

IRISH PRIDE PRESS

December 2024 Newsletter

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

Important dates:

- Dec. 2-6
 Food Drive
- Dec. 9 No School
- Dec. 11
 4K, KG, 1 Winter Music
 Program Gym
 Gr. 1 10:00
 KG 12:00
 4K 1:30
- Dec. 12
 4K, Gr. 2 Winter Music Program Gym
 4K 1:30
 Gr. 2 10:00
- Dec. 23-Jan. 1
 No School
- Jan. 2, 2025
 School Resumes

We are a **NUT FREE** School. **NO**Homemade or Store/Bakery Bought Goods (unless there is a made in a nutfree facility sticker listed)



Principal's Corner

As we approach the end of the year, it's hard to believe that we are already in December! This has been a wonderful year so far, and I would like to begin by congratulating our students, parents, and staff for their hard work and dedication. Freedom Elementary School has received a "4-Star Exceed Expectations" rating on the 2024 State Report Card! This achievement is a testament to the strong partnership between our school and families, and we appreciate all your support in providing an excellent education for every child.

December is always an exciting and busy time here at FES, and we are looking forward to the many activities we have planned. Please take a moment to review the attached calendar for important dates and events. Our school community will be buzzing with energy as we prepare for the holiday season.

This year, we are excited to announce that we will be hosting **4K**, **Kindergarten**, **1st**, **and 2nd grade Holiday Concerts** at FES. These performances will showcase the hard work and creativity of our young students, and we hope you can join us for these festive events. Please keep in mind that parking may be tight during concert times, so we appreciate your patience. To help with this, we will be opening the primary playground for additional parking space.

In addition to the concerts, we will also be celebrating the **12-Day Countdown to Christmas Break**, with fun activities leading up to the final day of school before the holiday break. Please look for the sheet in this newsletter on how students can participate in this exciting countdown.

On behalf of the entire staff at Freedom Elementary School, I would like to wish you and your family a joyful holiday season. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. We look forward to finishing the year strong and celebrating all of the wonderful achievements of our students! Happy Holidays to all!

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 23 to January 1**. The office will be closed. School resumes on January 2. You may contact the District Office at 920-788-7944 for any questions.

Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run had their final Celebration 5K at Fox Valley Tech on November 16th. They did an awesome job! For their community service project this year, Girls on the Run chose to make bookmarks for the residents at Country Villa Assisted Living. They were so grateful to receive so many beautiful bookmarks and the girls had a great time serving their community. If your daughter will be in 3-5th grade next year and would like to be part of this awesome program, watch for information for next year's team coming out in May. A big thank you to our wonderful coaches for this season: Ms. Vanderloop, Mrs. Franke, Mr. McManus, Mr. Garvey, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Vandehey, and Mrs. Thews.

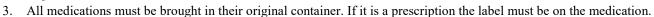






School Medication Reminders:

- 1. Students cannot bring to school or take home any medications. Parents/guardians must drop off and pick up medications. This includes cough drops and OTC medications.
- A medication form https://www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us/health_services/med%20consent.pdf (also 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.





Thank You from the Freedom Food Pantry

Thank you to the school community and student council for donating the hats and mittens for the Freedom Food Pantry. Our families we serve appreciate it.



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 2 - 6. 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

Canned fruit, spaghetios, ravioli, boxed Jello or gelatin, Grade 2: Deodorant, applesauce, crackers All 4K-5: Grade 3: Cereal, cookies, crackers

ketchup, mayo, mustard, jelly (NO glass), cookies,

crackers, ramen noodles, cereal

NO GLASS BOTTLES PLEASE



Youth Wrestling Registration Information

The 2025 Youth Wrestling Season is quickly approaching! Whether you are just starting out or have been wrestling for a while (boy or girl), join us this year and experience what it means to be a wrestler! We offer practices for all ages, from K through 5th Grade, with amazing opportunities through Middle School and High School. Check out our flyers for practice times and days for each age level and register by **December 1st at the link provided.**

We invite you to our parent meeting on **December 9th at 6:30pm in the Freedom High School Library**. 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!

https://www.freedomirish.com/

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

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

Student Council News

FES Student Council members spent the week of November 11 collecting brand new hats, gloves, and mittens to donate to the Freedom Food Pantry to help keep those in need warm in the winter months ahead. Students made posters, manned the donation table and helped to count and pack the items as they came in. We had over 190 items donated, some of which were even handmade, as seen in the photo of the two sisters. Thank you to all families for your donations!









The Fluency Journey: Learning and Assessment

Fluency is not just reading fast – it's reading, for meaning, and even joy. And as one of the five foundational reading skills, it's also essential to teaching reading explicity. This post explores what fluency is, why it matters, and how you can cultivate it in your reading classroom.

