



APRIL ~ 2020/2021

PTARMIGAN ELEMENTARY

Dear Ptarmigan Families,

Spring is here! The days are a getting longer and the snow is melting. Our playground is getting wet and sloppy so please consider having your student bring outside shoes/boot and a change of pants just in case they get wet while at recess.

Spring also brings state testing. Students in grades three through fifth have started the Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools or PEAKS, a state standardized test. Although we have just started testing, I am very proud of the hard work and effort our students have been putting forth during this test. Students in grades kindergarten through second will also be taking a test at the end of April, to also see how well they are progressing on their reading and math skills. Parents, please watch for information from the teacher on which days they will be testing.

Our monthly attendance percentages are slowly improving since we have returned back to in-person learning. Our district and school goal is to have each student attend school are in for 90% of the time. That means that a student should only miss 1 day a month. Let's end the school year with over 90% attendance for the months of April and May!!! Together we can do it!

Sincerely,

Kelly Ramey
Principal Ptarmigan Elementary

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

APRIL

- **Extended deadline of School Climate & Connectedness Survey for families:** 4/23/2021
- **LAST DAY OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM:** 4/29/2021
- **PEAKS TESTING ENDS:** 4/30/2021

MAY

- **CHROMEBOOK DEVICE RETURN:** 5/3/2021-5/7/2021
- **STUDENTS LAST DAY OF SCHOOL:** 5/20/2021
- **TEACHERS LAST DAY OF SCHOOL:** 5/21/2021
- **MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY:** 5/31/2021

DRIVE-IN SLIDE SHOW

Art Connects Us

**EAST
HIGH SCHOOL**

**MARCH 12, 2021
AT 7:30 P.M.**

TUNE IN TO 95.9 FM



49TH ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW
in celebration of March – National Youth Art Month

NO CELL PHONES IN SCHOOL ZONES FACTSHEET*



A new ordinance (law) passed by the Anchorage Assembly on June 20, 2019 makes it unlawful for a driver of any vehicle to talk on a mobile communication device while driving a vehicle within an active school zone or on school grounds, unless the vehicle is stopped or a hands-free device is used.

NO MORE CLIPPING



SCAN
YOUR RECEIPT

SEE HOW AT
BTFE.COM

2021 PEAKS State Assessment

Each spring, Alaskan students are provided an opportunity to show what they know. When students show what they know, teachers and parents can partner to promote student success.

The Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS) is Alaska's summative assessment administered to students in Grades 3-9 (English language arts and mathematics) and grades 5, 8 and 10 (science) each spring. The purpose of a large-scale, summative assessment is to provide parents and schools an overall picture of a student's progress in meeting the Alaska standards at his/her grade level. The assessment is taken on the computer and is not timed, but each content area takes approximately 100-180 minutes.

Parents can locate resources for the PEAKS assessment, including directions for PEAKS Practice tests, called Online Tools Training and PEAKS Tutorials on the ASD website at www.asdk12.org/PEAKS.

Parents can also help by ensuring their children are well rested, eat a nutritious breakfast, and are at school on time for the days of testing. Please avoid scheduling appointments on your child's testing days.

The ASD PEAKS testing window below allows for school assessment scheduling flexibility. Students! Get ready to show what you know during our school's PEAKS testing dates: March 28th-April 30th. Please ask your child's teacher for specific dates and make-up days.

2021 PEAKS Testing Window

March 29-April 30

(Make-ups: March 30-April 30)





Hosted by: Anchorage School District, Title I
 Led by Love and Logic
 Trained Facilitator
 Meg'n Gall

Dates: Tuesday (3/30, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4)

Time: Tuesdays: 6:00-7:30 Pm

Location: Zoom link will be provided weekly.

How to Register: Name
 Child's school
 Email address
 Mailing address
 Phone number

Questions and to register: Meg'n Gall
gall_megn@asdk12.org

Cost: Free

******Limited seats available**

You will find answers to:

- How do I get them out of bed in time for school?
- How can I stop my children to help with chores without arguing?
- Is there a way to discipline my toddler in public without creating a scene?
- How can I get my teenager daughter to come home at the agreed time?
- How do I get him to eat his dinner without complaining?
- And how many more day to day parenting challenges?



