



IRISH PRIDE PRESS

April 2023 Newsletter

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

Important dates:

- April 7
No School
Spring Break
- April 14
Summer School
registration ends
- April 17-21
National Tornado
Week
- April 20
Tornado Drill
Practice
- April 23-29
National Library
Week
- April 25
Grade 2 & 3
Concert HS 6:00
Fieldhouse

Continue to save
**Box Tops for
Education**

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



Principal's Corner

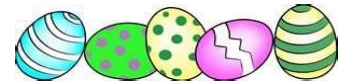
We had our first District Spring Break scheduled for March 24-28. We hope you enjoyed your time off of school with your family making some memories. As a reminder as we move into April, there will still be days where our students may still need his/her coats, hats, boots, and mittens. Please continue to send them after break.

We have a few events starting and continuing in April. Kids for Running program for 3, 4, and 5 runs on Tuesday/Thursdays after school. We have the 2nd and 3rd grade Spring Concert on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 @ 6 pm.

We started state testing at the elementary school the week of March 20. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be taking the Forward Assessment. Grade level testing schedules should be sent home with students. We will complete state testing by the end of April.

Please note that on April 7, we do not have school for Easter break.

SAVE THE DATES: PAC will be hosting the second annual Family Night on May 17 @ 4pm-7pm outside behind the school. Students in K-5 will participate in our annual FES Field Day on May 26 during the day. Fifth grade promotion at FES on May 31, 2023 @ 1:15 pm. More information will be coming on all of these events in the May newsletter.



Congratulations, Mrs. Linsmeyer!

Congratulations to Mrs. Stephanie Linsmeyer! She was recognized at the Wisconsin Herd game for Golden Apple Teacher Appreciation Night on March 17. This was Herd's Fourth Annual event to honor the "AMAZING" educators in the Fox Valley. We are proud to have Mrs. Linsmeyer represent Freedom Elementary School.



National Library Week--April 23-29

The theme for National Library Week 2023, "There's More To The Story." Libraries are full of stories in a variety of formats from picture books to large print, audiobooks to ebooks, and more. But there's so much more to the story.



Tornado Awareness Week

The statewide tornado drill is on **Thursday, April 20**. See the enclosed Tornado and Tornado Safety Checklist. The National Weather Service and the Wisconsin Emergency Management sponsor this weather event.

Summer School Registration ends April 14, 2023

Summer school registration opened on March 23 and it closes at 8:00am on Friday, April 14. Final payments for courses must be made by Friday, April 21.

All course booklets can be found on our district website. Please note, your child will be required to attend the course(s) they sign up for. Students won't be allowed to switch courses once summer school is in session.



Battle of the Books

Freedom Elementary School is excited to share that we had over 40 participants in this year's Battle of the Books. Battle of the Books is a statewide reading competition where students read 20 books of various genres. Battle of the Books (BOB) was open to all students in 4th and 5th grade at Freedom Elementary. This rigorous reading program required students to delve deeply into their books, see connections, and retain a wealth of information. During the final competition, students answered questions pertaining to all 20 of the books they read. The top four finalists, Hadley M, Kian A, Isaac B, and Payton P, competed in the statewide competition on February 23. These finalists took 32nd place in the competition. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments.

Clothes donations needed

We are in need of boys size 5T and 6T joggers and sweatpants and boys 5T and 6T underwear. We do not need jeans, tops or sweatshirts. Thank you.



PAC (Parent Activity Committee) News

We will be having a Tom's Night Out on April 18. Look for more information to come. Thank you for continuing to support PAC by going to Buzz's the 3rd Monday of each month. PAC receives a percentage of sales from these nights.

We had a very successful Artist in Residence in March. The kids learned so much and it was a wonderful cultural experience. The pinch pots will be coming home in a few weeks. We will be hosting another Artist in Residence the 1st two full weeks of May. We will need your help! Please look for a volunteer sheet coming home soon.

Save the date! May 17 from 4-7 PAC will be hosting a Family Fun Night! We are making plans for food trucks, DJ, trucks, face painting, tattoos, inflatable obstacle courses, side walk chalk, and lots of fun! Look for upcoming info on opportunities to help, come to the April meeting or contact us if you know of a business who would want to be a sponsor for this fun night. We all want our kids to have a great night, so help us make it happen!

