

## A Message from the Principal

What a great September we have had and a great October so far. Here at Ursa Minor, we have been enjoying these awesome fall days by having outdoor PE classes, recess, and other content (science) studies outside. I want to extend a thank you to PTA for purchasing frisbee golf last spring because many students are learning skills for the game.

In October we celebrate Fire Prevention Week and Red Ribbon Week. The Fire Prevention theme is "Look, Listen, and Learn." Be aware, fire can happen anywhere. Our Fire Prevention assembly will be Friday, October 12, at 9:30 am. We have an assembly in the gym for 3 – 6 grades and a show in the MPR for K – 2 grades. Parents are welcome to attend.

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#### •• SEL Star Winner ••

9/17 – 9/21 K- Juliet Pieper – Moses Ist- Jacob Smith – McComas 2nd- Samantha Coombs – Arriaga 3rd- Cora Strain – Vecera 4th- Kyleigh Coombs – Pieper 5th- Jared Deckelman – Boes 6th- Michael Ruiz – Williams 10/1 – 10/5 K- Noah King – Moses

1st- Julian Spinks – McComas 2nd- Nasir Thompson – Uson 3rd- Brayden Stringham – Vecera 4th- Myles Brant – Pieper 5th- Haliey Alldredge – Boes 6th- Audrey Ratajazk - Dunlap



Parent Teacher Conferences are around the corner! Communication between home and school is a great way to stay informed about school happenings. Conferences are great time to connect with your child's teacher and get insight into how your child is doing in school. Some questions you may ask at your conference are "does my child get along well with other students?" Or "does my child have any missing assignments?"

To schedule a conference, please visit <u>asdk12.org</u> and follow the "Online Conference Scheduler Now Available" banner at the top. From there you will choose Ursa Minor > Grade (please choose MIX if your child is in a combo class) > Teacher/Team > Date > Continue. From there you will select which time works best for you. You will be sent an email confirmation when you have completed the scheduling process.

You do not need to know your Zangle pin or password, though those things are helpful to have to check on your child's progress throught out the year.

If you have any questions, please email the teacher you are trying to schedule with or call the front office at 428-1311.



You are more than welcome to have lunch with your child, attend Monday Morning Assemblies, or any community event we have such as the Fire Prevention presentation. Just stop by the office first and sign in!

\*If you are buying school lunch for yourself, please call ahead of time and let us know!



Anchorage School District Educating All Students for Success in Life

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Red Ribbon week is October 23 - 31st. On October 18th, Ursa Minor, as well as Ursa Major, will take part in a walking field trip to Buckner Field for our annual Red Ribbon March. We will leave school between 1:20 -1:30 pm and will return between 2:45 - 3:00 pm. Permission slips have been sent home and are due by the 16th. Volunteers are welcome to join us on this annual field trip.



TIS THE SESASON TO REMIND KIDS TO WASH THEIR HANDS!



PROPER HAND WASHING IS THE EASIEST WAY TO HELP STOP SPREADING THE GERMS!

FUN FRIDAYSI Oct. 5

Bring in \$.50 for a delicious popcorn treat!



HALF DAY LUNCH SCHEDULE Parent Teacher Conferences also mean half day release for October 24th and 25th. Hot lunch will be served but lunch times will be moved up to accommodate the 12:30 pm release.

> Kinder. 5th & 6th Grades Recess: 10:50-11:05 Lunch: 11:10 - 11:30 am

1st Grade Recess: 11:05 - 11:20 Lunch: 11:20 - 11:40

1/2 Combo & 2nd Grade Recess: 11:20 - 11:35 Lunch: 11:35 - 11:55

3rd & 4th Grade Recess: 11:45 - 12:00 Lunch: 12:00 - 12:20

Dates to remember...

Oct. 11-25- Pumpkin Grams

Ribbon Week

Oct. 22-25-Book Fair & Red

Oct. 25 - Box Tops due



Fire Prevention week is here again!! JBER Fire Department will be having a special assembly for our 3rd - 6th graders and a puppet show for our Kindergarten - 2nd grade. Both events will be October 12th at 9:30 am. Parents are welcome to join us!

## **URSA MINOR PTA**

Keep collecting your Box Tops! Fall deadline is October 25th!

The fall book fair is coming back to Ursa Minor, October 22-25th

Be sure to stop by!



EMAIL: URSAMINORPTA@GMAIL.COM



PCS'ing or Moving Soon? Please be sure to let the front office know at least a week before your child's last day. There is a withdraw form that requires a signature from a parent or guardian. This helps the teacher and staff prepare final grades, helps with getting lunch balances paid, and ensures our library book are returned!

