

OCTOBER ~ 2022/2023

PTARMIGAN

ELEMENTARY

Hello Ptarmigan Families,

Our school 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 fewer days of school each month. Parents: we need your support and help getting your students to school every day!

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be on October 26th and 27th. These half days are early release at 12:30P.M. for students and in the afternoon. Teachers will meet with families to share all the hard work your student(s) have completed during the first quarter. Be on the lookout for information on how to sign up for a specific time.

Monday, October 31st is Story Book/Movie Character Day. On this day student and staff are encouraged to dress up as their favorite character.

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.

November 11th is Veterans Day! Please take the time to thank a veteran for their service. Again, on this day there is **NO SCHOOL** for students.

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

Kelly Ramey
Ptarmigan Elementary Principal



Lifetouch

PICTURE DAY IS COMING



Order your school pictures today on

mylifetouch.com

Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Ptarmigan Elementary School



① Visit mylifetouch.com

② Enter your Picture Day ID
EVTRP9HDJ

③ Order your perfect package—
and don't worry about returning
anything on Picture Day!

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Earn exclusive offers for your
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

OCTOBER

- **FALL PICTURE DAY:** 10/11/2022
- **DRESS YOUR BEST SPIRIT DAY:** 10/11/2022
- **LAST DAY OF QUARTER 1**
- **NO SCHOOL:** 10/21/2022
- **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**
(EARLY RELEASE @ 12:30P.M.)
10/26/2022 & 10/27/2022
- **TEACHER IN-SERVICE**
- **NO SCHOOL:** 10/28/2022
- **STORYBOOK/MOVIE CHARACTER SPIRIT DAY:** 10/31/2022

** No 21st Century Afterschool Program the week of 10/24/2022

BOOKSHELF BULLETIN



Scholastic Book Fair: October is an exciting month! We will have a Scholastic Book Fair during Parent/Teacher Conferences. Please stop by the library before or after your scheduled conference to peek at the wonderful books available for purchase. Ptarmigan will earn a percentage of the total profits from the fair, which goes towards purchasing new resources for our library. Classroom teachers will fill out a wish list of books they want for their classroom, if you would like to gift your child's teacher a book.

Fire Prevention Week: Fire Prevention Week is October 9th-15th. During this week, we will be learning valuable fire safety information and reading books about fire safety. Just like we practice fire drills at school to be safe, it is important to practice them at home as well and to have a plan in case there is an emergency. I challenge you as a family to practice a fire drill this month, discuss escape routes in your home, and designate a meeting spot. The 2022 Fire Prevention Week theme is Fire Won't Wait; Plan Your Escape!

Online Library Catalog: Students and families can use the online catalog to see which books we have available in our library. On the ASD website, click Students and select ASD Library Catalog. From there, select Ptarmigan Elementary and you can begin searching for books and resources in our library. If there is ever anything you are looking for that you cannot find or we do not have, please let me know. I am happy to help.

SORA: Your child can access eBooks and audio books through SORA. Library services purchases eBooks through OverDrive that can be accessed by all students and staff. The easiest way to access SORA is to have your child go through their Clever account. Your student's username is lastname.firstname@asdk12.org

Your child's password is the same password used for all ASD applications.

Mrs. Giammalva

giammalva_alyson@asdk12.org

Teacher-Librarian

Ptarmigan Elementary



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Alaska





"Notes" From the Ptarmigan Music Room



Students continue to explore musical elements in a variety of ways at Ptarmigan. Hispanic Heritage Month has begun, and all students will be exploring Latin rhythms and will experience some wonderful songs from this culture. The music tradition is rich with many interesting rhythms and instruments. From listening to Mariachi to learning the La Raspa dance, your students will be busy. Any October would not be complete without some spooky songs in a minor key, as well.

Fifth Graders will soon be starting recorder. I have enough instruments for each student. I highly encourage each student to purchase their own recorder so they can practice at home. Yamaha, Angel, and Descant are all good brands. They should range from \$9.00-\$15.00 each. You can purchase them on Amazon.com or locally at:

Music Man

4637 Old Seward Hwy
Anchorage, AK 99503

or

Horn Doctor

1000 Ingra Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Please do not buy toy recorders for your child to play on. These do not tune well and will not give your child the proper sound.

Choir rehearsals have begun. We are learning all types of celebration songs for our Winter Concert on December 2nd. Choir students rehearse on Thursdays and Fridays from 8:00A.M. to 8:45A.M.

In Harmony, Mrs. Benton Classroom Music Specialist



Work for ASD Student Nutrition, Make a difference in your school!

Cafeteria Managers • Assistant Managers
School Cafeteria Assistants • Central Kitchen Assistants
Full-time • Part-Time • Substitutes (on-call)
Convenient schedules: No nights, weekends, or holidays

Full and Part-time employees eligible for
PTO and holiday pay, PERS retirement, and
HIRING BONUS up to \$2,500

Full-time employees eligible for great medical,
dental, and vision insurance

To see available positions and apply,
visit our website asdk12.org/CafeJobs

For assistance with your application,
schedule an appointment by calling
907-348-5142 Option 0



The Anchorage School District is an EEO employer



ART NEWSLETTER

It has been a lovely start to first quarter. K-5 grade celebrated International Dot Day with everyone creating a unique circle. Kindy and second grade have been experimenting with colour mixing. First grade learned about sculptures and lines creating fun primary coloured sculptures. Third grade has started creating beautiful watercolour pieces and learning about blending. Fourth and fifth grade experimented with four Studio Habit stations (Developing Craft, Express, Persist and Engage, and Stretch and Explore).

