

Altoona Elementary School

January

Newsletter



Dear Altoona Elementary Families,

We are almost half way through the school year. It is going so quickly! It seems like yesterday when the students arrived for their first day of school back in September.

The first semester ends January 23rd. This means that teachers will be working on completing report cards to share the progress your child has made. Please be on the lookout for your child's report card, in their school folder, after February 4th. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

Stay warm and take care!

Tara Betlach
Altoona Elementary
Principal



Happy New Year!



Important Dates

- Jan. 2 School Resumes
- Jan. 14 Elem. PTO Meeting 4:00 p.m.
- Jan. 16 2nd Grade Folk Dance Night 6-7 p.m.
- Jan. 23 Early Release 11:30 a.m.
End of 1st Semester
- Jan. 24 No School

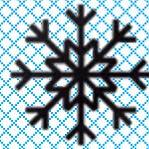




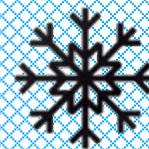
FORT DAY!



WINTER FUN OUTSIDE!



FLAMENCO FANS
IN SPANISH CLASS!



WINNER CHOSEN
BY THE STUDENTS

DOOR CONTEST FINALISTS





4K NEWS

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 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. 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

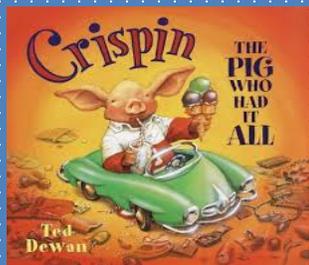




KINDERGARTEN NEWS



We started this month reading about the Three Little Pigs and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. This FICTION unit focuses on characters/setting and how to retell a story using “beginning” “middle” and “end”. Then we read a variety of different Gingerbread stories. We again named the characters, setting, ending and “refrain” (the part that repeats) for each book. Lastly we end this unit with the story of Crispin the Pig Who Had It All. This story is very appropriate for this time of year as Crispin learns that when you have friends you don’t really need toys. We also taught the difference between NEEDS and WANTS. Kindergarten wishes you a happy holiday season!





First Grade News



In first grade, the students have been learning about story elements through fairy tales. The students have been identifying the characters, setting, beginning, middle, and ending of the stories. They have also been identifying the important lesson each fairy tale teaches us. The students have heard Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Chicken Little, Henney Penney, Three Billy Goats Gruff, and Little Red Hen.



During the past week, the students have been practicing a part for our upcoming readers theatre presentations on fairy tales. The students are working on phrasing, fluency, and reading with expression. The first graders are making headbands and settings for the background of their readers theatre. They are very excited to present for their first grade families this week!



In writing, students have been listening to gingerbread stories and are working on their own version of a gingerbread story. They are including the fairy tale story elements learned in reading. The students made their own traveling geo-gingerbread person so it can travel to different cities, states, or countries. We are already getting in pictures of gingerbread people traveling to different cities and states! It is fun for first graders to look at maps to find the places their gingerbread person has traveled to. First graders will end December with making gingerbread houses with their families!

Aloha Again, Christmas in Hawaii is different than we have in Wisconsin. The weather here is warm enough to go outside with bare feet! I went to the Honolulu City Hall today to see the holiday decorations. Every year in downtown Honolulu there are lights and decorations like this Hawaiian Santa and Mrs. Santa. Santa is doing the "shaka" sign with his hand which means he's happy.

Email from Alec's friend, Jeri



NEWS FROM SECOND GRADE



FABLES

Stories that teach a lesson or moral & have animals that talk and act like humans



Our second graders have been learning about fables. We learned that a fable is a story that teaches a moral or lesson and often times has animals that act like people. Students have been practicing identifying the characters who are tricksters and fools as well as the moral of each fable.

MORAL

A moral is a lesson about life that a fable teaches.
The moral can usually be found at the end of the story.



TRICKSTER

A character in the story who tries to out-smart the other characters



FOOL

A character in the story the trickster tries to out-smart by being unkind



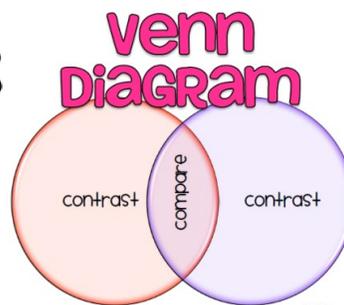
They have listened to several fables including "The Town Mouse and Country Mouse," "The Fox and the Crow," "The Enormous Carrot," "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" and "The Tortoise and the Hare." After hearing two versions of the same tale, students have worked on comparing and contrasting two different versions of the same fable using a Venn Diagram.

COMPARE

how are they alike?



- shell
- legs
- eyes
- live in ocean and on land



CONTRAST

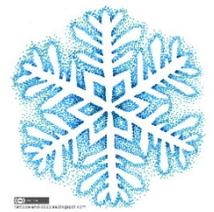
how are they different?



- color
- size
- crabs have claws
- turtles keep the same shell



3RD GRADE NEWS



Language Arts

In third grade we are working on our new unit on Realistic Fiction. We are working with the book series "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day." We are learning a variety of story elements to compare and contrast differences in stories by the same author. We are also building our higher comprehension skills by analyzing the author's craft in a story and summarizing the stories that we read.