The Science of Reading tells us that foundational reading skills must be taught explicitly and systematically, and fluency is no exception. Developing reading fluency is a gradual process that requires consistent practice and exposure to different types of texts. There are several stages and skills that support the development of reading fluency.

- Fluency starts with accuracy in decoding. As students practice and improve their phonics skills, they can accurately recognize and decode more and more words. This helps them move from laborious reading toward more efficient reading.
- Speed comes as a result of accuracy. As students become more accurate in decoding, they can read words
 more quickly. Accuracy helps reduce the time it takes to identify and process each word, allowing for a
 smoother and faster reading experience.
- Fluency practice helps with automaticity. And the more students develop both accuracy and speed, the more they develop automaticity.

From Ms. Vanderloop in the Music Room





Hello FES families!!

The fifth grade Irish Best Singers will be performing at the Country Villa on December 19 at 4:30pm. with Ms. Vanderloop. They will be spreading holiday joy bringing Christmas cards, cookies and singing carols. Detailed information will be coming home with the students involved soon.

Here's a brief summary of what we've been learning about in the music room here at FES as well as a few sneak peeks at things we are looking forward to in November.

Code for Music Class Website

The concert times for our upcoming performances are now posted on the Music Class website. This website is also updated with pictures and recordings from the music room throughout the school year. Scan the QR code below to access the information directly:

Winter Program

We are thrilled to announce that we will be hosting a Winter Program this year featuring our 4k, Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade musicians! These concerts will take place at Freedom Elementary School on the following dates:

- Wednesday, December 11th:
 - o 1st grade at 10 am
 - o Kindergarten at 12 pm
 - o 4k (M/W) at 1:30 pm
- Thursday, December 12th:
 - o 2nd grade at 10 am
 - o 4k (T/Th) at 1:30 pm

PAC (Parent Activity Committee) News

CHERRYDALE FUNDRAISER

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Cherrydale Fundraiser! We met and exceeded our \$12,000 goal, raising over \$15,000! Congratulations to Ms. Wall's class for winning the highest sales and Ms. Kurkiewicz's class for winning the most participation! Both classes will receive an extra recess and popsicles.

UNCLE MIKE'S KRINGLE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who supported this year's Kringle Fundraiser. We DOUBLED what we did last year and sold 564 Kringle Coupons, raising over \$2,600! Kringle coupons were distributed to all students the week of Thanksgiving. We hope you all enjoy your delicious Kringle!

FUNDRAISING NIGHTS AT SKATE CITY & TOM'S DRIVE IN

Thank you to all who stopped at Skate City in October and Tom's Drive In in November for our Fundraising Nights! We love our Freedom Community!

SPIRIT WEAR

The PAC's Spirit Wear Sale will be going on January 2nd to January 16th - New Year, New Gear! Thank you Kenny Rose Boutique for working with us again! Spirit Wear flyers will be going home before Christmas break. Thank you to all 5th Graders who participated in the T-Shirt Design Contest! All 20 entries were so creative! Congratulations to Tessa V on winning the contest!

BRAIN BOWL

The PAC's Brain Bowl is back again for Kindergarten to Second Graders! Brain Bowl is a way for the kids to show their family and friends how smart they are and the things they've learned this school year. The Informational Sheet, Trivia Questions and Pledge Forms for this fundraiser will be sent home mid-December so students can study their questions over Christmas break. Students will be tested mid-January.

12 DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS BREAK

On December 19, Candy Cane Day, the PAC will be giving students a special treat! You guessed it, candy canes!

SAVE THE DATE

We will be having our School Dance on Friday, January 24 at FES from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. More details to come!

STOCK THE LOUNGE - First Grade

Thank you to all Kindergarten & 4K 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.

SHOUT OUTS

Thank you for sending in Shout Outs! 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 - https://shorturl.at/MiCBE

Congrats to our 1st Quarter Winners...

Mrs. Krzyzak-Secretary, Ms. Kortz-Computer Assistant, Mrs. Thiel-Kindergarten, Mrs. Wichman-2nd Grade and Mr. Awe-5th Grade

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 20 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)!