We love your Bake Off creations! We hope this was a fun bonding experience for your family. We will post the winners and a slideshow of the participants on our Facebook page.

Later this month students will receive a shamrock to fill for staff members they think "rock". Have your child decorate, cut out and send back by April 25. You can send in as many as you want. This will be part of the Teacher/Staff appreciation week in early May. More information on this week to come.

Thank you for continuing to send in Shout Outs. The staff love the positive words. You can send them in using the following link: <https://forms.gle/2ZMhjwFML4dFKHKK7>

Visit our website at www.freedompac.org for meeting agendas and minutes. "Like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Freedom-Elementary-Parent-Activity-Committee-PAC-137066709700223/>

The April PAC meeting has been moved to Monday, **April 17 at 5:30 PM** in the staff break room. We would love to have your join us and share your ideas!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Erin Lenhardt at freedompac1@gmail.com





Make books special

Turn reading into something special. Take your kids to the library, help them get their own library card, read with them, and buy them books as gifts. Have a favorite place for books in your home or, even better, put books everywhere.

Do storytelling on the go

Take turns adding to a story the two of you make up while riding in a car or bus. Try making the story funny or spooky.

Picture This!

During your next outing or gathering, take action-packed photos, then have your child create captions to go with each picture. Assemble the pictures and captions in a picture book or album, and add speech and thought bubbles to create a personalized - and probably hysterical - graphic novel.

Write, write, write!

Ask your child to help you write out the grocery list, a thank you note to Grandma, or to keep a journal of special things that happen at home. When writing, encourage your child to use the letter and sound patterns he is learning at school.

Don't leave home without it

Bring along a book or magazine any time your child has to wait or travel, such as at a doctor's office or a family trip/vacation in a car/plane. Always try to fit in reading!

One more time with feeling

When your child has sounded out an unfamiliar word, have him or her re-read that sentence. Often kids are so busy figuring out a word they lose the meaning of what they've just read.

Pick books that are at the right level

Children feel confident and competent when they read books that are "just right." But how do you find a "just right" book? Have your child read the back and front cover, and first page of the book. If there are more than five words that he cannot pronounce or understand in context, the book may be too challenging. Be supportive about finding a more perfect fit. The aim is to give your child lots of successful reading experiences.

Labels of Love

Word recognition and vocabulary are important parts of reading. On a rainy day, get some paper and tape and start labeling everything in your home -- from furniture to small knick-knacks. Reading these labels repeatedly will build your child's mental word bank. If your family is bilingual, create labels in both languages.

Once is not enough

Encourage your child to re-read favorite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly. It promotes fluency, allows for them to see and correct their own errors/mistakes while reading and increases the accuracy of reading independently.

Talk, talk, talk!

Talk with your child every day about school and things going on around the house. Sprinkle some interesting words into the conversation, and build on words you've talked about in the past.

Stop and Discuss

Stop your child periodically as he or she is reading to ask about the pictures, what your child has read/learned so far, and what your child predicts will happen as he or she continues to read.

Be patient

When your child is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, give him or her time to do so. Remind the child to look closely at the first letter or letters of the word and any parts your child may know.

Dig deeper into the story

Ask your child questions about the story you've just read. Say something like, "Why do you think _____ did that?"

Play word games

Have your child sound out the word as you change it- for example: from mat to fat to sat; from sat to sag to sap; and from sap to sip.

Gently correct your reader

When your child makes a mistake, gently point out the letters he or she overlooked or read incorrectly. Ask your child, "does that look right?" or "does that make sense?"

I read to you, you read to me

Take turns reading aloud at bedtime. Kids enjoy this special time with their parents.



Dear Parents:

The end of the year is approaching! We are going to countdown the last 26 days of school. Each day will be a different activity that represents the letter of the alphabet.