In writing, we are building background knowledge in text dependent analysis where we are practicing restating questions to help us analyze texts and answer questions with complete thoughts.

Social Studies Update

In Social Studies, we are beginning our study on the Regions of the United States. We will be exploring the five main regions and learning about important attributes about each region. We will also be taking a closer look at the Midwest and discover what makes Wisconsin a part of this region. We will be working with maps and using our research skills to explore throughout this unit. We also were a part of the Greatness Presentation presented by the Altoona High School football team. We learned so much and will carry on greatness every day.



Third Grade Holiday Celebrations and Traditions

Third graders have been working on the all school kindness challenge throughout the month of December. They have been showing compassion and know the true meaning of the giving season. Each class has been involved in fun and unique activities to spread holiday cheer which include a variety of holiday stories, fun crafts, and our first annual door decorating contest.



NEWS FROM OUR SPECIALS

MUSIC

Kindergarten just started a brand new set of songs so you should be hearing a whole new set of tunes at home!

1st and 3rd graders have been learning about *The Nutcracker Ballet*. We have been using the parachute and the stretchy band to move to 'the March' and we are adding instruments to 'Trepak.'

2nd grade is preparing for their Folk Dance Night on Jan. 16th. Parents, remember to come ready to dance and learn something new!

If you have any questions please email me at edrayton@altoona.k12.wi.us.



PHY ED

Hello from the AES physical education department. The second and third graders have been working on locomotor movements using long jump ropes, practicing balance and weight transfer skills by using the traverse climbing wall, and doing different balance challenges. Next they will be learning and practicing dribbling with their hands and volleying by participating in individual practice tasks as well as group games that facilitate their skill

development. The kindergarteners and first graders have been learning how to toss, roll, and catch. Next they will be learning various forms of striking including with hands, foam paddles, and rackets. We look forward to continuing to assist your children in becoming physically literate individuals.

ART

The students have all been very busy this past month making presents for their families, so we can't share any photos of those yet!

The staff always admire the students' projects, so this month they had their turn to make their own art. They met together and had so much fun glazing their own plates.





Altoona Elementary Lunch Menu

January
2020



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>ChooseMyPlate.gov</p>		<p>1 Happy New Year!</p>	<p>2 Cheesy Italian Flatbread with Dipping Sauce Caesar Side Salad Whole Grain Corn Dog Caesar Side Salad Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>3 Pasta with Meat Sauce Breadstick Crispy Chicken Nuggets Breadstick ***Cookie*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>
<p>6 French Toast Sticks Strawberries Cheeseburger on a Bun with Pickles Strawberries Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>7 Crispy Chicken Tenders Corn Whole Grain Dinner Roll Mini Corn Dogs Corn Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>8 Homemade Cheese Pizza Caesar Side Salad Fish Nuggets Whole Grain Dinner Roll Caesar Side Salad ***Birthday Cake*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>9 Roasted Hot Dog on a Whole Grain Bun Golden French Fries Breaded Chicken Sandwich on a Whole Grain Bun Golden French Fries Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>10 Beefy Nachos with Cheese Sauce Garden Salad Creamy Macaroni and Cheese Garden Salad Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>
<p>13 Pancakes Scrambled Eggs Hashbrown Corn Dog Hashbrown Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>14 Pizza Munchable with Cheese, Sauce and Pepperoni Steamed Vegetables Cheeseburger on a Bun Steamed Vegetables Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>15 Oven Roasted Chicken Baked Potato Breadstick Mini Corn Dogs Baked Potato Breadstick Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>16 Soft Shell Beef Tacos Garden Salad Crispy Chicken Nuggets Whole Grain Dinner Roll Garden Salad ***Chocolate Chip Cookie*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>17 Homemade French Bread Pizza Caesar Side Salad Yogurt Pack with String Cheese, Bagel & Cream Cheese Caesar Side Salad Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>
<p>20 Belgian Waffle Sticks Fresh Pineapple Pretzel Bites with Cheese Fresh Pineapple Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>21 Homemade Pepperoni Pizza Garden Salad Crispy Chicken Tenders Garden Salad Whole Grain Dinner Roll Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>22 Roasted Hot Dog on a Whole Grain Bun Kettle Potato Chips Crispy Fish Sticks Kettle Potato Chips Whole Grain Dinner Roll Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>23 Early Release Day Grab and Go Lunch Deli Turkey and Cheese Sandwich Baby Carrots Apple Fruit Snacks</p>	<p>24 No School Have a Great Weekend</p>
<p>27 ***Around the World in 80 Trays*** --America All American Burger Golden French Fries Crispy Chicken Nuggets Golden French Fries Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>28 --Asia Chicken Bites with Sweet and Sour Sauce Rice Corn Dog Garden Salad ***Fortune Cookie*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>29 --Germany Roasted Brat on a Bun Kettle Potato Chips Pancakes Sausage Patty Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>30 --Italy Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Caesar Side Salad Cheesy Italian Flatbread Caesar Side Salad ***Chocolate Brownie*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p>31 --Mexico Crispy Hard Shell Tacos Tortilla Chips Hot Dog on a Whole Grain Bun Tortilla Chips Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>

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

EXTRA INFO

Milk choice of 1% White or Chocolate Skim is included with lunch.

For questions or comments, contact Bernie Allen at 715-839-8058 or email ballen@altoona.k12.wi.us.



Your **MENUS** plus more information on our app
TaHer Food4Life®