



# IRISH PRIDE PRESS

April 2024 Newsletter

View newsletters at [www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us](http://www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us)

## Important dates:

- April 1  
No School  
Spring Break
- April 5  
4K Mon/Wed  
has class
- April 8-12  
National Tornado  
Week
- April 11  
Tornado Drill  
Practice
- April 7-13  
National Library  
Week
- April 12  
Summer School  
registration ends

Continue to save  
**Box Tops for  
Education**

We are a **NUT  
FREE** School. **NO**  
Homemade or  
Store/Bakery  
Bought Goods  
(unless there is a  
"Made in a nut-free  
facility" sticker)



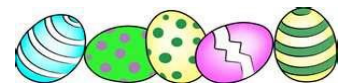
## Principal's Corner

We have our district-wide spring break scheduled for the last week of March. Please note that we return to school on **Tuesday, April 2**. Please enjoy your time off of school with your family making some memories. As a reminder as we move into April, there will still be days when our students may still need his/her coats, hats, boots, and mittens. Please watch the weather and continue to send them after the break. 4K Monday/Wednesday has a make-up Friday class on April 5.

We have a few events continuing throughout April. Kids for Running program for grades 3, 4, and 5 runs on Tuesdays/Thursdays after school. FES has a Blizzard Night on April 19, 2024. We will have a dash-for-cash opportunity again this year with Mr. Kazik representing FES.

We started state testing at the elementary school the week of March 18 with our fourth graders. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will take the Forward Assessment. Homeroom teachers will send home testing schedules with students. Please try to help students to get a good night's sleep and breakfast on testing days. We will complete the state testing by the end of April.

**SAVE THE DATES:** PAC will be hosting the third annual Family Night on May 15 from 4 pm-7 pm outside behind the school. Students in K-5 will participate in our annual FES Field Day on May 31 during the day. More information will be coming on these events in the May newsletter.



## Art Fundraiser Orders

The Art Fundraiser packets go home on Tuesday, April 2 with students. The Art Fundraiser orders are due with payment back to school on Wednesday, April 10.

## Thank you from Freedom Food Pantry

Freedom Food Pantry really appreciates the way the Freedom Elementary School refuses to let Dr Seuss' birthday go by without recognition. Thank you all for celebrating it with your food collection. This year over 1500 lbs of items were collected. It helps us distribute many extras. We are truly grateful.

## National Library Week--April 7-13

The theme for National Library Week 2024, "Ready, Set, Library!" 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 11**. See the enclosed Tornado and Tornado Safety Checklist. The National Weather Service and the Wisconsin Emergency Management sponsor this weather event.



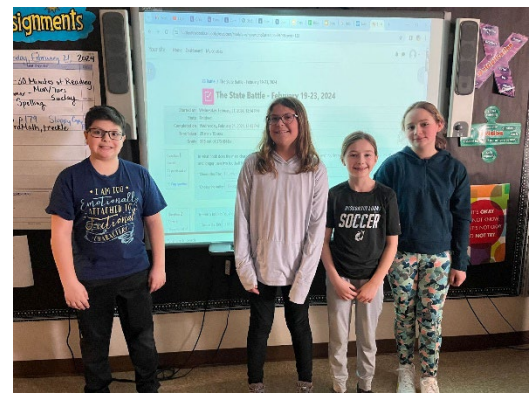
## Summer School Registration ends April 12, 2024

Summer school registration opened on March 21 and it closes at 8:00am on Friday, April 12. Final payments for courses must be made by Friday, April 19.

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 Announcement

Freedom Elementary School is excited to share that we had 35 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 competition encourages students in grades fourth through sixth to read all 20 books over the course of several months. Battle of the Books provides students with the opportunity to read quality literature on a variety of topics and themes and then to be active participants in discussions on the books they have read. During the final state competition, students worked as a team to answer questions pertaining to all 20 of the books they read. The top four finalists, Lucas K, Khloe B, Lumen M, and Maeven K (Finley B alternate) competed in the statewide competition on February 21. These finalists tied for 17th place out of 223 schools that took part in the competition. They scored 315 points out of 375 points earning a place in the elite Honors Club. We are extremely proud of the dedication they put into making this year's team such a success.



## Clothes donations needed

We are in need of boys size 5, 6, 7/8, 10/12 joggers and sweatpants, Medium and Large socks and boys 4, 6, 7/8, 10/12, 14/16 underwear. We are in need of girls size 4, 5, 6, 7/8, 10/12, 14/16 pants, size 6, 7/8, 10/12, 14/16 shirts and size 6 underwear. If your child borrows clothes, please wash them and return. Thank you.

## Fang's Reading Program

Fang's Reading Program has concluded. The home run character was due Friday, March 22nd. If you have not, please turn that in as soon as possible.

