



IRISH PRIDE PRESS

December 2023 Newsletter

View newsletters at www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us

Principal's Corner

It is hard to believe this is our December newsletter already. Congratulations to the students, parents, and staff on the excellent 2023 State Report Card. Freedom Elementary School received a "4-Star Exceed Expectations" rating. We appreciate our partnership with our families to provide each child with an excellent education. Please take a moment to enjoy the energy and excitement that comes along with the hectic month of December. This will be a busy month at FES. Please look closely at the attached calendar for various activities, concerts, and special days. Please view flyer for FES 12-day countdown to the Christmas break. On behalf of the staff, Happy Holidays!

Important dates:

- Dec. 4-8
Food Drive
- Dec. 11
No School
- Dec. 18
4K Holiday Program 12:30
Gym
- Dec. 19
4K Holiday Program 12:30
KDG Holiday Program 1:30
Gym
- Dec. 25-Jan. 1
No School
- Jan. 2, 2024
School Resumes

We are a **NUT FREE** School. **NO** Homemade or Store/Bakery Bought Goods



Cold Weather/Blackboard Connect 5 Call Out

Dress for the weather! Outside activity and fresh air are vital to the health of our children. Students will be going outside for all recess times. Students need to be reminded to wear the warm clothing parents send with them.

Blackboard Connect 5 Call Out will notify you of school delays or cancellations due to inclement weather, and emergency situations. School cancellations will be listed on all local TV stations. Please do not call the school office, listen to your TV. Please make sure your information is current.



Holiday Break

The Holiday Break for Freedom Elementary School is scheduled for **December 25 to January 1**. The office will be closed. School resumes on Tuesday, January 2. You may contact the District Office at 920-788-7944 for any questions.

Freedom Elementary Employment Opportunities

We are **HIRING**. Join our team. We are looking for a Kitchen/Cafeteria Worker at Freedom Elementary School. This is a school year position Monday-Friday, 4-5 hours per day with varied shifts. If you are a team orientated person and enjoy a fast-paced atmosphere, apply in person at the District Office or on Indeed. We are looking for: *substitute paraprofessional aides to work during the school day.

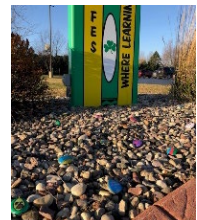
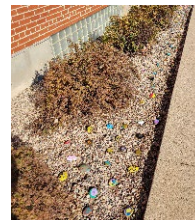
* **substitute playground workers**. The hours are 10:00-1:30 Monday-Thursday and 11:00-1:00 on Friday.

If you are interested, please contact the elementary school at 920-788-7950.

Girls on the Run

The Girls on the Run team at Freedom Elementary had their Celebration 5K last weekend and did a fantastic job! This year for their community service project they decided to help Mrs. VanderHeiden and Mrs. Hayes, our school guidance counselors. Mrs. VanderHeiden and Mrs. Hayes did a project with all of the students at FES where they painted Kindness Rocks. Girls on the Run helped out by arranging the rocks in the school landscape and clear coating them all. This was a great season for Girls on the Run! Information for Girls on the Run for next year will come out in May.

Thanks to our coaches this year: Mr. McManus, Mrs. Franke, Ms. Vanderloop, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Vosters, Mrs. Vandehey, and Mrs. Thews.



School Medication Reminders:

1. Students cannot bring to school or take home **any** medications. Parents/guardians must drop off and pick up medications.
2. A medication form (available online or in the office) must be filled out by the parent/ guardian and physician (if prescription) in order for the nurse to give the medication.
3. All medications must be brought in their original container. If it is a prescription the label must be on the medication.



Taste Test Tuesday

The foodservice department is excited to announce “**Taste Test Tuesday**”. Periodically (on a Tuesday) we will have students sample something new that we may put on the menu.

During lunch we will provide a small portion of an entrée we may not have had on the menu to try if they like. We will then ask the kids whether they liked it, “happy face” ☺ or not so much, “frowny face” ☹. This will help us determine if the item would be put on the menu.

Freedom Elementary Food Pantry Drive

Freedom Elementary School will be collecting canned goods and household needs for the Freedom Food Pantry. This will take place from December 4 - 8. The pantry has plenty of spaghetti noodles, peanut butter, canned vegetables and macaroni and cheese. However, we are asking for donations as follows:

4K:	Canned Chicken, boxed Jello or Gelatin	Grade 4:	Cereal, boxed scalloped potatoes, ramen noodles
Kindergarten:	Juice, boxed Au Gratin Potatoes, ramen noodles	Grade 5:	Cereal, canned chicken, boxed noodle dinners
Grade 1:	Boxed noodle dinners, cereal	Staff:	Baby diapers, wet wipes, baby toiletries
Grade 2:	Deodorant, applesauce, crackers	All 4K-5:	Canned fruit, spaghetti, ravioli, boxed Jello or gelatin, ketchup, mayo, mustard, jelly (NO glass), cookies, crackers, ramen noodles, cereal
Grade 3:	Cereal, cookies, crackers		

NO GLASS BOTTLES PLEASE



Freedom Athletic Association Summer Sports Registration Open

Baseball, Softball & Soccer

Registration open from 11/14/23 through 12/31/23

**\$40 late fee added to registrations received after 1/1/24

<https://freedomathletics.sportngin.com/register/form/843750908>



Youth Wrestling Registration Information

The 2023-24 Wrestling Season is quickly approaching! Whether you are just starting out or have been wrestling for a while, join us this year and experience what it means to be a wrestler. We offer practices for all ages, from K through 5th Grade. Check out our flyers for practice times and days for each age level and register today at the link provided.

We invite you to our parent meeting on **December 18th at 6:30pm in the Freedom High School Lecture Hall**. This is located near the Green Gym, across the lobby from the main entrance. We will discuss any needs for the season and provide more information about Freedom Wrestling and our philosophy. **If you are unable to make it in person, a live stream will be available through the Freedom Irish Wrestling Facebook page.** Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity!

[Welcome | 2023-24 Wrestling Season | Freedom Wrestling \(sportngin.com\)](#)

For questions, call Mason Manteuffel at 920-843-0987 or email mmanteuffel3273@gmail.com

For questions, call Jason Pettitt at 920-850-7074 or email jpettitt@1call2build.com

Student Council News

Elections for Student Council were held in early November for 4th and 5th grade students. The new Student Council Executive Board is made up of Brecken, President; Jewel, Vice President; Tytan, Treasurer; and Olive, Secretary.

After much discussion and deliberation, Class Representatives were chosen. The representatives from 4th grade are Harper, Finley, Cooper and Riley. The alternate will be Mariah. The representatives from 5th grade are Pria, Lucas, Noah and Hannah. The alternate will be Payton.

Congratulations to all of these students and a big thank you to everyone that filled out an application. We had over 30 applicants. WOW! We appreciate your interest and hope that everyone will apply for Student Council again next year.



These are the Student Council Representatives for the 2023-2024 school year.

PAC (Parent Activity Committee) News

UNCLE MIKE'S KRINGLE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who supported our first Kringle Fundraiser. We sold 280 Kringle Coupons and raised \$1,330 for the PAC! We hope you all enjoy delicious Kringle.

SPIRIT WEAR

Thank you for everyone who purchased items for our Spirit Wear for our FLASH SALE! You will be able to pick up your items at Kenny Rose Boutique - N 4006 County Rd E Suite 2B, Freedom, WI 54130. You will receive an email when your items are ready for pick up.

COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

Thank you for supporting the Cookie Dough Fundraiser sale – we met and exceeded our \$12,000 goal, raising over \$13,278.50 for the PAC! We had 168 students participate and Mariah was the winner of the drawing. Congratulations to Ms. Kurkiewicz's class for winning the highest sales and most participation! Her class will receive an extra recess and popsicles.

12 DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS BREAK

On December 21st, Candy Cane Day, the PAC will be giving students a special treat! You guessed it, candy canes!

SHOUT OUTS

Thank you for sending in Shout Outs last quarter! We received 56 shout outs for 35 teachers and staff. You can now submit new shout outs for this quarter. There is no limit to amount you can send in. Please use the following link to send a Shout Out to a staff member that is doing an amazing job. <https://forms.gle/XLuigAABYt8Drjmc7>

STOCK THE LOUNGE – First Grade

Thank you to all Kindergarten parents who helped us stock the lounge! The FES Staff really enjoyed all the snacks and drinks you provided! For the month December, we are asking all First Grade parents to please consider dropping off snacks/drinks to help us stock the lounge for FES staff! Each month we will be asking a different grade to help with this.

Just a reminder that snacks need to be "nut free". We hope to get a mixture of healthy and sweet/salty treats. Ideas for drinks: flavor or carbonated water, Bubbl'r, soda, etc.

BUZZ'S PAC NIGHT

Did you know, on the 3rd Monday of each month is PAC night at Buzz's. On these nights, head to Buzz's with the family for a great meal and they will donate a portion of food sales to the PAC.

NEXT MEETING

There is NO PAC MEETING in December. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 15th at 5:30 PM in the FES Staff Lounge. Babysitting will be provided by National Honor Students.

WE'RE SOCIAL!

"Like" us on Facebook at Freedom Elementary P.A.C. (Parent Activity Committee)!





Congratulations

**FREEDOM
ELEMENTARY**

4-Star Rating
**Exceeding Expectations
on the State Report Card!**





Freedom Elementary School's 12 Days Before Christmas Break

December 6	Rudolph Red Day- Wear Red
December 7	Whoville Day- Crazy hair
December 8	Mad About Plaid- Wear your favorite flannel shirt/pants
December 12	Frosty Day- Wear blue and white day
December 13	Stocking Day Wear your favorite Holiday socks
December 14	Long Winter's Nap- Wear your PJs or Onesies
December 15	Ugly Sweater Friday Wear an ugly (or cute) Christmas sweater
December 18	Holiday Cheer- Give out compliments
December 19	Holiday Best- Wear your best holiday outfit
December 20	100% Grinch Day- Wear green or your favorite Grinch shirt
December 21	Candy Cane Day- PAC will provide candy canes Wear red and white
December 22	Santa's Workshop

1 Have conversations before, during, and after reading together

These activities are typically appropriate for children in kindergarten through third grade.

Having conversations when reading with children helps them develop higher-level thinking and language skills, such as predicting, problem solving, or contrasting. While reading books aloud, ask the child questions and talk about the content of the story together before, during, and after reading.

- Use open-ended questions to ask the child to think about the book's messages and what is happening. See the box below for examples of questions to ask children when reading different types of books.
- Ask the child to apply the book's messages to the world around him by connecting events to his own life.
- Ask more and more complex questions, so the child continues to build her vocabulary and language skills.

Example questions for informational books

that explain facts about the world, such as books about animals

■ Why do birds fly south for winter?



■ What would happen if you planted a tree in the desert?

■ Why is it important to recycle?



Example questions for narrative books

that are about a series of events, whether fictional or nonfictional, such as stories



- Why did the character do what he did?
- What else could she have done?
- If you were in that story, what would you have done?

What skills will this practice help build?

Having conversations about what they are reading helps children build vocabulary and develop skills using language typically found in school settings. Building their skills to think and connect ideas from many contexts allows children to follow more complex language, which they might find in stories, instructions, and descriptions of historical events or nature.

Freedom Elementary School Food Pantry Drive

December 1, 2023

Freedom Elementary School will be collecting canned goods and household needs for the Freedom Food Pantry. They are currently assisting over 90 families. This will take place from December 4 - 8. The pantry has plenty of tuna, canned veggies, and Mac & Cheese. However, we are asking for donations as follows:

4K:	Canned chicken, boxed Jello or gelatin
Kindergarten:	Juice, boxed au gratin potatoes, ramen noodles
Grade 1:	Boxed noodle dinners, cereal
Grade 2:	Deodorant, applesauce, crackers
Grade 3:	Cereal, cookies, crackers
Grade 4:	Cereal, boxed scalloped potatoes, ramen noodles
Grade 5:	Cereal, canned chicken, boxed noodle dinners
Staff:	Baby diapers, wet wipes, baby toiletries

All 4K-5: Canned fruit, spaghetti, ravioli, boxed Jello or gelatin, ketchup, mayo, mustard, jelly (no glass), cookies, crackers, ramen noodles, cereal
NO GLASS BOTTLES PLEASE

We will be collecting from **December 4 - 8**. Please **DO NOT** send glass bottles or expired items. Students should bring the items to the lobby before school. If you have any questions, please call the school office at 788-7950.



Thank you and we wish you an enjoyable season with your family.



DON'T FORGET

FASD Indian Parent Committee Meetings

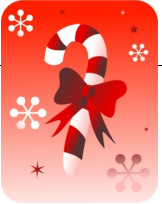


Monday, January 15th, 2024 at 5:45pm
in the FHS library

Monday, March 18th, 2024 at 5:30pm
at the Oneida Museum

Any questions please contact Dana Osowski (920)788-7950

December 2023

Freedom Elementary School Student Calendar


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Irish Pride Day	2
3	4 Food Drive December 4-8	5 Gr. 4 & 5 B.O.B Meeting during lunch	6 Rudolph Red Day Wear red	7 Whoville Day Crazy hair	8 Mad About Plaid Wear favorite flannel Shirt/pants	9
10	11 No School Staff Inservice	12 Frosty Day Wear blue and white	13 Stocking Day Wear Holiday Socks	14 Long Winter's Nap Wear pjs or onesies	15 Ugly Sweater Friday Wear ugly or cute Christmas Sweater	16 Wisconsin Herd Game 7:00 pm 
17	18 Holiday Cheer-give compliments 4K Holiday Program 12:30	19 Holiday Best Outfit 4K Holiday Program 12:30 Kindergarten Holiday Program 1:30 Gr. 4 & 5 B.O.B. Meet.	20 Grinch Day Wear green or favorite Grinch shirt HS Jazz Band Assembly	21 Candy Cane Day Wear red and white PAC providing Candy Canes	22 Santa's Workshop Wear Santa or Elf hat	23
24 	25 No School Winter Break	26 No School Winter Break	27 No School Winter Break	28 No School Winter Break	29 No School Winter Break	30
31 	Monday, January 1, 2024 No School	Tuesday, January 2, 2024 Classes resume				

Freedom Elementary School Menu

December 2023

USDA is an equal opportunity
provider & employer

*menu subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Student Lunch K4-1 \$2.55 Student Lunch Gr 2-5 \$2.65 Adult Lunch \$4.35 Milk \$0.30		1 Mini Corn Dogs w/TaterTots Sreamed Broccoli Mandarin Oranges Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
4 Brunch for Lunch Pancakes & Sausage Vegetable Banana Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	5 Chicken Patty Sandwich with JUMBO Fries Green Beans Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	6 Hot Ham & Cheese or Turkey & Cheese w/Smiles Peas & Carrots Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Cookie	7 Sloppy Joe or BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich Baked Beans Corn Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	8 BBQ Rib Patty Or Rib Patty w/Mashed Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
11 No School	12 Nacho Meat over Tostadas Spanish Rice Corn Pears Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	13 Hamburger w/French Fries Baked Beans Mixed Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Birthday Cake	14 Chicken Tenders w/Curly Fries Carrot Coins Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	15 Pizza Boat Lettuce Salad California Blend Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
18 Beef Taco w/Spanish Rice Corn Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	19 Chicken Nuggets with French Fries Green Beans Orange Slices Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Taste Test Tuesday	20 Holiday Turkey Dinner Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	21 Spaghetti w/Meatballs w/Breadstick Lettuce Salad Pears Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	22 Popcorn Chicken w/Rice Carrot Coins Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
25 No School	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29 No School