

Altoona Elementary School

# February

Newsletter



Dear Altoona Elementary Families,

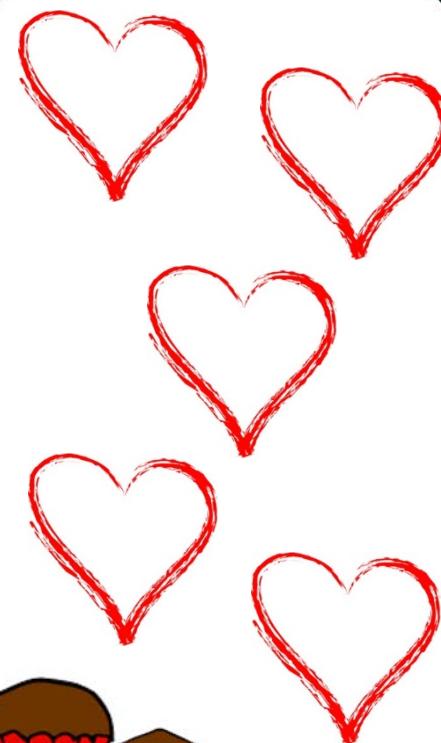
During the month of January, we assessed students in a number of different ways to measure progress and determine report card grades. They have grown so much since the beginning of the year. We are so proud of them!

Report cards will be coming home on February 6th in your child's folder. More information will be shared at P/T Conferences including:

- Written feedback on your child's behavior related to school core values (responsible, respectful, safe)
- Information on your child's academic performance which will include a Guided Reading and unit progress update
- FASTbridge and SAEBRS results

If you have any questions about your child's progress, please contact your child's teacher.

*Tara Betlach*  
Altoona Elementary Principal



Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming this month.

Go through your Family Access account to sign up!

## Important Dates

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Feb. 11 | Elem. PTO Meeting 4:00 p.m.               |
| Feb. 25 | Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30 p.m. |
| Feb. 27 | Early Release 11:30                       |
| Feb. 27 | Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:45-7:30 p.m. |
| Feb. 28 | No School                                 |

# NEWS FROM KINDERGARTEN



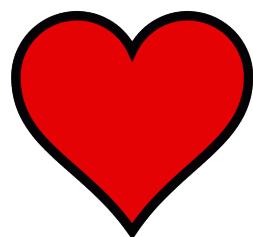
This has been quite a busy month coming back from break. All Kindergartners have been working hard to practice the expected rules and routines at school. Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful are our AES Core Values. To get ready for report cards and conferences, teachers are all working with your children filling out assessments and seeing their progress. Your child is learning so much! Talking about growth mindset with your children and celebrating their successes have been really rewarding for us all.

Kindergarteners have started a nonfiction unit investigating polar bears and penguins. Our objectives are for children (with prompting and support) to ask and answer questions, gather and record information, find connections, and draw/write about key details we learn about. There has been so much to learn about these polar animals. We are also learning about combining, removing, comparing, and finding the total number of objects.

2020 is off to a great start!



# NEWS FROM 1ST GRADE



First graders have been learning all about different types of communities. Each week the students read books and listened to facts about urban, suburban, and rural areas. We compared different cities to Altoona and what makes our hometown special. As a fun way to show what they learned, the students got to make art projects to represent each type of community.





# NEWS FROM 2ND GRADE

2nd Graders have been busy learning about life in the ocean. During our language workshop we have read and discussed many different books about the ocean. Not only are they learning about specific creatures that live in the ocean, they are also learning about the effects of greenhouse gasses and pollution to our waters and the habitants of the waters.



For writer's workshop the students each just finished researching an ocean creature. They looked for facts on their creature's body, habitat, food, life cycle and even fun or other facts. The information was found in books and on websites. The students will be using the information to write a report on their sea creature. They look forward to sharing all the information they have gathered.



