



IRISH PRIDE PRESS

October 2023 Newsletter

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

Important dates:

- October 26
Child Development Day
- October 26
Early Dismissal 12:15
Teacher Inservice
- October 27
No School
Conference Break

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



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We just completed the first month of school. It is exciting to see the students getting back into the routines of school. Throughout the school year, students will participate in various reading programs for our school-wide reading. You may see Book- It, Tundra Tales and Fang's Reading Program. Homeroom teachers have or will be sending home calendars for students to record their reading minutes.

We will again be doing Halloween at FES this year. We will have students come to school on Tuesday, October 31 with their costume already on. We ask that students do not wear Halloween masks to school. We will be having classroom parties, but remember snacks must be **NUT FREE**. Please **DO NOT** send **any baked goods** unless it is **packaged with a made in a nut free facility sticker**.

FES completed full implementation of standards based report cards last year. Our report card structure has now gone to semester grading. This means we will be completing report cards for parent access in Skyward in January and May. In addition, we will host parent/teacher conferences near the end of first and third quarters to inform parents of their child's progress. If you are unable to attend conferences in November, please reach out to your child's homeroom teacher. We feel contact at the end of the first quarter is beneficial to the foundation of the school year. Spring conferences will continue to be by request-either teacher request or parent request.

Again, on behalf of the FES staff, we appreciate your support as we continue through the 2023-2024 school year.

Scheduling for Parent/Teacher Conferences

We have parent/teacher conferences in November. Conference will be held on November 2, 2023 (3:30-6:30 pm) and November 7, 2023 (3:30-6:30 pm). Conferences will be scheduled for 15 minutes through Skyward for both dates.

You only need to attend one of the days. The signup window for conferences is **October 23-October 30**. If all the 4K slots are filled up, please call the office for a conference time on Friday, November 3, 2023.

Appointments

A reminder, if your child has an appointment or sees a doctor when they are ill, please ask the provider for a doctor's note to excuse your child from school. This note is very important in reporting accurate attendance. If you do not provide a doctor's note, it will be considered an absence within your 10-day limit.

Reminder:

- Parents need to send a note or call **before 2:00 p.m.** if there is a change to pick up for your children.
- We have over 700 students and many parents call with special requests which are very difficult to juggle at the end of the school day. Please **send a note** when there is a change for your child in transportation. Students may not ride a different bus again this year per Lamers.
- School fees are now considered overdue if you haven't taken care of it already. Please pay by e-funds in Skyward or send in your check/cash to the FES office as soon as possible. K-5 is \$35.00 and 4K is \$30.00. K-5 Tech Fee is \$15.00.
- If you choose to buy milk at milk break, it is \$50.00 for the year for K-5 students and \$25.00 for 4K students. Those students who have not purchased milk will not be able to take it after **October 1**.



Attendance Reminders



Regular attendance and promptness are essential requirements for success in school.
Our Policy

Please call the Elementary School Office at 920-788-7950 by 8:00 a.m. if your child is absent. The school line is open 24 hours a day, to report absences.

- If your child is reported absent by the classroom teacher and you have not notified us that he/she is not coming to school, one of the school secretaries will be calling your home and/or work.
 - The purpose of this is:
 - To determine and verify absence.
 - For your child's safety---for example, if a child is expected to be at school and does not arrive for some reason, the parent would not be aware of this until it is time for the child to arrive home.
 - Because we are concerned for your child's well-being, health and safety.
 - Wisconsin Truancy Law requires a parent verification stating the exact reason for the absence in order for absences to be considered as excused. Habitual unexcused absences can lead to truancy.
- According to Wisconsin State Statute, a student who is excused in writing by his/her parent/guardian before an absence occurs will be excused from school, but a student may not be excused for *more than ten (10) days* in the school year.
- In order to not affect cumulative attendance, please provide a doctor's note whenever possible.
- An absence is defined as "part or all of a day" not in school during the designated hours of 8:00 am to 3:05 pm.
- Students are considered tardy when arriving after 8:00am. This does count as an absence.

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.

The first item will be on Tuesday October 10. The kids will be trying an Asian Meatball. Our meatball with a sweet & sour sauce, pineapple and mandarin oranges.

October is Keeping Kids Safe Online month in Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has created a webpage with resources to help keep kids safe when online. Feel free to take a look at it, it is linked below. <https://dpi.wi.gov/internet-safety/parents>



Freedom Area School District

The Freedom Area School District is also seeking individuals for substitute support staff positions throughout the District. We are looking for substitutes in the following positions in the district: Custodial, Classroom/Special Education Aides, Playground Supervisors, Kitchen Staff, and Secretarial.