Mrs. Benton w/ her WIN group from 1st Grade acting out "Stinky Cheese Man" from Readers Theater



A few of our 4th Graders enjoying the snow and sunshine out at recess



"Notes" From the Ptarmigan Music Room.



What does music for an elephant sound like? How about a lion, swan or hens and roosters? Ptarmigan students will be exploring the music of Camille Saint-Saens and his "Carnival of the Animals" this month. They will go on a journey of wonderful music that was written by a composer who was 'playing hooky'. Yes, Saint-Saens was writing a symphony and was lacking inspiration, so he started writing a suite of music about all different types of animals. Sort of like a musical zoo. It has many musical motifs and musical jokes as Saint-Saens stole some ideas from other composers and mixed them up in a way to fit his needs. I hope your students can share a favorite selection or animal with you.

Remember to share music with your children and encourage them to learn songs from your youth. It's a great way to enrich your child with traditions from your family. Sing, Dance, and play with music.

In Harmony, Mrs. Benton Classroom Music Specialist

Kindergarten Round-Up

Is your child starting kindergarten in the
Anchorage School District in the 2021-22 school year?

- Learn how to help prepare your child for kindergarten
- Activities to do at home to support kindergarten readiness
- Enrollment information and requirements

Join us!

April 6 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
April 12 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
April 22 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
April 26 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.



<http://bit.ly/KindyRoundUp>



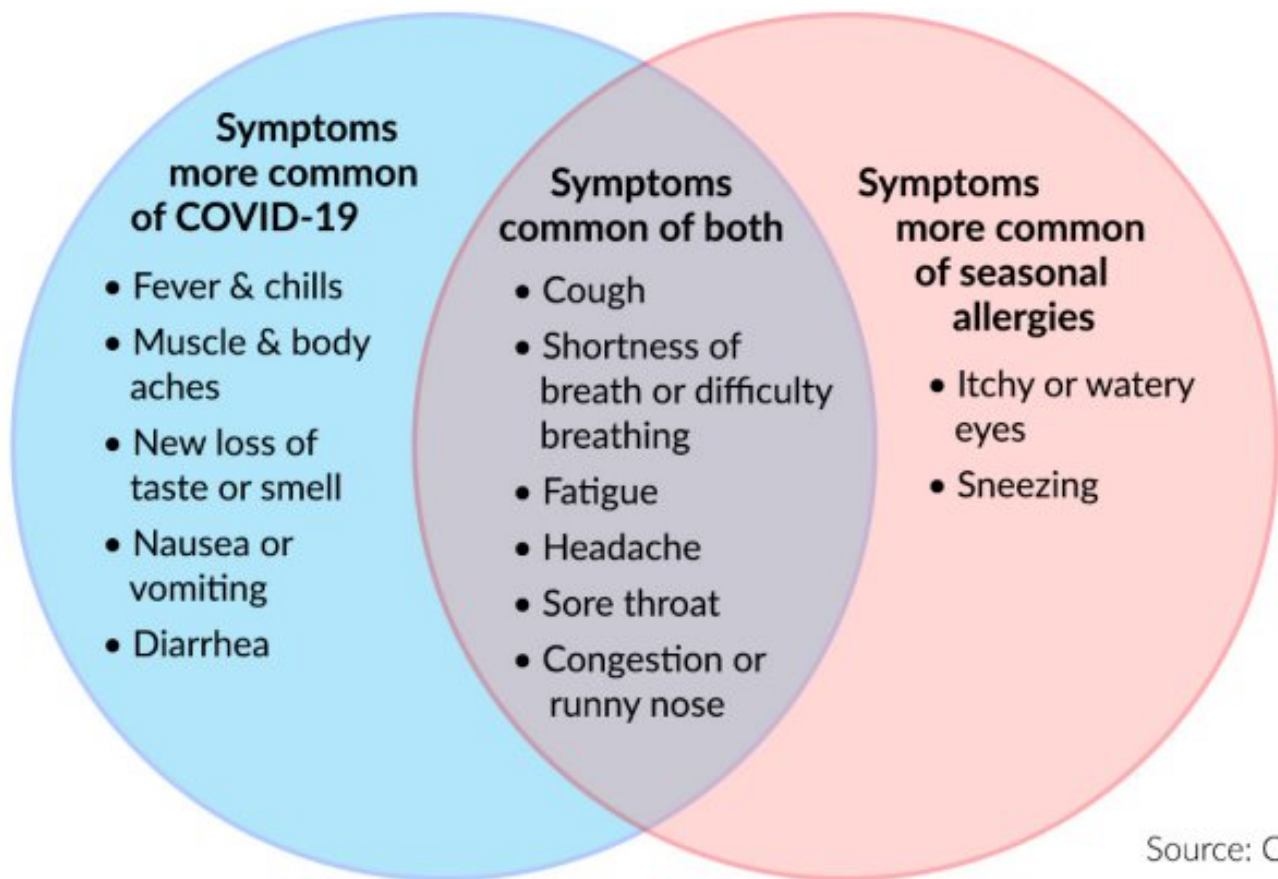
Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life
www.asdk12.org