Wednesday, April 26	A: Aloha Day (Wear Hawaiian or Bright Colors)
Thursday, April 27	B: Bubble Gum (Provided by PAC)
Friday, April 28	C: Crazy Hat Day
Monday, May 1	D: Do Your Irish Best Day
Tuesday, May 2	E: Extra Movement Day (Do Extra Brain Breaks)
Wednesday, May 3	F: Funny Sock Day
Thursday, May 4	G: Game Day (Enjoy a Game at Recess!)
Friday, May 5	H: Hilarious Hair Day
Monday, May 8	I: Ice Cream (Provided by PAC)
Tuesday, May 9	J: Jeans and Jersey Day
Wednesday, May 10	K: Kindness Day (Be Nice to Others)
Thursday, May 11	L: Let Us Be Our Irish Best Day (Wear Freedom Irish)
Friday, May 12	M: Make Someone Smile
Monday, May 15	N: Name/Bring Your Favorite Book
Tuesday, May 16	O: Outstanding Reading Day (Extra Read to Self Time)
Wednesday, May 17	P: Party at the Family Fun Night
Thursday, May 18	Q: Quick Feet Day (Get Up and Move!)
Friday, May 19	R: Rock Star Day (Dress Up Like a Rock Star)
Monday, May 22	S: Shades Day
Tuesday, May 23	T: Terrific Teacher (Wear Your Teacher's favorite color)
Wednesday, May 24	U: Uplifting Day (Give a compliment)
Thursday, May 25	V: Victory Day (Wear Green and Gold)
Friday, May 26	W: Wear your Sunscreen - Field Day
Tuesday, May 30	X: Xtra Fun Day (Extra Time at Recess)
Wednesday, May 31	Y: You are Special Day (PAC will provide a treat)
Thursday, June 1	Z: Zoom Home for a Wonderful Summer!

TORNADO SAFETY



Tornado Watch - Tornadoes are possible in the area you live in. Listen to the radio or watch the television for updates. Be prepared to move to safety.

Tornado Warning - A tornado has either been spotted by Doppler radar or one is on the ground. You should find shelter immediately!



During a Tornado -

- Go to a basement
- If there is no basement, go to a room in the center of the building, on the lowest floor, with no windows. (A bathroom or closet if possible.)
- Get under the sturdiest piece of furniture if you can.
- If you are in a mobile home, GET OUT! (There is little protection there.)
- Do NOT try to outrun a tornado in a car. It is safer to get out of it and leave it to seek shelter.
- If you are outside, go to a low lying area, like a ditch, and lie down flat.
- Do NOT go near fallen power lines or damaged areas from the tornado.



www.cloudsandpelicans.com

Be Red Cross Ready

Tornado Safety Checklist

A tornado is a violently rotating column of air extending from the base of a thunderstorm down to the ground. Tornado intensities are classified on the Fujita Scale with ratings between F0 (weakest) to F5 (strongest). They are capable of completely destroying well-made structures, uprooting trees and hurling objects through the air like deadly missiles. Although severe tornadoes are more common in the Plains States, tornadoes have been reported in every state.

Know the Difference

Tornado Watch

Tornadoes are possible in and near the watch area. Review and discuss your emergency plans, and check supplies and your safe room. Be ready to act quickly if a warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching. Acting early helps to save lives!

Tornado Warning

A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Tornado warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property. Go immediately underground to a basement, storm cellar or an interior room (closet, hallway or bathroom).

What should I do to prepare for a tornado?



- During any storm, listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio to stay informed about watches and warnings.
- Know your community's warning system. Communities have different ways of warning residents about tornadoes, with many having sirens intended for outdoor warning purposes.
- Pick a safe room in your home where household members and pets may gather during a tornado. This should be a basement, storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor with no windows.
- Practice periodic tornado drills so that everyone knows what to do if a tornado is approaching.
- Consider having your safe room reinforced. Plans for reinforcing an interior room to provide better protection can be found on the FEMA Web site at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/rms/rmsp453.shtm>.
- Prepare for high winds by removing diseased and damaged limbs from trees.
- Move or secure lawn furniture, trash cans, hanging plants or anything else that can be picked up by the wind and become a projectile.
- Watch for tornado danger signs:
 - Dark, often greenish clouds—a phenomenon caused by hail
 - Wall cloud—an isolated lowering of the base of a thunderstorm
 - Cloud of debris
 - Large hail
 - Funnel cloud—a visible rotating extension of the cloud base
 - Roaring noise

What should I do if a tornado is threatening?