Freedom Elementary School's 12 Days Before Christmas Break

December 4	Rudolph Red Day- Wear Red
December 5	Mad About Plaid- Wear your favorite flannel shirt/pants
December 6	Whoville Day- Crazy hair
December 10	Frosty Day- Wear blue and white day
December 11	Stocking Day Wear your favorite Holiday socks
December 12	Holiday Best- Wear your best holiday outfit
December 13	Holiday Cheer- Give out compliments
December 16	Ugly Sweater Day Wear an ugly (or cute) Christmas sweater
December 17	Santa's Workshop Wear your Santa hat or Elf hat
December 18	100% Grinch Day- Wear green or your favorite Grinch shirt
December 19	Candy Cane Day- PAC will provide candy canes Wear red and white
December 20	Polar Express Day- Wear your PJs or Onesies





Freedom Elementary School 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 2 - 6. We are asking for donations as follows:

4K: Cleaning supplies, canned meats or tuna

Kindergarten: Laundry detergent, juice, cleaning supplies

Dish detergent, boxed noodle dinners, cereal Grade 1:

Grade 2: Deodorant, toothbrush & other toiletries

Grade 3: Toothpaste, lotions & other toiletries

Cereal, Kleenex, boxed noodle dinners Grade 4:

Grade 5: Cereal, paper towels, boxed noodle dinners

Staff: Baby diapers, wet wipes, baby toiletries

All 4K-5: Canned goods, toothbrushes, ketchup, mayo, mustard,

jelly (no glass), new hats and mittens (all sizes)

NO GLASS BOTTLES PLEASE

We will be collecting from **December 2 - 6**. 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.



DONTRORGET

FASD Indian Parent Committee Meetings

Monday, January 27th, 2025 at 5:00 pm in the FHS Library

Monday, March 17th, 2025 at 5:00pm at the FES Library

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

ATTENDANCE

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

When a student misses amonth.

They will miss **20 DAYS** a year.

They will miss 30 HOURS of math over the school year.

They will miss
60 HOURS of
reading & writing
over the school year.

They will miss over 1 YEAR of school by graduation.

When a student misses days a month.

They will miss 40 DAYS a year.

They will miss 60 HOURS of math over the school year.

They will miss

120 HOURS
of
reading & writing
over the school year.

They will miss over 2 YEARS of school by graduation.

DECEMBER 2024

FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Student Council Food Drive Dec. 2-6	3 Gr. 4 & 5 B.O.B. meeting during lunch	4 Rudolph Red Day- wear red	Mad About Plaid- Wear your favorite flannel shirt/pants	6 Whoville Day–crazy hair	7
8	9 No School Staff Inservice	10 Frosty Day-wear blue and white	Stocking Day-wear Holiday socks 4K, KG, 1 Winter Program Gym Gr. 1 10:00 KG 12:00 4K (Mon/Wed) 1:30 Student Council Meet.	Holiday Best-wear best holiday outfit 4K, Gr. 2 Winter Program Gym Gr. 2 10:00 4K (Tue/Thurs) 1:30	13 Holiday Cheer-give out compliments	14
15	16 Ugly Sweater Day Wear an ugly (or cute) sweater	17 Santa's Workshop- wear Santa or Elf hat Gr. 4 & 5 B.O.B. meeting during lunch MS/HS Caroling	Grinch Day-Wear Green or grinch shirt	Candy Cane Day- wear red & white) PAC provide candy canes HS Jazz Band Assembly	20 Polar Express Day/ Wear Pajamas PBS Assembly	21
22	No School Winter Break	No School Winter Break	No School Winter Break	No School Winter Break	No School Winter Break	28
29	No School Winter Break	No School Winter Break	Wednesday, January 1, 2025 No School	Thursday, January 2, 2025 School Resumes		

Full student meal is \$1.35. Reduced Meal is \$0.35

Freedom Elementary School Breakfast Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal	Double Chocolate Muffin	Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal	Banana Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bar	Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal
Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	String Cheese & Juice	Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	String Cheese & Juice	Banana
9	10	11	12	13
School Inservice - No School	Apple Cinnamon Muffin	Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal	Mini French Toast	Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal
	String Cheese & Juice	Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	String Cheese & Juice	Banana
16	17	18	19	20
Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal	Double Chocolate Muffin	Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal	Banana Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bar	Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal
Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	String Cheese & Juice	Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	String Cheese & Juice	Banana
Winter Break - No School	24 Winter Break - No School	25 Winter Break - No School	26 Winter Break - No School	27 Winter Break - No School
30 Winter Break - No School	31 Winter Break - No School			