~ NEWS FROM NURSE BRITTANY ~

Spring is here! Well...almost.

Along with spring comes allergy season. Many of our Ptarmigan students suffer with seasonal allergies. The nurse is used to seeing many kids at schools with allergies with symptoms like runny nose, stuffy nose and scratchy throat. However, this year will look a little different. The symptoms of COVID19 can look very similar to seasonal allergies. Since we cannot tell if a student has allergies or COVID19, you may be getting a phone call from the nurse concerned about your child's symptoms. Students with any symptom that might be COVID19 require a doctor's note or a negative COVID test to return to school. If you know your child suffers from seasonal allergies, call your child's doctor now! You can ask the doctor to send a note to school letting them know that your child's symptoms are not from COVID19 but from seasonal allergies. With the note on file, the nurse will not have to send your child home each time they have a runny or stuffy nose. Please contact the school nurse for more information.

Brittany Bretz, BSN, RN, NCSN
Ptarmigan Elementary School Nurse
PH: 907-742-0417



Source: CDC



KEEP ASD SYMPTOM FREE



At Home Health Screening for Parents and Guardians

Ask these questions at home before sending students to school. Anyone who answers “yes” to one or more of these questions must not enter the school or participate in a school sport or activity.

1

Within the last 10 days, have you been diagnosed with COVID-19 or had a positive test for the virus?

2

Have you had any of these symptoms in the last 24 hours?

- Fever (defined as a temperature 100.4F or higher)
- Chills
- New trouble breathing or shortness of breath
- New cough
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Vomiting
- Fatigue
- Joint pain
- Muscle aches or body aches
- New rash
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Headache
- New congestion
- New runny nose

3

Do you live in the same household or have you had close contact in the last 14 days with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19? Close contact counts if you have been within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes (cumulative over 24 hrs), or if someone from public health contacted you to let you know you are a contact.

Note: If a child or staff member lives with someone else who was named as a contact, it is okay for the child or staff member to go to school. We do not quarantine contacts of contacts.

STAY HOME or go home immediately if the answer is YES to one or more questions above. The next step is to call a doctor and consider getting tested for COVID-19. Do not go to the doctor’s office without calling first. Seek emergency care immediately for difficulty breathing, chest pain, confusion, sleepiness, or other severe problems.

Parents / guardians should follow the Return to School Options pathway (see reverse) to determine when to send students back to school. **DO NOT** send student to school with any of the above symptoms.



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

www.asdk12.org

Return to School Options

For Anyone with COVID-19 Symptoms or a Positive COVID-19 Test Result:

1

If you test positive, stay home for 10 days after your first symptom or positive test, whichever is earlier. After 10 days, you may return to school when you have not had a fever in 24 hours without fever reducing medicine, as long as your other symptoms are improving.

2

If you test negative, you may return to school once you have not had a fever in 24 hours without fever reducing medicine as long as your other symptoms are improving.

3

If you do not get a test, stay home for 10 days. You may return after 10 days if you have not had a fever in 24 hours without fever reducing medicine as long as your other symptoms are improving.

4

If your healthcare provider determines your symptoms are from something else, you may return to school with a note from your provider as long as you have not had a fever in 24 hours without fever reducing medicine and your other symptoms are improving.

Content for this flier borrowed with permission from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's Smart Start 2020 website.

