



Hello Ptarmigan Families,

Our school year has started out with numerous amazing memories and stories. Attendance continues to be one of our main school-wide goals. Our school slogan is **“One or Less for School Success.”** This means students increase their ability to be successful at school when they miss one or less days of school each month. Parents: we need your support and help getting your students to school every day!

Tuesday, November 8th is an **Asynchronous School Day**. This means there is **no school for students**. Teachers will send home a homework packet for students to complete and turn in for a grade.

Veterans Day (originally known as **Armistice Day**) is a federal holiday observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Please take the time to thank a Veteran for their service. There will be **no school for students** on this day.

Ptarmigan is still hiring for a **3.5-hour a day tutor, a 5.5-hour Kindergarten Paraprofessional, and noon duties**. If you are interested in any of these positions or need more information, please call 907-742-0400 and ask for Mrs. Ramey or Ms. Black.

Lastly, please remember that according to the ASD Elementary Handbook, students go outside for recess down to -10 degrees, so please dress your student appropriately for the weather conditions.

Kelly Ramey
Ptarmigan Elementary Principal

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

NOVEMBER

- **PAJAMA SPIRIT DAY:** 11/1/2022
- **READ MY SHIRT SPIRIT DAY:** 11/2/2022
- **TWIN SPIRIT DAY:** 11/3/2022
- **1st QUARTER Awards Assembly:** 11/3/2022
(K-2nd Grade @ 10-10:30am)
(3rd-5th Grade @ 2:30-3pm)
- **PTARMIGAN SPIRIT DAY:** 11/4/2022
(Wear Spirit Gear or Blue & Gold)
- **ASYNCHRONOUS SCHOOL DAY:** 11/8/2022
- **ABC LETTER SPIRIT DAY:** 11/10/2022
- **TEACHER IN-SERVICE**
NO SCHOOL: 11/11/2022
- **NEON SPIRIT DAY:** 11/18/2022
- **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**
NO SCHOOL: 11/24/2022
& 11/25/2022

**** NO 21st Century Afterschool Program Week 11/21.**



"Notes" From the Ptarmigan Music Room



I am so thankful for so many things at Ptarmigan. It is such a joy to share my passion for music with your students. Fifth graders are working on recorders and studying the notes of the treble clef. They are beginning to understand the reading of music and playing tunes on the recorder. Fourth graders are focusing on the ukulele this quarter. They are practicing shifting between chords and accompanying themselves as they sing some simple songs.

With the family gatherings during the month of November, I hope you can share some musical traditions with your children. Share a song you remember from elementary school. Ask your students to sing something they remember from music class. We are singing many different songs and adding instruments. Students are creating their own rhythms and learning to play them on a variety of percussion instruments.

Mark your calendar on December 2nd, for a winter concert "This Holiday" by the Ptarmigan Choir. It will be full of many fun songs that celebrate a variety of holidays and the changes of the seasons from fall to winter. There will be performances for the school during the day and an evening performance at 6:30. Hope to see you there.

In Harmony, Mrs. Benton Classroom Music Specialist



MEET MRS. DUNN

NEW 1ST GRADE TEACHER



Hello! I am excited to be a part of the Timberwolves family. I am a military wife with 14 moves under my belt. I have taught overseas in Germany, Hawaii, and in the lower 48. I have a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Economics, as well as a Master's in Special Education. I have been teaching for over 10 years and have traveled all over the world sharing my love of learning. I LOVE to learn and LOVE to make learning fun for my students!

My teaching philosophy is to create a safe environment for students to learn, try, and make memories. I aspire to create student-centered learning environments in which the student is in the driving seat of their own learning. My classroom is always focused on the specific needs of my students. I work hard to differentiate learning so that each student's unique skills are emphasized.



BOOKSHELF BULLETIN



November Lessons: In the month of November, kindergarten and first graders will work on identifying main characters and story elements (characters, setting, problem, solution). Second graders are learning about call numbers and how to determine where in the library books can be found based on call number. Second and third graders are also learning more about nonfiction text features including: captions, graphs, diagrams, timelines, glossary, etc. and how these features help us to gain new understandings.

In the month of November 3rd-5th grade will practice accessing SORA and Tumble Books on their devices. These are electronic resources (audio/eBooks) paid for by Anchorage School District and the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. Students do not need to login to access Tumble Books. These can be accessed through the SLED database. For SORA, students can access through clever logging in using their ASD credentials.

Overdue Books: I will be sending home overdue notices the week of November 14th. If your child has an overdue book, please have them check their backpack and their desk at school. If the book cannot be found, families can choose to replace the book or have their child give back to the library by completing a library chore.

Recommended Social & Emotional Learning Books for Children:

The books below enhance children's social and emotional development and help them to empathize with others. If you would like to check out any of these books to read with your child, please reach out to me and I am more than happy to help. We have many of these books in our collection at Ptarmigan or available through SORA.

Self-Awareness

- *In My Family* by Carmen Lomas Garza
- *I Love My Hair* by Natasha Anatasia Tarpley
- *Looking Like Me* by Walter Dean Myers
- *Marisol MacDonald Doesn't Match* by Monica Brown
- *Too Many Tamales* by Gary Soto
- *A Gift from Papa Diego* by Benjamin Alire Saenz

Social Awareness

- *Last Stop of Market Street* by Matt De La Pena
- *Mirror* by Jeannie Baker
- *Back of the Bus* by Aaron Reynolds
- *Marisol MacDonald doesn't match* by Monica Brown
- *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams Garcia (Novel)
- *The Ugly Vegetables* by Grace Lin
- *Wonder (Novel)* by R.J. Palacio

Self-Management

- *Mouse Was Mad* by Linda Urban
- *My name is Maria Isabel* by Alma Flor Ada
- *Sometimes I'm Bombaloo* by Rachel Vail
- *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline (Novel)
- *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *Lily's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes

Relationship Skills

- *Four Feet, Two Sandals* by Karen Williams
- *Grandfather Counts* by Andrea Cheng
- *Each Kindness* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *Extra Credit* by Andrew Clements (Novel)
- *Mathew and Tilly* by Rebecca Jones
- *Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi
- *The Other Side* by Jacqueline Woodson

Open Library: Open Library is Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9:00-9:40. This is a great time for students to exchange books or come in if they have a question or need assistance locating something. I hope to see you at Open Library.

Mrs. Giammalva

giammalva_alyson@asdk12.org

Teacher-Librarian

Ptarmigan Elementary

NEWS FROM NURSE JOAN

Greetings Timberwolf Families!



November is Vision and Hearing Screening month!

Photo-vision screening will be happening on November 9th with help from the Lion's Club. Photo screening uses a specialized camera which can measure how well a child's eyes align and how well they see close-up and far away. Results are quick and can be shared with an eye doctor if there are concerns about your child's vision or a referral is recommended.

Please, if your child already has glasses, remind them to have them at school every day and wear them when we are screening them. It's always good to check if glasses are still the right prescription and helping your child.

If your child has had glasses, but they are lost or broken, please let me know. We have resources to pay for exams and glasses if you do not have vision insurance or it doesn't totally cover the costs.

We will also have help from student nurses from Charter College on Nov 7th and will focus on hearing screening and growth measurements.

If you have concerns about your child's vision or hearing or any health issues, please contact me.

Thank you!

Nurse Joanie Lyke, RN
Ptarmigan School Nurse
907-742-0417

Anchorage School Board:

Margo Bellamy (President), Carl Jacobs (Vice President), Dora Wilson (Clerk), Kelly Lessens (Treasurer), and Members: Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, and Dave Holleman ASD Superintendent Dr. Jharrett Bryantt.