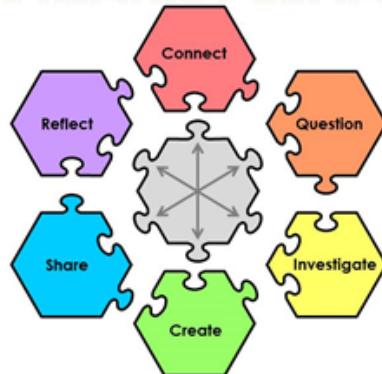
# NEWS FROM 3RD GRADE

## 3rd Graders are Thinking Like Scientists!

Third graders have been learning how to think like scientists! Third graders have been researching a variety of dinosaurs and scientific topics. As they research, students use the inquiry process to ask questions, search for answers, identify topics of interest, create, and share what they have learned. It's been a lot of fun seeing the kids get so excited about learning! Students have made posters, websites, Google Slides, brochures, tri-fold posters, and newspapers to share their learning.

In science, students are studying animals through time. Students explored the idea that the rocks under our feet sometimes contain fossils, and investigated how these fossils reveal changes in the habitat through time. In the Fossil Dig activity, students used paper to create a model fossil dig. They identified traits of fossils to determine what the habitat looked like when the organisms were alive.

### THE INQUIRY PROCESS



### WHAT DO THESE DINOSAURS EAT?

To find out, compare the teeth.

Which skull has pointy teeth for grabbing an animal?

Look at the back teeth. Which skull has flat teeth for chewing?

Which skull has a beak that could cut through grass or leaves?

- A     B
- A     B
- A     B



SKULL A

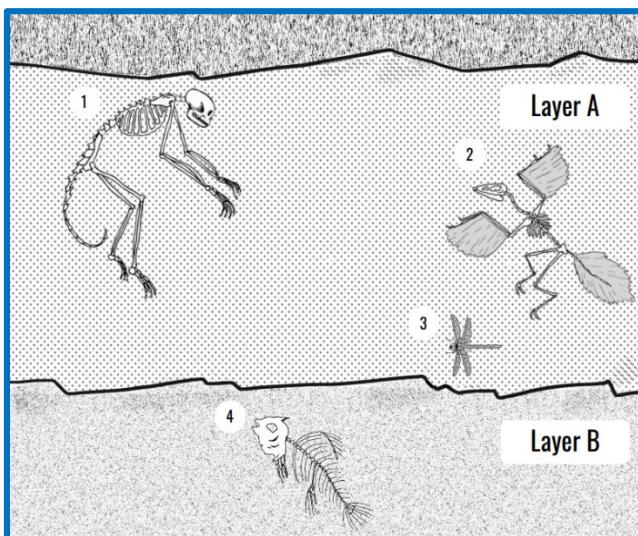
What does this dinosaur eat?  
 Plants     Meat/Fish



SKULL B

What does this dinosaur eat?  
 Plants     Meat/Fish

CLOSEUP OF BACK TEETH



The Box Tops program has gone digital. Have you signed up for the Box Tops App yet? You can download it through your app store on your phone. From now until February 28, when you scan your receipt, you are entering for a chance to win \$5,000 for our school, and \$50 for yourself! Having trouble scanning your receipt? I do sometimes, saying there is no date. If you scan your receipt in sections (top and bottom, or more if it's huge), this works for me. Don't forget, as long as there are paper Box Tops please continue to turn them in. I can mail them until they are expired. Thanks so much for your efforts!

Ms. Scullion  
Box Tops Coordinator



## News from Music

2nd graders had a blast at Folk Dance Night. Thank you to all of the families who attended!

### Upcoming dates

March 19th, 6-7pm:  
Kindergarten Specials Night  
April 30th, 12:30pm and 2pm:  
1st and 3rd Grade Programs.

## News from PE

Hello from the AES physical education department. We are continuing with our skills-based PE curriculum. Students in 2nd and 3rd grade have begun learning the skills of volleying and dribbling with hands and have been playing some fun group games that help facilitate the development of these skills. Students in Kindergarten and 1st grade have also begun exploring the skills of volleying and dribbling along with refining their movement language skills. We encourage you to ask your child/children what they are learning each day in PE. As we make our way through these winter months we encourage you to continue to find time to engage in 60 minutes of play per day with your children. Whether it is going for a walk, sledding, or building a snowman, movement and play is extremely beneficial in a child's proper development. We look forward to continuing to assist your children in becoming physically literate individuals.



