



# IRISH PRIDE PRESS

January 2024 Newsletter – **Happy New Year**

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

## Important dates:

- Jan. 2  
4K-5 Classes resume
- Jan. 19  
2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ends
- Jan. 22 & 23  
No School
- Jan. 26  
4K & new Kind.  
Registration  
8:00-3:00  
Child Development Day

## Principal's Corner

Happy New Year! We want to wish all of our families a happy, healthy, and productive 2024. This is also the time of year when many of us make our New Year's resolutions. In 2024, we will continue to make Freedom Elementary School an outstanding educational environment for learning. Research shows that we need a strong partnership between home and school. Thus, we are asking parents to try to make the following part of their New Year's resolution:

1. to make education a priority by ensuring your child attends.
2. to spend at least 20 minutes per day helping your child(ren) with homework, reading, doing an enrichment activity or physical activity.

FES has a strong family partnership. This partnership between families and school is vital to our children. It will make a lasting difference in our student's educational career.



## Kindergarten to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Board Game Night

We are happy to partner with Boardlandia on **Thursday, January 25th from 5pm to 7pm**. You will be able to play various board and card games with your family. There will also be games available to purchase. Those who attend will be entered to win a few board games!

Come try out some new family fun board games on January 25th in the cafeteria.

## 4Kindergarten & Kindergarten

4Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration is scheduled for Friday, January 26, 2024 and Friday, February 23, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the school lobby. Information letters will be sent home to all families with pre-school age children, for the 2024-25 school year, prior to this registration date. Students already enrolled in our 4Kindergarten program this year do not need to register for Kindergarten in the fall.

## Report Cards

Report cards will be in Skyward on Friday, January 26 for parents to view after 12:00 pm. If there are any concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

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



The high school jazz band performed on December 20 and we had a surprise visit from the Grinch.



# Fang's Reading Club

Time is nearing for the start of Fang's Reading Club! It is an eight-week incentive reading program starting in February, for students in grades 4K-5, put on by the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers. Students who complete the reading program will receive a ticket voucher for the school family game night on Thursday, May 16 at 6:40pm, along with a hot dog and soda voucher. Other immediate family members are able to attend the game by purchasing a ticket. More information will be sent home with your child in early February, and ticket information will be available when we wrap up the reading program.

Happy Reading,  
The Timber Rattlers Reading Committee



## School Reminders...

### \*Parking Reminder

Handicap spots are for handicap parking only. Please remember to park correctly in the parking stalls. Please do not park in the staff parking lot to pick up your child/children before school and at the end of the day.

### \*School Closing

School closing information is located in your School Handbook, page 6. A call-out Alert will go out to all families. Listen to the television stations and radio stations for updated information. **Please do not call the school office.**

### \*Dress for the Weather

Dress for the weather! Students will be outside when the weather is zero or above with the wind chill. Students need to have coats, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, and snow pants. Just a reminder, students need boots and snowpants to play when it's wet or snowy. It is a good idea to label your child's clothing. We have many "lost and found" items in our containers by the cafeteria.



4K and Kindergarten students performed a holiday program on December 18 and 19.



## Clothes Donations Needed

We are in need of girl's underwear (size 4/6, 10/12, 14/16) and boy's underwear all sizes.

We are also in need of boy's pants (no jeans) sizes 5, 6, 7/8, 10/12, 14/16 and girl's pants (no jeans) SIZES 5, 6, 10/12, 14/16. Thank you.

## Substitutes Needed

We are looking for Substitute Playground Supervisors and Substitute Aide positions.

Please contact the office if you are interested.

## Bussing

### \*Bus Routes

Students must ride their own bus. There can be no extra riders on the buses.

### \*Bus Safety

Parents help us remind students to watch for cars when they get off the bus after school or at night, especially if they have to cross the road. This is for the safety of all children.

### To be our Irish Best on the Bus:

- R – Report unsafe behavior
- I – In seat – hands, feet and objects to self
- D – Demonstrate safe and respectful choices
- E - Exit bus safely



# PAC (Parent Activity Committee) News

## 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. We will hold a raffle quarterly for members that receive them. <https://forms.gle/XLuigAABYt8Drjmc7>

*Congrats to our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Winners!*

Mrs. Hayes – Counselor      Mrs. Krzyzak – Secretary      Mrs. Lerum - 1st Grade Substitute      Mrs. Anderson – Kindergarten  
Miss Wall – Kindergarten      Mrs. Susek – Kindergarten      Ms. Tietz - 3rd Grade

## STOCK THE LOUNGE – Second Grade

Thank you to all parents who helped us stock the lounge the past couple months! The FES Staff really enjoyed all the snacks and drinks you provided! For the month January, we are asking all Second 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.

## SAVE THE DATES!

We will be having our School Dance Friday, February 9 at FES from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. More details to come!

The PAC is planning another fun night at Skate City! Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 15 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

## BRAIN BOWL

The PAC will be bringing back Brain Bowl! Brain Bowl is a way for the kids to show their family and friends how smart they are and things they've learned this year. (And help the PAC raise money too for FES!) Watch for information about this at the end of January!

## 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, January 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)!



# Freedom Elementary Food Drive

Freedom Elementary School sponsored a food drive benefiting the Freedom Food Pantry during the week of December 5. Students and staff were asked to donate canned goods and personal hygiene items. Elementary teachers, Mrs. Presteen and Mr. Awe helped to organize the event and the Student Council sorted and boxed the donations. We'd also like to thank Jayne VandeWettering and all of the volunteers at the Food Pantry for their help and support in this community project.