Anchorage School Board: Elisa Vakalis, President

Margo Bellamy

Dave Donley

Alisha Hilde

Andy Holleman

Starr Marsett

Deena Mitchell

Superintendent: Dr. Deena Bishop



AnchorageSchoolDistrict



@ASD_Info
@DrDeenaBishop



AnchorageSchoolDistrict



YouTube AnchorageSD

My family and I moved to Alaska two years ago from Charleston, SC. We have three incredible sons and two girls that we "inherited" from a school I worked at which we are in the process of adopting. This is my second year of teaching and my first at Ptarmigan. Teaching is a second career for me. I previously worked in the human services field and law enforcement. My undergrad is in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Human Services and my Masters is in Early Childhood Education. I also have numerous certifications in specialized

Let's
Welcome
To
Ptarmigan



2nd Grade
Teacher
Mrs.
Rodriguez

MRS. RODRIGUEZ w/ Ginger

areas. I feel my previous background and training within various areas of the human services field has better prepared me to be a teacher.

I wanted to be a teacher because I saw how much our middle child disliked school after a negative experience with a teacher in first grade. His dismay for school continued throughout his school years. I never wanted another child to feel that way about school. I am passionate about what I do and love my students like they were my own. I want every student that walks through my door to know they are cared about, that they matter, are important, and can do anything!

Although I miss the warmth of South Carolina my family is enjoying camping, hiking and fishing in this beautiful, but cold state. Did I mention cold?! Some fun things that my students always find pretty interesting about me is that I was petrified of chickens until I hatched 12 eggs for my kindergarten class last school year. I am now a chicken mommy with 15 hens! I also trained police K9's for dual-purpose work, rehabilitated aggressive dogs (mostly Shepherds) and had my own German Shepherd rescue.



WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!!

CLICK HERE:
[Ptarmigan Facebook](#)



VIEW PICTURES
FROM SCHOOL
EVENTS AND HAVE
ACCESS TO
MONTHLY
NEWSLETTERS!

RECEIVE UP-TO-
DATE
NOTIFICATIONS!



BOOKSHELF BULLETIN

Hi Ptarmigan Students & Families,

I hope you are enjoying the new library books available for check out. Remember SORA is a resource available for audiobooks & E-books you can access on your device purchased by the school district. Please let me know if you need assistance logging into SORA.

The last day to check out books for the 2020/2021 school year will be May 7th. SORA and other digital resources will still be available. The week of May 10th I will be sending home notifications letting families know if your student has an overdue library book from this school year. The last two weeks of school will be time to collect any overdue library books, so please take that time to check for any library books at your home/in your desk. Thank you!

Alyson Tucker Teacher-Librarian

-Positively PE-

There couldn't be a more perfect time to start the Spring 2021 Healthy Futures Challenge than during spring. The challenge goes from February through April. Students fill out a monthly physical activity log and turn it into me at the end of each month. I then enter the names into the Healthy Futures database. Students are eligible for monthly prizes (must meet requirement of 60 minutes a day for at least 15 days out of the month) and for the grand prize (if they turn in all 3 months of logs & meet the 60 minutes a day and 15 days out of the month requirement). PE and recess time counts towards the 60 minutes of physical activity in a day.

<https://healthyfuturesak.org/the-challenge/elementary-schools/>

Stay safe, stay healthy,

Chad Garner

Ptarmigan Elementary P.E. Teacher

Month: _____

Student name _____

Teacher _____

Signature _____

Physical Activity Log

Be active **60 minutes** or more at least **15 days** per month. Write down your activity or color in the boxes for the days you are physically active for at least 60 minutes. **Get Out and Play, Every Day!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday



www.healthyfuturesak.org

KEEP ASD SYMPTOM FREE

Mask Wearing #101



Putting mask on

- Hold the mask by the elastic or cloth loops and wrap the loop around your ears.
- Make sure your mask is tight against your cheeks, tucked under the bottom of your chin and pinched tightly where it meets your nose.
- There should be no gaps, because through those gaps, droplets carrying germs can either escape or enter your nose or mouth.
- It may feel different when it fits snug, but that means you're doing it right!

Removing mask

- When removing your mask, grab the ear loop, never the front of your mask.
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead.
- If you grab your mask, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to disinfect.

#KeepASDSymptomFree

#MaskUpAlaska



Anchorage School Board:

Elisa Vakalis (President), Margo Bellamy (Vice President), Andy Holleman (Clerk), Starr Marsett (Treasurer), and Members Deena Mitchell, Dave Donley, and Alisha Hilde. ASD Superintendent, Dr. Deena Bishop.