In a few weeks, students who completed the program will receive a ticket voucher for the Family Night Game on Thursday, May 16th. Information on how to order your tickets and purchase additional tickets online will be included with the voucher. If you are unable to attend the family night game, you can use the Reading Club Ticket for any April/May 2024 game (excluding Opening Day and weekday day games) at the same value, or you could still use it as a grass seat ticket for the remainder of the season. Remember, 20% of ticket sales is donated back to FES! Thank you to all who participated!

The Timber Rattlers Reading Committee



# PAC (Parent Activity Committee) News



## FAMILY BAKE OFF

The PAC's Family Bake Off is happening now! And it's not too late to submit your creations! If you are not going anywhere for Spring Break, this is a fun activity to do as a family!

### HOW IT WORKS:

- 1) Pick a theme based on a favorite book
- 2) Bake an item (cake, cookie, rice Krispie, etc.) as a family to show this theme. The cooking, designing and decorating is up to your family- plan and create when it works for you! Have fun decorating---adding extra decorations or dressing up to fit the book theme encouraged!
- 3) Submit a picture of your family's cake including family name by Friday, April 5 to [freedompac1@gmail.com](mailto:freedompac1@gmail.com). Please include your child's name and grade to help us notify the winners. If you do not want the picture/name on the PAC Facebook page, please state that in your email.

## TOM'S DRIVE IN FUNDRAISING NIGHT

Stop at Tom's DriveIn on Tuesday, April 9 from 4 to 8 PM and help us raise money to support our amazing staff, students, and future family events at Freedom Elementary! Dine in or drive thru, pick up dinner or just a cold treat! You must let the cashier know before ordering that you would like to support Freedom Elementary. 20% of the profits from your order will be donated.

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

On Wednesday, May 15 from 4 to 7 PM, the PAC will be hosting our Family Fun Night! Again this year, we will have food trucks, TJ the DJ, touch-a-trucks, face painting, inflatables, sidewalk chalk, and lots of fun again! We hope you all can attend!

## TEACHER APPRECIATION

This month, FES students will receive a shamrock to recognize their favorite teachers/staff members and why they "(sham)rock!". Have your student(s) follow the instructions on the sheet and return the shamrock(s) back to school by Friday, April 19. You can submit as many as shamrocks as you want. This will be part of the Teacher/Staff appreciation week in early May.

## SHOUT OUTS

Keep sending the PAC Shout Outs - Shout Outs are due Friday, April 5! The staff loves to hear the positive comments. 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. We will hold a raffle quarterly for members that receive them. <https://forms.gle/XLuigAABYt8Drjmc7>

## STOCK THE LOUNGE – FIFTH GRADE

Thank you to all parents who helped us stock the lounge this school year! The FES Staff really enjoyed all the snacks and drinks you provided!

For the month April, we are asking all fifth 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 15 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)!





## **Engaging Families in Reading at Home**



Research in reading suggests that children who read widely become better readers, and that reading and writing are complementary skills. Parents can help their children by providing a good reading role model, varied reading materials, and encouraging activities that require reading.

### **Ways a Parent Can Help with Reading in Preschool:**

1. Read to your child regularly and make it a positive experience.
2. Run your index finger under the line of print to help your child understand words and their meanings.
3. Discuss signs and other print materials around you and the home.
4. Encourage vocabulary development by reading good literature with rich and interesting words.
5. Talk to your child about the books and stories you read to build comprehension and critical thinking skills.

### **Ways a Parent Can Help with Reading in Elementary School:**

1. Provide a good role model by reading yourself and reading often to your child.
2. Offer a variety of reading materials, including books for leisure and information on hobbies and interests.
3. Encourage activities that require reading, such as cooking, constructing a kite, or identifying items with reference books.
4. Establish a regular reading time, even if it's just 15 minutes a day.
5. Write notes to your child and encourage written responses.
6. Encourage your child to read library books to a younger sibling.
7. Dedicate one evening a week for reading instead of television viewing.
8. Encourage and support your child in all reading efforts.

Source: *Project Appleseed*: <https://www.projectappleseed.org/ways-parents-help-with-reading>

*Project Appleseed* is a leading advocate for public school families in America, working to empower parents and communities to take an active role in their children's education. They help families understand the importance of parents as role models and supporters in their children's reading efforts.



