



Altoona Intermediate School

Altoona, Wisconsin



May 2023 Newsletter

Hello AIS Families! We are closing the books on a FANTASTIC school year with your child(ren) and are ready to make the next step in the educational journey. We encourage you to take the important time to reflect with your child(ren) on the growth they have made this past year, both academically and socially. At times, it can be a bit natural for children at this age level to focus on the negative, but we appreciate you being a consistent beacon of optimism for your child. Over the summer months, we sincerely appreciate your efforts to maintain an environment for your child that upholds high expectations and a healthy amount of routine. This intentionality on your part creates a very smooth transition for students when they transition back into the school building!



As I'm writing this, we still have four days of school left, but I wanted to provide you with our most up to date data regarding school attendance, academics, and behavior. AIS currently has only 27 students (9.64% of the student body) who have an attendance rate below 90%. This was GREAT growth from back in the winter when we were at a mark of 44 students (15.8% of the student body). When students are IN our building, they grow and thrive as scholars and as young men and women!

ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW



From an academic lens, students completed their last round of Fastbridge testing a few weeks ago. As a building, AIS met our Math achievement goal, but did not meet our ELA achievement goal. A reminder of our AIS building goal pertaining to ELA: *We will increase reading comprehension among students in grades 4-5 as measured*

by percentage of students proficient (65th percentile or higher) on Fast aReading from 35.3% to 38.3%, as well as in Math: We will increase math skills among students in grades 4-5 as measured by percentage of students proficient (65th percentile or higher) on Fast aMath from 34.4% to 37.4%. For ELA, we finished our Fastbridge testing with 31.79% of our students at or above the 65th percentile nationally. For Math, we finished our Fastbridge testing with 43.64% of our students at or above the 65th percentile nationally. From a scaled score standpoint, the average growth from Fall to Spring for a student at AIS was 9.52 points in ELA and 6.46 points in Math. We will continue to set rigorous goals so our students make AT LEAST a year's growth in both ELA and Math each school year! Mr. Rundquist and Mr. Zuiker will be meeting briefly with EACH student at AIS to affirm them of their growth on these exams.

Finally, from a student behavior standpoint, 79% of students at AIS received 1 or less Skyward behavior write up for the entirety of the school year. As a school, one of our building goals was to decrease the use of exclusionary practices in response to behavior and increase the use of our restorative practices. With four days left of the school year, AIS has only had to use an exclusionary practice 22 times. Our goal for the year was to go from 33 to 32, so we are well on the way to achieving that goal!

For families of current 4th-grade students, you should be able to see who your child's 5th-grade teacher is in early July. If you are having trouble accessing this information through Skyward Family Access, please feel free to reach out to our main office and we can help troubleshoot it!

Lastly, please make a note on your calendar that our school district Welcome Back Day will be on Wednesday, August 30th from 12:00-5:00. More information on this day will be coming your way this summer!

Thank you for your partnership with AIS! Our school thrives when we have strong support from our families and community. I will always finish my insert portion of the newsletter with the same statement I read to students as I close the morning announcements:

We are so proud of you at AIS. We are here to help guide you through struggle and celebrate your wins with you. Every single one of you plays an important role at AIS, YOU ALL MATTER to our school community. Just in case someone didn't tell you they love you today, you matter, you belong, and you are LOVED at AIS! Have a FANTASTIC day everyone!

Best,

Cale Zuiker

Altoona Intermediate School Principal

czuiker@altoona.k12.wi.us

**WELCOME
BACK**



5th graders were able to spend time at the Marieke Gouda Farm in Thorp, Wisconsin, because Fuel Up To Play 60 received a grant. Students have been working on their immigration unit in ELA about people from their country bringing something of theirs to America. Marieke brought us Gouda Cheese, from The Netherlands. Since Marieke Gouda is also an entrepreneur, this ties into the Shark Tank Unit 5th graders have been learning about. Marieke makes more than 2,500 blocks of Gouda cheese per day. The longest cheese that has been sitting in the aging room was 3 years old. Their newest blocks of cheese are 2-4 months old. Marieke started as a small business where she took orders from people and served them through her home window. Marike owns exactly 400 dairy cows on her farm in Thorp, WI. The students learned that the calves are kept in small, plastic, white barns outside of the area where the adult cows stay. Students were able to meet the calves and interact with them. When the students first got to the farm, they took a tour around the places that helped to make the cheese. Once all of the students were done with the tour they could go buy souvenirs at the convenience store they had. They were able to buy some of the Gouda Cheese that was produced there, and many more items at the shop, including ice-cream.

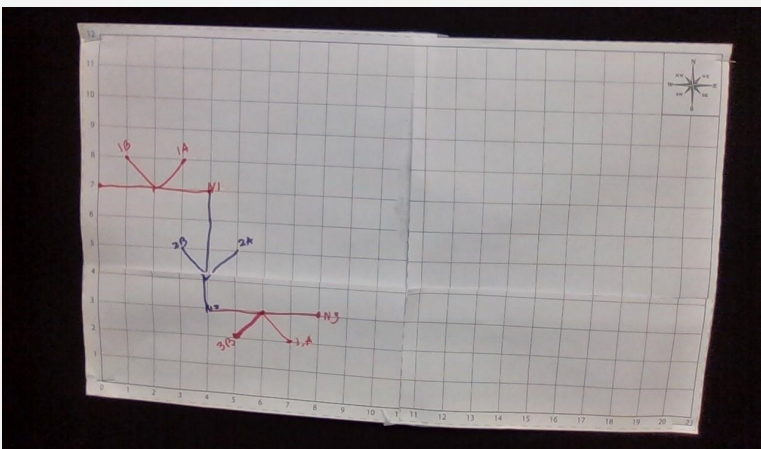
By Eloina Trejo and Elice Larson



AIS Monthly News Letter

By Raymond Lazar-Webster

All of 5th grade has recently been working on many things in math. We have been working on division and multiplication related to fractions. An example is the Fraction Splat game where you and your partner go for a higher or lower score to win. On the other hand, we are doing some interesting games in Number Corner like Mumford Mole and Two Quarts or Spill. For Two Quarts or Spill, we spin a wheel and whatever it lands on, you add that much liquid to the pitcher.