## 4K REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!



Dear Parents:

You are invited to participate in ***the Altoona School District 4K Program***, our collaborative, community-based four year old kindergarten program, for the 2020-2021 school year. ***Altoona 4K*** is an enriched, play-based program designed to prepare your child for their educational career. We provide an enriched curriculum that provides school readiness skills and school expectations. We know that our children learn best through play and provide age appropriate activities in cognitive and pre-math skills, social-emotional, adaptive, literacy and language, and motor development. Our 4K program is a half day program (morning and afternoon options) that runs Monday-Thursday. It's a program designed for all children who live in the Altoona School District and who will be four years old by September 1, 2020. Four year old children who have been accepted for open enrollment will also be eligible to participate. The Altoona School District 4K program is provided at no cost. Transportation options are available.

The 2020-2021 ***Altoona 4K*** program is offered at five community sites:

**Little Star Daycare, 2245 Hayden Avenue**

**Western Dairyland Head Start/Altoona Early Education Center, 1314 North Hillcrest Parkway**

**St. Mary's Elementary School, 1828 Lynn Avenue**

**The Little School House of Altoona, 2328 North Hillcrest Parkway**

**Little Minds Matter, 3085 Meadowlark Lane**

A brief description of our 4K site options is provided on the website.

4K Enrollment is completed online. Please visit our website at [www.altoona.k12.wi.us](http://www.altoona.k12.wi.us) to complete the necessary paperwork. If you do not have access to a computer, we will have some available at the elementary school.

In addition to enrolling online, we require the following forms:

- Original Birth Certificate (we verify the information and return it to you)
- Proof of Residency – (mortgage documents or utility bill with your name and address on it)
- Immunization form (only required if your child received their vaccinations from a different state)
- Other important documents if applicable (IEP, court documentation, etc.)

Please bring the above listed forms to the Altoona Elementary School Office, located at 157 Bartlett Avenue, between the hours of 7:30 A.M. and 3:30 P.M., before Friday, May 31, to complete the enrollment process.

We encourage you to take advantage of ***Altoona 4K***. If you have questions, please contact Laura Trachsel, Altoona 4K Coordinator, at: [ltrachsel@altoona.k12.wi.us](mailto:ltrachsel@altoona.k12.wi.us). Please pass this information on to others who may not have received it. We want all Altoona families with four year olds to be aware of this exciting opportunity!

Sincerely,

*Laura Trachsel*

Laura Trachsel, Altoona 4K Coordinator



The R.A.I.L. program is offered by the Altoona School District for incoming **Kindergarten through 8th grade** students. Children that live within the Altoona School District's limits, or are currently open enrolled, are eligible to participate.

We have a RAIL K-4 program held at Altoona Elementary **and** a RAIL 5-8 program held at Altoona Middle School.

**RAIL K-4 and RAIL 5-8** will run two sessions, **Session 1**, June 15-June 25 and **Session 2**, July 6-July 23, Monday through Thursday from 8:30-1:00 p.m.

**\*Please note that this year's program runs Monday through Thursday.**

There is no charge for Altoona School District students to attend RAIL however, donations for class supplies are accepted and appreciated. Checks can be made out to the Altoona School District and dropped off at the Altoona Elementary office.

Class offerings, descriptions and registration directions will be available on the Altoona School District website beginning April 6th for RAILK-4 and April 7<sup>th</sup> for RAIL5-8. The registration deadline for session 1 is Friday, May 29th (or when classes are full). The deadline for session 2 is Thursday, June 18th.

## **REGISTER EARLY! CLASSES FILL UP QUICKLY!**

We reserve the right to change course offerings, teachers, or cancel the program based on enrollment.

Grade is based on the upcoming school year.

Age requirements are set to benefit the children and make instruction appropriate.