An artist to highlight: Marela Zacaria. She is a Mexican-American sculptor creating contemporary murals that weave traditions of Indigenous Mesoamerican women into three-dimensional pieces. Using colour, movement, and pattern, her work is a wonderful example of the studio habits of the mind. Below are photos of installations at SEATAC:



Cheers! Ms. Walker

Art Teacher

Ptarmigan Elementary

Meet Kylee Smith, our new School Counselor!

Kylee most recently worked as a school counselor in Nogales, Arizona, and is excited to be back in Alaska and working with the clever and creative students at Ptarmigan. She received her Masters in Social Work from the University of Michigan in 2015, and has enjoyed working with children and their families in various settings ever since.



Kylee will be celebrating her daughter's first birthday this month. Her two cats are still adjusting to having a human sibling at home. 😊 She loves Alaska and still "oohs and aaahs" at the scenery when driving down the Turnagain Arm. She loves to sew, cross stitch, and play outside.

To contact Kylee about school counseling support for your student, you can call the school or email Kylee directly at Smith_Kylee@asdk12.org.

~ HEALTH / SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING ~

Greetings Families!

During the upcoming weeks in Health, we are talking about different body systems and how to keep them healthy and safe!

At home you can help your child by doing the following things:

Kindergarten: We are studying the “Senses”. At dinner tonight, why not talk about the senses? Talk with your child about the importance of protecting our skin from excessive sun exposure.

First Grade: We are studying “Head to Toe Organs”. Spend time talking about healthy behaviors that are good for the lungs, heart, and brain. When taking a walk, explain that physical activity is good for the lungs and heart.

Second Grade: We are studying the “Brain”. Encourage activities that spark your child’s imagination. Talk with them about memory tricks they have learned in school. Make sure that your child understands that the brain damage that drugs cause can last forever.

Third Grade: We are studying “Eyes”. Look for and talk about signs that your child might need an eye exam: blinks more than usual, rubs eyes often, squints when focusing on something distant, etc. Visit this website: www.preventblindness.org

Fourth Grade: We are studying “Teeth”. Talk about the importance of brushing and flossing. Identify foods and snacks in the kitchen that are just “sometimes” snacks.

Fifth Grade: We are studying “Central Nervous System”. Talk about activities that the brain is responsible for. Insist your child wear a helmet during any risky activity.

Mrs. Jamie Wolfe
Health Specialist Teacher
Ptarmigan Elementary



P.A.C.E

PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community-building events
for families with kids age 4-11

FIRST OF 5 MEETINGS

Thursday, Oct. 20
5:30-7:30 p.m.

- Open to all families with kids age 4-11
- A hot meal to enjoy together
- PBS programming for the kids
- Peer support and resource sharing for the adults
- \$50 stipend per family per meeting



**LEARN MORE &
REGISTER**

You must attend 3 out of the 5 meetings.

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK



PTARMIGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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



SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE

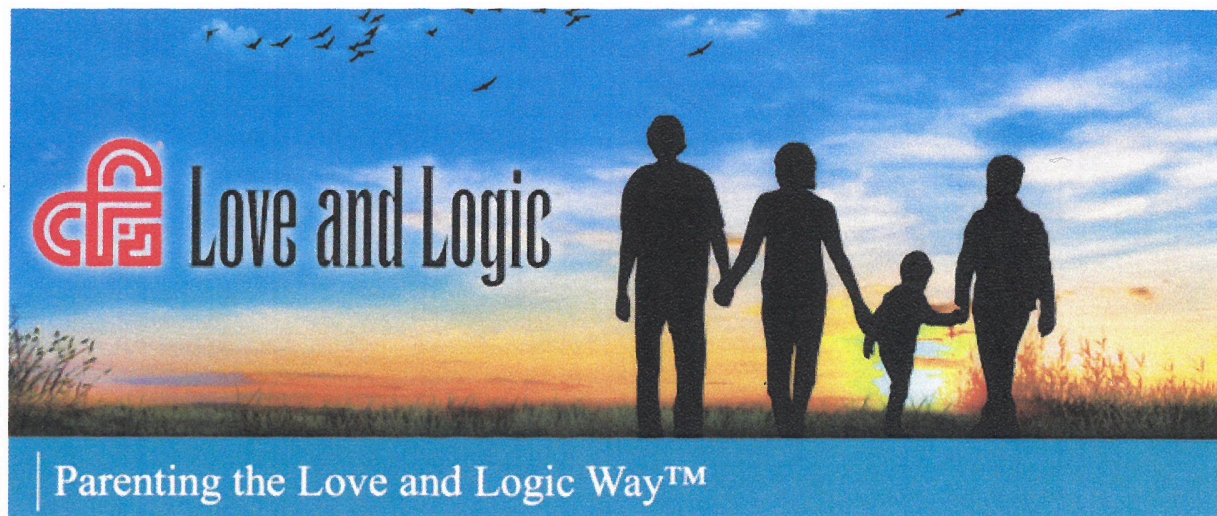
**RECEIVE UP-TO-DATE
NOTIFICATIONS**

NEWS FROM NURSE JOAN

Greetings Ptarmigan families!



The temperature outside is dropping and we can see the snow on the mountains. Parents, please start preparing for the upcoming colder winter months by making sure your student(s) have appropriate cold weather gear. Students should be coming to school with a winter coat, snow pants, snow boots, hat, and gloves. Per ASD policy, students will be going outside during the winter months even when temperatures drop to -10 below, per the Principal's discretion. Our students will be going outside for both recess and PE, so please prepare accordingly. The nurse does not have enough winter gear to loan out for students.



Hosted by: Anchorage School District, Title I

Led by Love and Logic

Trained Facilitator

Meg'n Gall

Dates: Every Thursday (10/6,10/13,10/20,10/27,11/3,11/10)

Time: 5:00-7:00 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

***** *This is a class series.* Registration is for all six weeks.

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.