Diciembre de 2024

Escuela primaria Freedom Menú de desayuno

92	03	04	05	06
Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Manzanas Gala Naranja fresca Granos Palitos de Graham de Scooby Doo	Plato principal para el desayuno Muffin de chocolate Y O Desayuno redondo de avena con chips de chocolate Fruta Manzanas Gala Zumo de manzana	Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Manzanas Gala Plátano fresco Granos Palitos de Graham de Scooby Doo	Plato principal para el desayuno Mini tostadas francesas con canela y crujientes Y Fruta Naranja fresca Manzanas Gala	Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Plátano fresco Naranja fresca
09 No hay clases - Capacitación del personal	Plato principal para el desayuno Muffin de manzana y canela Y O Desayuno redondo de avena con chips de chocolate Fruta Zumo de manzana Manzanas Gala	Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Plátano fresco Naranja fresca Granos Palitos de Graham de Scooby Doo	Plato principal para el desayuno Galletas de avena con chispas de chocolate y plátano Y Fruta Plátano fresco Manzanas Gala	Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Manzanas Gala Plátano fresco
Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Manzanas Gala Naranja fresca Granos Palitos de Graham de Scooby Doo	Plato principal para el desayuno Muffin de chocolate Y O Desayuno redondo de avena con chips de chocolate Fruta Manzanas Gala Zumo de manzana	Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Manzanas Gala Plátano fresco Granos Palitos de Graham de Scooby Doo	Plato principal para el desayuno Mini tostadas francesas con canela y crujientes Y Fruta Naranja fresca Manzanas Gala	Plato principal para el desayuno Variedad de cereales Fruta Plátano fresco Naranja fresca
Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases	Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases	Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases	26 Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases	Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases
Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases	Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases			

Esta institución es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.

Full student meal is \$2.55 for PK-1 & \$2.65 for 2-5 and a reduced price is \$0.40

Full student meal is \$2.55 for PK-1 & \$2.65 for 2-5 and a reduced price is \$0.40					
Freedom Elementary School Lunch Menu - December					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
2	3	4	5	6	
(1) Cheeseburger or Hamburger	(1) Macaroni & Cheese w/ Breadstick & Chocolate Brownie	(1) Cheese Pizza	(1) French Toast Sticks & Sausage Links	(1) Chicken Noodle Soup & Soft Pretzel w/ String Cheese	
(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	
Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	
9	10	11	12	13	
No School - School Inservice	(1) Mini Corn Dogs & Chocolate Chip Cookie	(1) Pancakes & Sausage Links	(1) Pepperoni Pizza	(1) Pizza Dunkers & Marinara Sauce	
	(2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich	
	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	
16	17	18	19	20	
(1) Breaded Chicken Strips	(1) Pizza Pasta Bake w/ Breadstick & Frozen Sidekick	(1) Cheese Pizza	Waffles & Sausage Links	(1) Strawberry Parfait & Granola	
(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	(2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	
Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	
23	24	25	26	27	
No School - Winter Break	No School - Winter Break	No School - Winter Break	No School - Winter Break	No School - Winter Break	
30	31				
No School - Winter Break	No School - Winter Break				

Diciembre de 2024

Escuela primaria Freedom Menú del almuerzo

02	0)3	0	Ą		05		6 6
Plato principal del almuerzo Hamburguesa con queso en pan O Hamburguesa en pan O Sándwich de pavo y queso	Plato principal del almuerzo Macarrones con queso Con Y O Sándwich de pavo y queso		Plato principal del almuerzo Pizza de queso <i>O</i> Sándwich de pavo y queso		Plato principal del almuerzo Palitos de tostada francesa Con Salchichas de cerdo O Sándwich de pavo y queso		Plato principal del almuerzo Sopa de pollo con fideos Con Y O Sándwich de pavo y queso	
09 No hay clases - Capacitación del personal	Plato principal del almuerzo Mini perritos de maíz Y O Sándwich de jamón y queso	10	Plato principal del almuerzo Panqueques de suero de leche Y Salchichas de cerdo O Sándwich de jamón y queso	11	Plato principal del almuerzo Pizza de pepperoni <i>O</i> Sándwich de jamón y queso	12	Plato principal del almuerzo Dunkers de pizza <i>Con</i> O Sándwich de Jamón y queso	13
16	اً	17		8		19		20
Plato principal del almuerzo Tiras de pollo O Sándwich de pavo y queso	Plato principal del almuerzo Pasta al horno con pizza Con Y O Sándwich de pavo y queso		Plato principal del almuerzo Pizza de queso O Sándwich de pavo y queso		Plato principal del almuerzo Waffles caseros Con Salchichas de cerdo O Sándwich de pavo y queso		Plato principal del almuerzo Parfait de fresa con granola O Sándwich de pavo y queso	
23		24	2	25		26		27
Vacaciones de Invierno - No hay clases	Vacaciones de Invierno - No hay clases	,	Vacaciones de Invierno - No hay clases	,	Vacaciones de invierno - No h clases	ау	Vacaciones de Invierno - No ha clases	ay
Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases	Vacaciones de invierno - No hay clases	4						

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