# Altoona Elementary Lunch Menu

February  
2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 Pasta with Meat Sauce Bread Stick	4 French Toast Sticks Blueberries	5 Crispy Chicken Tenders Corn Whole Grain Dinner Roll	6 Homemade Cheese Pizza Caesar Side Salad	7 Roasted Hot Dog on a Whole Grain Bun Golden French Fries
Popcorn Chicken Bread Stick	Cheeseburger on a Bun with Pickles Blueberries	Mini Corn Dogs Corn	Fish Nuggets Whole Grain Dinner Roll Caesar Side Salad	Breaded Chicken Sandwich on a Whole Grain Bun Golden French Fries
Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	***Birthday Cake*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar
10 Pizza Dippers Marinara Sauce Garden Salad	11 Pancakes Sausage Patty Hashbrown	12 Pizza Munchable with Cheese, Sauce and Pepperoni Steamed Vegetables	13 Oven Roasted Chicken Golden French Fries Breadstick	14 <b>Valentine's Day</b> Walking Taco Blood Oranges
Pretzel Bites w/Cheese Cubes Garden Salad	Corn Dog Hashbrown	Cheeseburger on a Bun Steamed Vegetables	Mini Corn Dogs Golden French Fries	Heart Shaped Tenders Whole Grain Dinner Roll Blood Oranges
Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	***Valentine's Day Treat*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar
17 <b>Kindness Week</b> Homemade French Bread Pizza Caesar Side Salad	18 Waffles Scrambled Egg Fresh Pineapple	19 Beefy Nachos with Cheese Sauce Garden Salad	20 <b>National Muffin Day</b> Roasted Hot Dog on a Whole Grain Bun Kettle Potato Chips	21 Cheesy Italian Flatbread Marinara Sauce
Cheeseburger on a Bun Caesar Side Salad	Soft Baked Pretzel with Cheese Sauce Fresh Pineapple	Crispy Chicken Nuggets Garden Salad Whole Grain Dinner Roll	Crispy Fish Sticks Kettle Potato Chips Whole Grain Dinner Roll	Yogurt Pack with String Cheese, Bagel & Cream Cheese
Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	***Blueberry Muffin*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar	***Ice Cream Cup*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar
24 Crispy Chicken Nuggets Tomato Soup Whole Grain Dinner Roll	25 Roast Turkey Mashed Potatoes Whole Grain Dinner Roll	26 Pancakes Sausage Patty Hashbrown	27 <b>Early Release Day</b> Grab and Go Lunch  Deli Ham and Cheese Sandwich Baby Carrots Cheetos Puffs Chocolate Chip Cookie	28 No School - Have a Great Weekend
Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup	Cheeseburger on a Bun Mashed Potatoes	Mini Corn Dogs Hashbrown		
Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar	Fruit and Vegetable Bar		
Students who qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch also qualify for Free and Reduced Breakfast				 <a href="http://ChooseMyPlate.gov">ChooseMyPlate.gov</a>

## INFORMATION

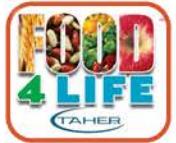
Regular	\$2.70
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult	\$3.85
Milk	\$0.50

## EXTRA INFO

Milk choice of 1% White or Chocolate is included with lunch.  
For questions or comments, contact Bernie Allen at 715-839-6056 or email [ballen@altoona.k12.wi.us](mailto:ballen@altoona.k12.wi.us).



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# Books in the Park

## WHEN?

June 25<sup>th</sup>  
July 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
August 6<sup>th</sup>

## WHERE?

10<sup>th</sup> Street Park,  
Altoona

## WHY?

### DID YOU KNOW...

When kids read over the summer they are more likely to leap ahead when they return to school? This is often called the “summer leap,” and our school has made it a priority to keep our students’ skills sharp by encouraging them to read all summer long!

Please join us at Books in the Park to receive a **FREE** book each visit!

A free hot dog lunch will be provided from 11:30-12:30 by Feed a Child Nyre You