- The safest place to be is an underground shelter, basement or safe room.
- If no underground shelter or safe room is available, a small, windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest level of a sturdy building is the safest alternative.
 - Mobile homes are not safe during tornadoes or other severe winds.
 - Do not seek shelter in a hallway or bathroom of a mobile home.
 - If you have access to a sturdy shelter or a vehicle, abandon your mobile home immediately.
 - Go to the nearest sturdy building or shelter immediately, using your seat belt if driving.
 - Do not wait until you see the tornado.
- If you are caught outdoors, seek shelter in a basement, shelter or sturdy building. If you cannot quickly walk to a shelter:
 - Immediately get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the closest sturdy shelter.
 - If flying debris occurs while you are driving, pull over and park. Now you have the following options as a last resort:
 - Stay in the car with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows, covering with your hands and a blanket if possible.
 - If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, exit your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands.
 - Your choice should be driven by your specific circumstances.

What do I do after a tornado?



- Continue listening to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio for updated information and instructions.
- If you are away from home, return only when authorities say it is safe to do so.
- Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and sturdy shoes when examining your walls, doors, staircases and windows for damage.
- Watch out for fallen power lines or broken gas lines and report them to the utility company immediately.
- Stay out of damaged buildings.
- Use battery-powered flashlights when examining buildings—do NOT use candles.
- If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window and get everyone out of the building quickly and call the gas company or fire department.
- Take pictures of damage, both of the building and its contents, for insurance claims.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- Keep all of your animals under your direct control.
- Clean up spilled medications, bleaches, gasoline or other flammable liquids that could become a fire hazard.
- Check for injuries. If you are trained, provide first aid to persons in need until emergency responders arrive.

Let Your Family Know You're Safe

If your community experiences a tornado, or any disaster, register on the American Red Cross Safe and Well Web site available through RedCross.org to let your family and friends know about your welfare. If you don't have Internet access, call **1-866-GET-INFO** to register yourself and your family.



For more information on disaster and emergency preparedness, visit RedCross.org.

April 2023

Freedom Elementary School Student Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Bridging Brighter Smiles Wear Blue for Autism Awareness Community Kick-off Meeting FHS Lecture Hall 6:30 pm	4	5 Friday Make-up Related Arts	6 Fang's Home Run due	7 No School	8
9  <i>Easter</i>	10	11 Gr. 2 to Weidner Center Gr. 1 Barlow Planetarium	12 Gr. 4 to Weidner Center	13	14 Irish Pride Day Summer School Registration Ends 8:00 am	15
16	17 National Tornado Week April 17-21 PAC meeting 5:30 Staff Room	18 Tom's Night Out	19	20 Tornado Drill	21 Wear Blue or Green for Earth Day 4K Outreach to Sweet Tooth Early Dismissal 12:15 Summer School fees due	22 <i>Earth Day</i>
23 National Library Week April 23-29 ABC Countdown to Summer April 26-June 1	24 Bridging Brighter Smiles 	25 Gr. 2 & 3 Concert 6:00 HS Fieldhouse Bridging Brighter Smiles	26 Aloha Day (Wear Hawaiian or Bright Colors)	27 Bubble Gum Day (Provided by PAC)	28 Crazy Hat Day 4K Student Screener	29 
30						

Freedom Elementary School Menu

April 2023

USDA is an equal opportunity
provider & employer

*menu subject to change

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
	Student Lunch K4-1 \$2.55 Student Lunch Gr 2-5 \$2.65 Adult Lunch \$4.35 Milk \$0.30			
3 Chicken Tacos Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	4 Hamburger Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	5 Sloppy Joe Melt Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	6 Chicken Tenders Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	7 <h1>No School</h1>
10 Diced Chicken & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	11 Nacho Meat over Tostadas Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	12 Mini Corn Dogs Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	13 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	14 Brunch for Lunch Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
17 Popcorn Chicken Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	18 Beef Taco Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	19 Penne Pasta w/Meatballs Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	20 Chicken Patty w/Mashed Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	21 Bag Lunch Vegetable Fruit Choice of Milk
24 Chicken Tenders Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	25 Sloppy Joe Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	26 Hamburger Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	27 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	28 Pizza Dippers Vegetable Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk