

Principal's Corner

Dear Taku Families,

The light is returning, and great things are happening at Taku. Please find a couple of important updates below. Thank You Parents and Guardians! We appreciate you. You are always welcome at Taku. Please call or email if I can help or support your student in any way.

Congrats to our attendance HEROES! Cade, Cyrus, Andy, Cano, Nathan, Jeremiah, Isabella, Viviana, Kayden, Zoey, Lincoln, Alexander, Macie, Mercedes, Rebecca Joe, and Mamaitaloa. They were in school on time every day for one full week and earned a cool reward. We will announce our next group of winners next Monday. We will also provide a free large pizza to families who improve their attendance the most each month! Thanks for being here on time every day. We understand that Covid is impacting some of our families. If your student is sick, they should stay home; otherwise, we need them in school every day. Thank you.



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- **Family Skate Night**, February 10, 6-7:30pm - see the flyer below for details.
- **Parent Teacher Conferences** on Feb 16 & 17: 1-7pm
 - Use this LINK to sign up for a conference: [Schedule Conference](#)
- Please complete our **School Climate Survey**. Your feedback is really important. We use your ideas to help us set goals and improve our school. Thank you.
- **Strive for 8:45 Drop Off** - Thank you for getting your student to school on time. Students who are late miss important reading and math lessons.
- Facts about **Attendance** (from [Attendance Works](#))
 - Did you know that students with strong attendance have more opportunities later in life and make more money as adults? Students who miss more than 2 days of school per month are much more likely to drop out. If you are having a hard time getting your student to school on time, please call or email. We are here to help. We understand this can sometimes be really hard.
- **Taku Title 1 Goals**
 - **Goal #1: Improve attendance and reduce the number of students with chronic absences**
 - **Goal #2: Improve on time arrival and reduce the number of late arrivals**
 - **Goal #3: Increase reading proficiency by 5% at all grade levels.**
 - **Goal #4: 70% of all students will feel that others care about them or feel there is a positive peer climate at school. This is measured by the school climate survey in February.**

Do you know your student's grades? Is your student missing work? Parents can check their student's grades and work at any time using Q Parent Connect.

Login into [Q Parent Connect](#)

- [Reset your parent password](#) - use this link to reset your password if needed

If you need assistance, please call the office and we can help you to get access.

I am proud to serve our Taku community. Please call or email anytime if you have questions, concerns, or celebrations.

All the best, Chris
Chris Opitz, principal



COME ONE, COME ALL -



to Taku Elementary School Family Skate Night!
Thursday, February 10, 2022, from 6-7:30 pm

Join us for a free night of fun

- a great skate (ice skates provided),
- a cup of hot chocolate or coffee,
- a slice of pizza,
- a spectacular school community celebration, and
- an opportunity to take an active role in the life of our school.



Skate Night is brought to you courtesy of Taku's fabulous PTA and Family Engagement Team. Throughout the school year, our PTA also provides students, families, and staff **a super fun Jog-a-thon and Read-a-Thon; a delicious Texas Roadhouse fundraising evening; science, art, and music family nights; field trips (buses included); a 100s Day celebration; annual yearbooks and school pictures; author and other special visits; book fairs; classroom supplies; event awards; appreciation weeks; and Field Day/End-of-Year Picnic.**

Please help! We can't provide these cherished items without you, our Taku parents and teachers. We really need you right now more than ever. Please join our PTA team to help ensure these events continue to enrich our students' lives.

See you at Skate Night! You can sign up to join PTA while there!



Taku Specialist News

February 2022

Library



In February, we're exploring the world of nonfiction. There's so much to discover! Wishing all our Taku families continued winter joy and a lovely Valentine's Day.

Ms. Johnson



PE



Healthy Futures Logs:

- February Healthy futures logs will be coming home and are due on March 1st.

Gym Shoes:

- Reminder: your student needs a clean, non-marking pair of gym shoes to leave at school for PE class.
- Thank you, Mrs. Washington



Music



Hello Taku families! In music class K-1 students have been exploring rhythms, instruments, and movement to music. 2-5 students have been challenging themselves to create music using many elements of music. 6th grade students in Mrs. Phillips class will be ending their Ukulele unit and moving onto some other instruments. Ms. M



Art

Our kindergarteners, 1st graders, 5th graders and 5th graders worked on their clay in January. They have so many creative ideas and I love seeing their work.

All of this clay means I'll be sending breakable things home soon. If you have extra bubble wrap from holiday gifts, please send it to the art room!

Thank you!

--Ms. Feucht

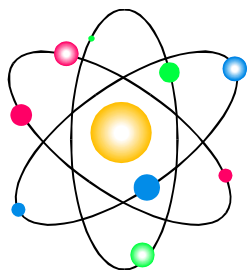
Health

In Health class, we will be discussing Human Growth and Development in 5th and 6th grade, taking care of our wonderful bodies, emotions - what they are and how to handle them.

Be safe, Be kind!

Katrina Rhodes





TAKU SCIENCE FAIR TIMELINE OF EVENTS For Intermediate Projects



Jan. 7 –31

Explore and look for projects. Decide on a demonstration, research project or an experiment. Discuss your ideas with parents, friends, and teachers. Check the library for books with ideas. Identify your control and the variables you are changing in your experiment, or plan what you want to study and demonstrate. Make sure you can get the materials and equipment, and have enough time to complete the experiment or demonstration by Monday, Feb. 28th.

Mr. Harvill will visit classrooms to discuss the science fair, types of displays and the experimental method.

Feb. 1-4

Write out your hypothesis. Identify your control and the variables that will change. Gather the necessary materials and begin your project. Keep a daily journal. Visit the library. Look for information and take notes. Draw a picture of your exhibit as you picture it in your mind. Share ideas with someone you respect. Find more resources.

Feb.7 - Feb. 11

Continue researching. Continue keeping a journal: notes, measurements and changes that occur in your experiment. If you are doing a demonstration you need to build your project and label all parts. Write a report or description of your project. Tell what you learned.

Feb. 14 – Feb. 18

Begin construction of your display for an experiment or demonstration. Organize and plan your layout on poster board.

Feb. 21 –Feb. 25

Complete your project. Check for unfinished parts, misspelled words, and confusing phrases. Practice an interview. Be able to answer how, when, where, why, what, and other questions about your project. Be sure you can identify your control and variables if you did an experiment.

Mon., Feb. 28

Deliver projects to school. This is the only day projects will be accepted.

Tues., March 1

Judging Day

Wed., March 2

**Classroom viewings. Open House for public viewing 3:00-3:30
Take displays home.**

Girls on the Run is back this year at Taku!! This is a great opportunity for girls 3rd - 6th grade to meet other students, develop healthy habits and confidence. Don't like running? That's ok! All activity levels are welcome!

Practice will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:45 - 5:15 in the gym starting February 28th.

Registration opens on February 1st and closes at 8pm on February 15th. Go to: <http://gotrsouthcentralak.org/> to learn more and register online! Students are selected via lottery and winners will be notified the week of the 21st. Scholarships are available as well to help cover registration costs.

Questions? Please contact one of the following for more information:

Nurse Beckett: beckett_laura@asdk12.org
Julia Erickson, MSW, Taku Counselor - 742-9179
Ms. Brown: brown_cathleen@asdk12.org





From Nurse Beckett:

If you are cleaning out your child's closet, please consider donating your clothing to Taku! We can always use pants, shirts, and winter clothes. We are especially in need of sizes 4-8 tops and pants as well as underwear and socks (must be new in package). Your donations are much appreciated! Thank you!



Join Us for Taku Spirit Week!
Great KINDNESS Week - Jan 31st – Feb 4th

MONDAY

Color: **Wear ORANGE!**

Daily Challenge: **Say “Thank you” to 5 people**

TUESDAY

Color: **Wear GREEN!**

Daily Challenge: **Help a classmate or teacher**

WEDNESDAY

Color: **Wear YELLOW!**

Daily Challenge: **Share 1 positive thing about your day with someone**

THURSDAY

Color: **Wear RED!**

Daily Challenge: **Do something kind for someone**

FRIDAY

Color: **Wear BLUE!**

Daily Challenge: **Pass a KIND NOTE to someone**



BEGINS WITH ME



February 2022

2/8 - PTA Meeting 5:30 p.m.

2/10 - Family Skate Night 6-7:30 p.m.

2/16 -2/17- Parent /Teacher conferences, **Half days (dismissal at 12:30 pm)**

2/18 - **No school for students**, (Professional Development day for staff)

2/21 – **No school** (Presidents Day Holiday)

March 2022

3/4 - **No school** (State released grade reporting day)

3/7-3/11 – **No school** (Spring Break)



**Thank you to Travis and Lynn Mills
for your recent donation of hand
warmers, batteries, and cases of
water. We appreciate your
generosity!**

A poem by Ms. Joy

F for the **FUN** we have at Taku

E so we're here **EVERY** day

B for the **BEST** work we strive to do

R we're **RESPONSIBLE** and safe

U because **UR** a tiger so cool

A for your hard work **ALWAYS**

R for **RESPECT** we show in our school

Y because **YOU** make our day!