SHARK TANK

During our ELA and Social Studies units the 5th graders became entrepreneurs. This also tied into our Junior Achievement lessons. We each created a product that we hoped would make it into the Shark Tank. To start off the unit, we practiced filling out the application questions on different products that aired on the real show, Shark Tank. Some of the questions were “What is this product made out of?” and “Is there already a patent out for the product you are creating?” This project required teamwork or if you were alone, independence. If you or your group made it into the Shark Tank, you had to present in front of the “Community Sharks.” After you presented, the sharks asked some questions about your project and if you had any problems while creating your product. In conclusion this project was super fun, but also made you think like an inventor.



By: Adalynn Biederman

What are 4th Graders up to?

Our Field Trip to the Chippewa Valley Museum

By Jayce, Braxton, Declan, and Steele

Our field trip experience was amazing! We learned about lumbering, farming, and old schools in the Chippewa Valley.

We learned a lot about old schools. For example, through all the lessons, the 8th graders had to go through 1st grade lessons and 1st graders had to go through the 8th grade lessons. They had to walk at least a mile to get to school. You also only have one classmate in the same grade as you. Your teacher might be as old as you.



This is our class inside and outside of the school house.

We also learned about logging. Lumberjacks had to sleep on wood. The chef had to wake up really early and cook the food. The lumberjacks had to eat all of their food for breakfast and if they didn't finish their food from breakfast, they had to eat it at dinner.

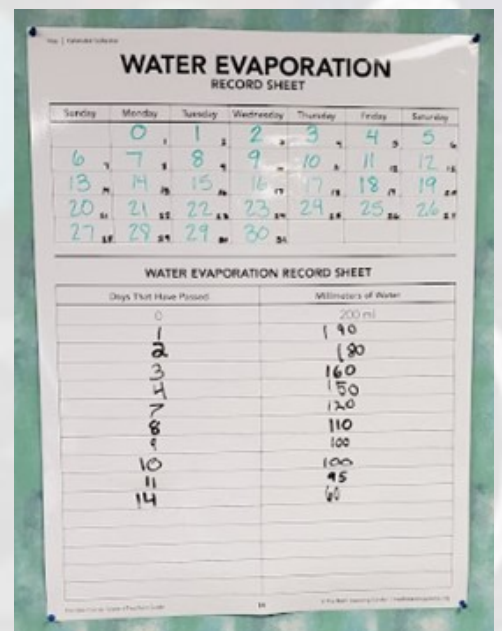
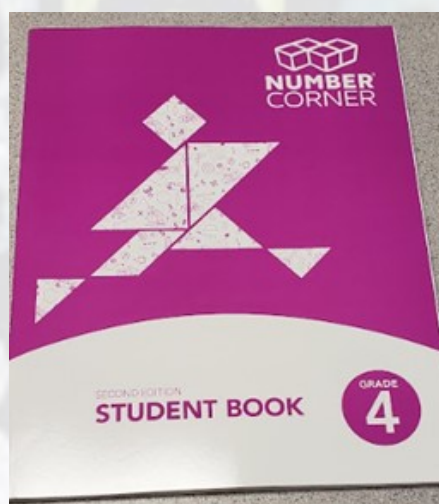
We learned about farming too. You had to wake up really early to milk the cows. They didn't have many other machines so they either had to buy machines or had to use bare tools. They had to wash their clothes using washboards.

Check out this link for a virtual tour of the museum! https://posthousevideo.com/20-11%20CVM_MobileVT2/

May Number Corner

By: Norah, Tahlia and Hadilee

Number corner is a great way to learn. In our class students get to rotate each day to do each job. The jobs are to flip over a card and make predictions about what the next card is going to be. There are pieces of a shape on the cards and the shapes will make an object. In the May number corner you get to learn about water evaporation that is another job for students. You get to make a line graph to measure the amount of water that has dropped each day. Students also get to record it and predict when the water will run out.



You're invited to the 2nd annual

Lake Altoona

FISH WITH A COP

Where: **Lake Front Park**

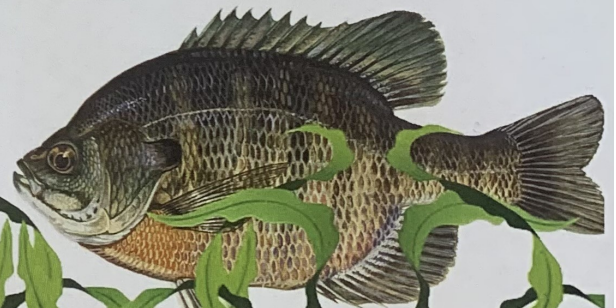
When: **June 3rd**

Time: **12 PM – 2 PM**

Questions? Contact Sgt. Henning
(715) 839-6090 or jhenning@altoona-wi.gov



Come join the cops for some fun fishing! Bring your own pole and gear and get ready to catch a big one! This event is open to all Altoona students.





COLOR RUN 2023