Attendance is very important for a child attending school! Anchorage School District has guildlines of what is an excused absence.

#### Excused and unexcused absences

The school board updated <u>policy 443</u> in June 2013 to define what constitutes an excused absence from school. Conditions include:

- Illness
- Death or serious illness in the immediate family
- Participation in a school function
- Attendance at a religious service
- Extenuating circumstances approved by the principal





Monday (22<sup>nd</sup>) – Sports/Team Day Tuesday (23<sup>rd</sup>) – Crazy Hair Day Wednesday (24<sup>th</sup>) – Tacky Wacky Day Thursday (25<sup>th</sup>) – Wear Red Day

Red Ribbon Walk Thursday (18<sup>th</sup>) Wear Red All clothing must be within ASD Dress Code. No masks or Face Paint!

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Along with assuring your student is at school, being on time is also important. ASD takes attendance twice a day.

AM Attendance is taken at 9 AM Tardy - Up to 60 minutes after school starts Absent (.5) day - students misses more than 60 minutes

PM Attendance is taken at 12:15 PM Tardy- arrives at or before 1:15 PM Absent (.5) day - student misses more than 60 minutes

Please keep this in mind when you schedule appointments for your child or decide to pull them early. Thank you!

Ursa Minor would like to invite our parents to our Monday Morning SEL Assembly. These are held on Mondays that we have school and begin at 9 am in the gym. Every week, a classroom will put on an SEL skit during the assembly that corrolates with the message of the week, such as "Students use effective decision making skills". The classrooms performing this month are:

Mr. Vecera's 3rd/4th grade class; October 15th Students use positive communication and social skills to interact effectivly with others.

Ms. Cole's 3rd Grade Class; October 22nd "I will interact appropriatly with others."

Ms. Larson's 2nd Grade Class; October 29th Students demonstrate an awareness of personal traits.

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October View						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 JBER Power Outage	6
7 Fire safety Week	8	9	10 walk & bike to school day	11 Pumpkin Grams 11th - 25th	12 Fire Prevention Assembly/puppet Show *TIMES ON PAGE 2	13
14	15 SEL Skit: Mr. Vecera's Class	16	17	18	*Fun Friday 19 No School	20
21 RED RIBBON WEEK	22 SEL SKIT: Ms. Cole's Class Book Fair	23 Book Fair	24 Parent Teacher Conference Half Day Release at 12:30 *Book Fair	25 Parent Teacher Conference Half Day Release At 12:30 pm *Book Fair	26 No School	27
28	29 SEL Skit: Ms. Larson's Class	30	HAPPY HALLOWEEN			
	CLASS		HAPPY HALLOWEEN_ Udents are to reakfast and			

8:25 am for breakfast and NO EARLIER than 8:40 am for those waiting outside. There is NO adult supervision until 8:40 am.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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Red Ribbon Week is October 22 - 26. The theme this year is "Life Is Your Journey, Travel Drug Free". We will be participating in the annual JBER Red Ribbon March on Thursday, October 18th, at 1:30. Students will stagger leaving Ursa Minor to walk to Buckner field. We will meet up with Ursa Major Elementary School and walk to Buckner where we will spell out a word (JOURNEY). The organizers have arranged for a helicopter to come and take a picture of the students. We will then walk back to Ursa Minor. Look for the permission slip as this is a school-wide activity. Parents are welcome and encouraged to volunteer to chaperone this event.

Parent - Teacher Conferences are Wednesday through Friday, October 24th - 26th. Parents will go online at <u>www.asdk12.org</u> click on schedule a conference and follow the prompts. Please call your child's teacher or the school if you have questions. This is a great opportunity for you to hear about your child's progress. Our goal is 100% participation in Parent Teacher Conferences.

Finally, as you can see the fall colors are out and the trees are losing, or have lost their leaves. Nature is telling us that we need to start preparing for cooler weather. Cooler temperatures and snow is on the way! One request is to be sure your child is coming to school with a warm jacket. They are outside and there is definitely a chill in the morning and even in the afternoon. Second is a reminder that you want to have winter gear ready for school. It is important to label your child's snow pants, jacket, and boots so we can return them if they are misplaced or lost. You would be amazed at how many black, size L bibs and snow pants we have in the school and the "Lost and Found"! Students go outside to negative 10 degrees. We require that students come prepared for outdoor activities for their comfort. All students go out unless they have a doctor's note to stay in.

Have a wonderful weekend and I hope you are able to get out and enjoy what nature has to offer this fall season.

Warm regards,

Wendy Brons, Principal