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, May 1	A: Aloha Day (Wear Hawaiian or Bright Colors)
Thursday, May 2	B: Bubble Gum (Provided by PAC)
Friday, May 3	C: Crazy Hair
Monday, May 6	D: Drop Everything and Read
Tuesday, May 7	E: Extra Movement Day (Do Extra Brain Breaks)
Wednesday, May 8	F: Funny Sock Day
Thursday, May 9	G: Game Day (Enjoy a Game at Recess!)
Friday, May 10	H: Hat Day
Monday, May 13	I: Ice Cream (Provided by PAC (funded by Tidy View)
Tuesday, May 14	J: Jeans and Jersey Day
Wednesday, May 15	K: Kindness Day (Be Nice to Others)
Thursday, May 16	L: Let Us Be Our Irish Best Day (Wear Freedom Irish)
Friday, May 17	M: Make Someone Smile
Monday, May 20	N: Name/Bring Your Favorite Book
Tuesday, May 21	O: Occupation Day
Wednesday, May 22	P: Pajama Day
Thursday, May 23	Q: Quick Feet Day (Get Up and Move!)
Friday, May 24	R: Rock Star Day (Dress Up Like a Rock Star)
Tuesday, May 28	S: Shades Day
Wednesday, May 29	T: T-shirt Day
Thursday May 30	U: USA Day
Friday, May 31	V: Very Fun Field Day (wear sunscreen)
Monday, June 3	W: Wear Favorite Color
Tuesday, June 4	X: Xtra Fun Day (Extra Time at Recess)
Wednesday, June 5	Y: You are Special Day (PAC will provide a treat)
Thursday, June 6	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](http://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](http://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](http://RedCross.org).



## 2024 Freedom Middle School Football

Signup is open for participation in the Freedom Middle School Football program this fall. This program is open to all students in the Freedom Area who will be entering grades 6, 7 and 8 in the fall of 2024. Please complete the following form located at: <https://forms.gle/GNjrd3CPWTCtGFRG8>  
Additional information will be shared via email.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Snyder at:  
[stephen.snyder@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.snyder@gmail.com) or 920-858-1975.

### **Important Dates**





Now	Signup is open
July 29-Aug 1	Middle School Football Camp*
August 11	Equipment Handout
August 12	Parent Meeting
August 13	First Practice
August 27	First Game
October 15	Last Game

\*Football Camp is open to all students entering 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. It is not required to play football, but it is a good chance to have fun, learn and help prepare for the season. Registration is through the summer school program in Skyward.



# April 2024

## Freedom Elementary School Student Calendar


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 No School Spring Break	2 Art Fundraiser Orders go home Gr. 2 to Atlas Science Center Gr. 4 Weidner Center	3	4	5 Mon/Wed 4K has class End of 3rd qtr. <i>Read-A-Shirt Day</i>	6
7 National Library Week April 7-13	8 Bridging Brighter Smiles National Tornado Week April 8-12 	9 Tom's Drive-In Fundraiser 4:00-8:00	10 Art Fundraiser orders due 	11 Tornado Drill practice	12 Summer School registration ends 8:00am <i>Irish Pride Day</i>	13
14	15 PAC meeting 5:30 Staff room	16	17	18 Gr. 1 Barlow Planetarium	19 4K Screening Early Release 12:15 Child Development Day Final Day to pay summer school fees Dash for Cash-Blizzard	20
21	22	23 K-5 Beauty and the Beast Opera for the Young Performance	24	25	26 Wear Blue & Green for Earth Week	27
28	29	30				

# Freedom Elementary School Menu

## April 2024

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>
<b>1</b>  <b>No School</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Beef Taco</b> Spanish Rice Corn Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>3</b> <b>Chicken Nuggets</b> Tator Tots Peas & Carrots Mandarin Oranges Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Pumpkin Bars	<b>4</b> <b>Sloppy Joe</b> French Fries Green Beans Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>5</b> <b>Mini Corn Dogs</b> Potato Smiles Baked Beans Mixed Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
<b>8</b> <b>Chicken Taco</b> Spanish Rice Corn Pears Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>9</b> <b>Diced Chicken &amp; Gravy</b> Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>10</b> <b>Pizza</b> Lettuce Salad Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Brownie	<b>11</b> <b>Brunch for Lunch</b> Berry Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>12</b> <b>Popcorn Chicken</b> French Fries Steamed Broccoli Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
<b>15</b> <b>Asian Meatballs</b> Rice Mixed Vegetables Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>16</b> <b>Hamburger</b> Potato Smiles Baked Beans Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>17</b> <b>Chicken Tenders</b> French Fries Carrot Coins Mandarin Oranges Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Birthday Cake	<b>18</b> <b>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</b> Breadstick Lettuce Salad Mixed Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>19</b> <b>Grab &amp; Go Lunch</b> Carrots Apple Slices Bug Bites Choice of Milk
<b>22</b> <b>Pizza Pasta</b> Breadstick Green Beans Pears Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>23</b> <b>Nacho Meat over Tostadas</b> Rice Corn Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>24</b> <b>Chicken Patty w/Mashed</b> Mixed Vegetables Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Cookie	<b>25</b> <b>Pizza Dippers</b> California Blend Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>26</b> <b>Fish Sticks</b> Tator Tots Peas & Carrots Mandarin Oranges Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
<b>29</b> <b>BBQ Rib Or Salisbury Steak</b> Mashed Potatoes Carrot Coins Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	<b>30</b> <b>Turkey Dinner</b> Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk			<b>Student Lunch K4-1</b> \$2.55 <b>Student Lunch Gr 2-5</b> \$2.65 <b>Adult Lunch</b> \$4.35 <b>Milk</b> \$0.30