

Happy Greetings Parents and Guardians,

As the crisp February air paints our landscape with frosty mornings and the promise of spring just around the corner, I believe it's the perfect time to embrace the spirit of "growth." February, after all, isn't just about celebrating Valentine's Day. It's a month brimming with opportunities for learning, exploration, and personal development for our students, staff, and our entire school community.

Blooming with Inspiration: In our classrooms, this "grow month" spirit translates into exciting projects and initiatives. Our students will be planting the seeds of curiosity, nurturing empathy through acts of kindness, and exploring the vibrant world around them. With Valentine's just around the corner, please know that your child's teacher may choose to recognize Valentine during the school day. A kindly reminder that this recognition or celebration will not include students bringing in snacks/treats from outside of the District for other students and will take place through non-food practices. We are encouraging Valentine's card exchange without any snacks/treats/candies attached to the card and provided to each student in the class. Thank you for your help with this!

Celebrating Achievements: Our Second Semester Parent/Teacher Conferences (PTC) allows us to share your student's progress and celebrate their learning. We look forward to seeing you on one of the following days:

- Thursday, February 8th from 3:30-7:15 PM
- Tuesday, February 13th from 3:30-6:45 PM

Growing Together: Of course, growth isn't just about students. As educators and school administrators, we're committed to our own professional development, constantly seeking new ways to adapt, innovate, and provide the best possible learning environment for your children. We believe in open communication and collaboration, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, suggestions, or feedback.

So, let's embrace the spirit of February as a month of unfolding potential, blossoming curiosity, and nurturing a love for learning. Whether it's cheering on our students' endeavors, engaging with school initiatives, or simply fostering a growth mindset at home, together, we can make this February a season of remarkable and inspiring development for all.

With warm regards,

MaiKou Heu, Principal



Important Dates

February 7-13- Scholastic Book Fair

February 8- Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:15 PM

February 13- Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-6:45 PM

February 19- No School

February 28- Porridge Play Performance 1:30- 3:00 PM and 7:00- 8:30 PM

February 29- Porridge Play Performance 9:00-10:30 AM and 7:00-8:30 PM

This month in Phy. Ed.

This month the K/2 students are getting back into our Opposition unit. This time they will be working on their overhand throwing skills. During this unit the students will be working on their throwing accuracy and recalling the cues of "T, L, Step, Throw." With the weather warming up, it would be great for them to find opportunities to work on their throwing skills outside of school.

The 3/6 students are finishing up with their Striking unit and will begin their Net/Wall unit. This unit they will explore offensive and defensive strategies and positioning during games such as Volleyball and Pickleball. Towards the end of this month, we will be ramping up the excitement in preparation for our Gymnastics unit in March.

-Mr. Weinzetl

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE: Screen Time and Your Child

"Screen Time" refers to activities that are done in front of a digital screen, such as watching television, playing a video game or using an iPad or smartphone. Most American children spend between 5-7 hours a day on screens, with 3 of those being watching television. Experts recommend that screen time be limited to 1-2 hours per day. We understand that playing outside in cold temperatures can be more work, but with the proper clothing/attire, student's health can be improved by playing outside in the winter months. The fresh air, full body movements, and sunshine help to boost immunity during cold/flu season.

Too much screen time has been linked to many negative health outcomes, including:

- Difficulty sleeping
- · Poor attention span, anxiety and depression
- · Behavioral problems and aggression
- Obesity and cardiovascular problems

The widespread prevalence of screens and our increasingly digital culture makes it difficult for parents to control the amount of screen time their children have. Here are a few tips for reducing screen time:

- Limit your own screen time. Children learn by observation. Model this behavior yourself!
- Prioritize homework, chores, (non-digital) socialization and free play.
- Set limited viewing times and remove devices and TV's from bedrooms.
- Turn off screens during dinner, bedtime and homework.
- Don't leave the TV on in the background.
- Give consequences for violating rules.

Teaching Appropriate Behavior and Online Literacy: Eliminating all digital media may not be possible, but you can talk with your child about appropriate online behavior. Explain what's allowed and what's not, such as cyberbullying, sending/receiving inappropriate photos and sharing personal information online. Teach your child not to send or share anything online that he or she would not want everyone to see. Be sure that you are monitoring everything your child is doing online. Teach your child that not everything they see on the internet is accurate. Show them how to tell which websites are credible and while are not. Managing screen time will be a constant challenge, but setting limits while children are young can help them learn a healthy balance as they grow.



Reminders

Parents, please remember it is your responsibility to notify the school and teachers that your child is absent by 9:00 am. Call the office at (920) 852-5505 and email your child's teacher to let them know your child will be absent and why. If your child rides the bus, contact Lamers at (920) 832-8800 to let them know they will not be riding the bus.

If you did not report your child's absence, you will receive a robocall in the morning or in the afternoon reminding you to call the school. If we do not receive a call or email from you, your child will be marked as unexcused

Please email Mrs. Hughes at hugheskylie@aasd.k12.wi.us or Mrs. Lowry at lowrybrenda@aasd.k12.wi.us to let her know your child was absent and why.



BLACK HISTORY & CULTURE CELEBRATION NIGHT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 FROM 12-3 PM AT APPLETON YMCA Student's name ______

How many will attend? ______

Parent's email ______

Phone Number ______

SOUL FOOD LUNCH FROM COZZY CORNER

Alyssa Buchmiller, Johnston YMCA Site Coordinator,

abuchmiller@ymcafoxcities.org

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator,
and Inclusion

tomorikikelomo@aasd.k12.wi.us

TO REGISTER, COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT TO YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHER, THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR VIA THE ABOVE EMAIL ADDRESSES. SPOTS ARE LIMITED. REGISTRATION CLOSES FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

Safety Patrol

Week of February 5 - 9

Jackson G* James T
Rex H* Rhyland S

Jacob H

Week of February 12 - 16

Peyton G* Cambria M*
Cooper G Emma M
Seeley H Hallie W

Week of February 19 - 23

Emma E* Kai S

Allie J* Calleigh W
Ethan S Alexander W

Week of February 26 - March 1

Nathan V* Hallie W*
Kongolo K Isabella M



You're Invited!

You are invited to our upcoming Black History Month event. Please register promptly using the flyers that have been sent home with the youngest and only child. Registration deadline is February 16th. Spots are limited. Note that the venue is the downtown YMCA. Thank you!

Kike Tomori, DEI Coordinator and Alyssa Buchmiller, Johnston Y Care Coordinator



Hygiene Drive!

Hygiene Drive Kicks Off February 12! We are proud to share that this year we have district-wide participation in the annual Fox Cities "Help for the Homeless" hygiene drive organized through The Family Radio Network! All of our schools will be collecting NEW hygiene and cleaning items from February 12th to February 28th. Please send your donations to school with your student, or stop by to drop them off in the Help for the Homeless collection box located at your child's school by Wednesday, February 28th. Donations received at our AASD collection sites are used within our AASD school community to stock our Basic Needs Care Closet for students/families in need. These donations are also the primary source of hygiene products provided to students and families experiencing homelessness. Our AASD homeless support program provides services and support to over 500 families each school year. Our school district collection efforts also contribute to the greater Fox Valley area crisis agencies. The most frequently needed items are laundry detergent, hand soap, dish soap, shampoo/conditioner (especially children's products), cleaning supplies, toilet paper, and deodorant. *Financial donations can also be made (cash, checks made out to "The Family" with "Help for the HomelessAASD" written in the memo line or online Help For The Homeless-The Family The goal of the drive is to supply a year's worth of products to each AASD school site and our district homeless support program. Thank you in advance for your generosity. When a family is experiencing homelessness and in survival mode, a kind helping hand means the world to them. Giving a family in crisis a Care Package with diapers, bath and shower supplies, toothpaste and toothbrushes, laundry soap, and toilet paper can allow them to feel supported and able to take care of their families needs. Sometimes parents struggle with the feeling that there is "no one to help us" and having a Care Closet in our school district allows me to help in a tangible, immediate way. Watching little kids' eyes light up having their own new toothbrush and fun bath soap and knowing their mom can wash their clothes for school at the laundromat reflects how much this community project impacts the lives of families in crisis.

- Molly McGregor, Homeless Liaison, Appleton Area School District





Feb. 12-Feb. 28

Help stock the shelves of your school's care closet!

Most Needed Items

Bathroom Tissue Cleaning Supplies **Dental Care** Deodorant

Face/Bath Soap **Feminine Care** Hair Care

Diapers/Baby Care Laundry Detergent **Paper Towels** Razors Trash Bags

Donations remain in the community where collected!

"Children attending school without worry about feeling dirty means they can put more focus into learning and just being a kid."

Local school district social worker

Thanks to our sponsors and event partners! Details at thefamily.net or 800-236-9364





Mustang Meeting Dates

Johnston Elementary Student Council





MEETING DATES

All meetings will begin at 7:40 AM in Mrs. LaBorde's room.

The meeting will be the third Friday of each month.

Friday, November 17th Friday, December 15th Friday, January 19th Friday, February 16th Friday, March 15th Friday, April 19st

Contact Us!

2725 E Forest St Appleton, WI 54915

Phone: 920-852-5505

Email: lowrybrenda@aasd.k12.wi.us hugheskylie@aasd.k12.wi.us

Website: https://johnston.aasd.k12.wi.us/

Play-Doh Sale!

Our Playdoh Fidget Sale will be February 5th - 13th with a booth sale on February 14th.

They are \$1.25 each

Delivery will take place on February 14th, Valentine's Day!

Community Opportunities for Students

The AASD shares local, community opportunities for students. These community opportunities include upcoming events and activities such as art and music camps, youth athletics, cultural events, enrichment programs, and more. We encourage AASD families to regularly review these opportunities for students of all ages.

Check out the <u>AASD COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS</u>

<u>WEBPAGE</u> for a current list of opportunities for students.

https://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/families/community_opportunities_for_students

Speak up, Speak Out

If you think there is a threat to you, a friend, your school, or the community, don't wait. SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT with an anonymous tip that can bring much needed help. Students, parents, school staff, or any community member can submit a school safety concern or threat via a website, mobile phone application, or toll-free number.

Copy the Link below for info or to report something:

https://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/families/bullying__pbis/bully__incident_reporting_

What Should I Wear to Recess?





