. While it has been a very challenging end of the school year, I think it is also a great time to focus more on the positive aspects of our current events. Families have had time together and possibly struggled together. This is okay, we are living through a crazy time and it may not be smooth. Many students, while excited at first about no school, are realizing the value in going to school and having teachers outside the family. Students and teachers have learned a lot! We all have learned new platforms or ways we can make learning happen. I know schools and learning has forever changed. Technology will be used in wider and more personal ways to support our students learning. Families will be more likely to be connected as to what their child is learning.

As we begin our summer break, I am saddened that we were not able to have our end of the year celebrations that we have grown to love. I want to give a shout out to James Linderman (PE), Scott Feris (music) and Susanne Wilkins (librarian) for giving it a go on our Zoom Talent Show. What a delight to see the students perform. Nice job all! Keep in contact with your teacher as they plan to close out our portion because there will be zoom sessions that will allow students to work through their "good - byes", "see ya later's," etc. Many families will be moving over the summer and we want to wish you well as you move onto your next home. Whatever it is that you do, the Ursa Minor Staff and I wish you the best for a safe, fun filled, and rejuvenating summer.

It is with a heavy and sad heart that I inform you that we will be saying good-bye to several teachers and staff members that have supported Ursa Minor's students and other staff members. Mrs. Brown has PCSed and did not return from spring break. Thank you to Mr. Spink who filled in as her long-term sub during this time. Ms. Bautista was picked up right before school began last year from another school that she is now returning to. Ms. Hodges will be transferring to Rogers Park the Highly Gifted Program. Mrs. Harrison's family will be PCSing to the east coast. While we wish them well and the best, that is a big loss for our school! I know you will join me in wishing them well as they move onto new challenges, adventures and experiences! Their knowledge, skills, leadership and expertise will be greatly missed.

Online enrollment is happening now through August 21. You can enroll current students for next year by going through Parent Connection on Zangle. If you need a pin number or assistance, please call the school at 907-428-1311. Kindergarten will begin school a full week later than first through sixth grade so teachers can gather important pre-assessment data. More information will go out regarding new students and kindergarten students for registration as we do not know yet what protocols will be in place for safety. New and kindergarten student's enrollment will take place, at this time, July 28, 29, and 30. Look for more information on the ASD web site, www.asdk12.org.

Throughout the school year we have had many celebrations and faced some challenges. These events offered us an opportunity to pull together as partners, learn to face adversity, build relationships, and work together which only strengthens our school family and community. This partnership provides our students with the best education in a safe environment. Keeping our students safe has been and continues to be the responsibility of everyone; school staff, students, and parents. I have appreciated your support and willingness to work together in supporting a safe, respectful, responsible, caring, and friendly learning environment.

Students' last day is Thursday, May 21st. Those families that requested paper packets will resume getting them the week of May 25. This will be a smaller packet and give you a sense of what you can receive if you request summer delivery of paper packets for paper pencil work for your child(ren). There are other options such as APEX for 5 and 6th graders, Math Whizz/Lexia, e-learning, and AK learns. There is also a wealth of information at www.asdk12.org under remote learning.

As we close out this school year, I want to wish you the best and I look forward to seeing our returning families in August.

Sincerely and best wishes,

Wendy Brons, Principal