## Thank You From the Freedom Food Pantry

A huge shout out to all of you at Freedom Elementary School staff, students, and their families for running this awesome week long food drive! You collected nearly 836 lbs of food, household products and toiletries for the Freedom Food Pantry!

On behalf of all of us at the Freedom Food Pantry, we are deeply grateful for your efforts!

# Hat and Mitten Drive



There were over 175 hats and mittens donated this year. The Food Pantry is overjoyed with your generous donations and would like you to know that each and every one is truly appreciated.



# Reading to Learn: Upper Elementary Reading Skills

## ***Encourage these signs of progress in your independent reader.***

The main goal in grades 3 to 5 is for children to become enthusiastic, independent readers who can use their skills to learn new material in all subjects.

The National Research Council, the National Reading Panel, and the National Institute for Literacy identified these skills as key for kids to become strong, independent readers who enjoy reading:

1. Fluency: Fluent readers recognize words automatically so they can focus their attention on making connections among the ideas and their background knowledge.

### *Reading milestones:*

- Instant recognition of words
- Reading out loud with expression
- Reading quickly and accurately



2. Comprehension: To get the most out of reading, your child needs to read with a purpose — whether she's reading directions to a game, a textbook to learn about the first Thanksgiving, or a mystery for fun.

### *Reading milestones:*

- Putting events in sequence
- Articulating the main idea
- Summarizing a story orally or in writing



3. Spelling and writing: The focus in the upper grades is learning to spell correctly and write more sophisticated compositions with organized paragraphs and correct punctuation.

### *Milestones:*

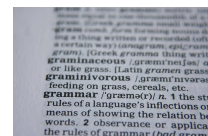
- Using a dictionary to look up words he doesn't know
- Researching and composing a simple report using a variety of sources
- Revising compositions with help from his teacher to make them more clear and understandable



4. Vocabulary: Your child still needs to be aware of subtle differences in speech sounds that distinguish words from one another, such as "goal" and "gold," "fresh" and "flesh." She also needs to learn prefixes and suffixes to master new words.

### *Reading milestones:*

- Figuring out word meanings from clues in the text
- Using synonyms and antonyms
- Using different parts of speech correctly, including nouns, verbs, and adjectives





**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

# January 2024

## Freedom Elementary School Student Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 No School Winter Break	2 School Resumes	3	4	5 <i>Irish Pride Day</i>	6
7	8 Kindergarten YMCA Winter Animals Presentation	9 Gr. 4 & 5 B.O.B. Meeting during lunch	10	11	12 <i>Read-A-Shirt Day</i>	13
14 	15 PAC Meeting 5:30pm	16	17	18 1st Grade to Badger Sports Park (Daul, Franke, Roberts)	19 End of 2nd Quarter <i>Blizzard Day</i> 4K Outreach Luv2Play 10:00am 1st Grade to Badger Sports (Kurkiewicz, Schmidt, Williams)	20 
21	22 No School-Break	23 No School Staff Work Day	24 Gr. 4 & 5 B.O.B. Meeting during lunch	25 K-2 Activity Night with Boardlandia 5:00-7:00	26 4Kindergarten and New Kindergarten Registration 8:00-3:00 Report cards online after 12:00	27
28	29	30	31 			

# Freedom Elementary School Menu

## January 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>
1  No School	2 <b>Hamburger French Fries</b> Mixed Vegetables Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	3 <b>Chicken Nuggets</b> Tator Tots Steamed Broccoli Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Pudding	4 <b>Pizza Pasta</b> Breadstick Lettuce Salad Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	5 <b>Chicken Patty w/ Mashed Potatoes</b> Corn Pears Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
8 <b>Sloppy Joe</b> JUMBO Fries Carrot Coins Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	9 <b>Orange Chicken</b> French Fries Green Beans Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	10 <b>Beefy Nachos</b> Corn Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Cookie	11 <b>Brunch for Lunch Sausage &amp; Fr Toast Sticks</b> Orange Slices Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	12 <b>Hot Dog or Chili Dog w French Fries</b> Baked Beans Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
15 <b>Pulled Pork Sandwich</b> Curly Fries California Blend Mandarin Oranges Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	16 <b>Pizza</b> Peas & Carrots Lettuce Salad Pears Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	17 <b>Asian Meatballs w Rice</b> (with or without sauce) Green Beans Pineapple Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Birthday Cake	18 <b>Chicken Nuggets w Fries</b> Carrot Coins Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	19 <b>Diced Chicken w/Mashed</b> Corn Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
22  No School	23  No School	24 <b>Beef Taco</b> Corn Fruit Cup Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Fruit Fluff	25 <b>Meatball Sub w/Fries</b> Mixed Vegetable Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	26 <b>Chicken Tenders</b> <b>Tator Tots</b> California Blend Mixed Fruit Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk
29 <b>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</b> Breadstick Applesauce Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	30 <b>Pizza Dippers</b> Lettuce Salad Orange Slices Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk	31 <b>BBQ Rib or Salisbury Steak</b> California Blend Peaches Fresh Veggie Bar Choice of Milk Rice Krispie Bar	<b>Student Lunch K4-1 \$2.55</b> <b>Student Lunch Gr 2-5 \$2.65</b> <b>Adult Lunch \$4.35</b> <b>Milk \$0.30</b>	