If interested in subbing in any position, please fill out a district application from the Freedom Area School District website at:

<http://www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us/APPLICATION1.pdf>

For more information or if you have any additional questions, please contact the District Office at 920-788-7944.

Early Release and No School

Students will have an early release at 12:15 pm on **Thursday, October 26** for Teacher/Staff Inservice and no school on **Friday, October 27** for Conference Break.

Red Ribbon Week Celebration

Red Ribbon Week – “Be Kind to your Mind, Live Drug Free”. Red Ribbon Week Celebration is October 23-27, 2023.

October 23 – Be Kind to Yourself - Wear Red or kindness shirt to show you love yourself

October 24 - Be Kind to Your Mind - Wear a hat

October 25 – Be Kind to Others – Wear orange to unite against bullying

October 26 – Be Kind to Your Body– Wear exercise/athletic clothes



Bullying Awareness: Unity Day – Wear Orange

UNITY DAY: Together against bullying. United for kindness, acceptance and inclusion on Wednesday, October 25. Make it ORANGE and make it end! What are your true colors when it comes to bullying? If you care about safe and supportive schools and communities, make your color ORANGE on Unity Day. That’s the day everyone can come together – in schools, communities, and online – and send one large ORANGE message of support, hope, and unity to show that we are together against bullying and united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion.

Fall Activities

October 31 is Halloween. Students may dress up in their costumes on **Tuesday, October 31**. Please follow the guidelines for costume attire.

COSTUME ATTIRE:

1. Students should come to school dressed in an appropriate costume.
2. Students may not wear Halloween masks.
3. Props should not be any kind of a weapon.
4. Students need to be able to walk without tripping on their costumes.
5. No clown costumes



Nurse's Corner

Prescription Medication

Forms need to be filled out by the physician and the parent/guardian allowing school personnel to give the medication and brought in by the parent/guardian on the first day that the medication is to be given at school.

The original medication bottle from the pharmacy shall be given to school personnel for dispensing to the student. The label on the bottle shall contain the name and telephone number of the pharmacy, the student's name, name of physician, medication name, and the dosage to be given. With any refill of medication, a newly updated medication bottle is required from the pharmacy.

All prescription medication must be brought to school by the parent/guardian. When the medication is discontinued or at the end of the year, the parent/guardian is responsible for picking up the medication. If the medication is not picked up within two weeks after school is out or medicine is discontinued, the medication will be properly discarded.

Non-Prescription Medication

The non-prescription medication must be supplied by the student's parent/guardian in the manufacturer's package and the package must list the ingredients and recommended therapeutic dose in a legible format. School personnel may administer any drug which may lawfully be sold over the counter, without a prescription, to a student with the written consent and written instructions given by the parent/guardian.

*Please update the district nurse akazik@freedomschools.k12.wi.us regarding any health updates/concerns for your student.

*Please return emergency forms with ordered meds.



PAC (Parent Activity Committee) News

COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

Our largest PAC fundraiser starts on September 27th! Our goal is to raise \$12,000.00 to support our FES elementary students and staff!

We are asking ALL parents to pre-register their student(s) here:

<https://www.shopfund.com/parentregister>

Please get at least one person to support our fundraiser before our official kick-off day. Any student that is registered and gets 10 shares clicked will be entered into a drawing for over \$100,000 worth of prizes. How cool would it be if we took a chunk out of our goal BEFORE the fundraiser even starts? We will need all forms turned in by October 11!

TOM'S FUNDRAISER

Stop at Tom's Drive In on Tuesday, October 17th 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.

SKATE CITY

The PAC is planning another fun night at Skate City! Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. \$8 Per skater and includes a skate rental. Also, there is no School on Friday, October 27!

STOCK THE LOUNGE – 4K

For the month of October, we are asking all 4K 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

Our Staff Shout Out program is starting up again for this school year and it's so easy to participate! 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>

STUDENT DIRECTORY

The FES Student Directory is a voluntary service the Parent Activity Committee (PAC) would like to offer elementary families. The district legally cannot share student information with parents, but the PAC can collect and create a directory for all families who would like to participate. If interested in participating in the student directory, we ask parents/guardians to click on the link below and complete the electronic form. A form must be completed for each FES student. Please make sure to click submit at the end of the entry. The deadline for the Student Directory is Friday, October 6th.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf-eXGD965nH4hBspZYbACylXs5BgQ9JP8Eg5TuofSvyqr8ag/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

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

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 23 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) or subscribe to our posts on the web at freedompac.org.





Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Safe

Bus

- Use quiet voices
- Listen to the bus driver
- Respect personal space

- Report problems to an adult
- Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself
- Clean up after yourself

- Walk
- Stay seated while bus is moving
- Keep the aisle clear

Assembly

- 0 voice while someone is presenting
- Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself
- Respect personal space

- Participate and respond appropriately
- Pay attention to the speaker

- Walk in and out of the gym

Cafeteria

- Voice level 2
- Use kind words
- Wait your turn in line
- Raise your hand to leave your seat

- Clean up your area
- Remain seated
- Listen to the adult in charge
- Sit in your designated area

- Walk
- Eat only your food
- Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself

Classroom

- Listen to directions the first time
- Listen to the adult in charge
- Use kind words

- Do the right thing even when no one is looking
- Keep your materials organized

- Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself

Bathroom

- Keep voice at a level 0 or 1
- Respect other people's privacy
- Keep the bathroom clean

- Do the right thing even when no one is looking
- Use the bathroom, flush, and wash your hands

- Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself
- Return directly to class

Hallway

- Keep voice at a level 0
- Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself

- Do the right thing even when no one is looking
- Eyes and body forward
- Listen to the adult(s) in charge

- Walk
- Stay to the right

Technology

- Only touch your own device
- Stay on task

- Do the right thing even when no one is looking
- Stay on school appropriate sites
- Handle with care

- Walk while holding a device
- Carry device with two hands
- Keep personal information private

Playground

- Be honest
- Be fair
- Problem solve with your friends

- Take care of playground equipment
- Put toys away carefully in the shed
- Keep our playground clean
- Line up quietly when the bell rings

- Let a teacher know if someone needs help
- Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself while playing games and in line



The Importance of Reading 20 Minutes a Day

No doubt, you've heard the advice. Reading with your children 20 minutes a day is important. But why is it so important? Here are some big results you can expect when you commit to a daily reading routine with your children.

FAMILY BONDING

Reading is a great way to spend quality time with your children. From nightly bedtime stories to trips to the library, your children will look forward to spending this one on one time with you every day.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

The more you and your child read together, the more they will improve their vocabulary, comprehension, and sight reading skills. A reading routine goes a long way in building these reading foundations.

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

Reading to your child boosts their listening skills, which are important for later reading and understanding. Listening to a parent read aloud helps children increase their ability to concentrate in school.

GET READY FOR SCHOOL

If you want your child to walk in to their first day of school ready to succeed, the best thing you can do is read to them each day. This reading routine builds their vocabulary and benefits them when they start reading on their own.

KNOW IT ALL

All subjects, including science and math, require reading and comprehension skills. In fact, when kids read more outside of school, they have higher math scores.* Reading is an essential part of education from kindergarten through college no matter what you are studying, so starting early and reading often will set your children on the path to academic success.

STOP AND GIVE ME 20 - EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN

We all know the importance of exercise for the body, but it's just as important for the mind. Reading every day builds new brain synapses and forges new connections. One study shows that reading instruction can cause the brain to rewire itself and produce new white matter, and it improves communication throughout the brain.**

READING IS JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED

The American Academy of Pediatrics promotes that "Reading regularly with young children stimulates optimal patterns of brain development and strengthens parent-child relationships at a critical time in child development, which, in turn, builds language, literacy, and social-emotional skills that last a lifetime."

*Educational Testing Service, 1999. America's Smallest School: The Family.

**Timothy A. Keller, Marcel Adam Just. Altering Cortical Connectivity: Remediation-Induced Changes in the White Matter of Poor Readers. *Neuron*, 2009; 64 (5): 624-631 DOI: 10.1016/j.neuron.2009.10.018

WE ARE **HIRING**

JOIN OUR TEAM

Elementary Cafeteria Helper

**Currently seeking a Cafeteria Helper at FES.
This is a school year position
(Mon - Fri) 20 hours per week**

If you are a team orientated person and enjoy a fast-paced atmosphere
please send your resume to Maggie Gagnon at
mgagnon@freedomschools.k12.wi.us



IT'S A FUNDRAISER NIGHT

FOR



FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

AT



1915 Freedom Rd., Little chute

OCTOBER 17, 2023
4PM - 8PM



Dine in, take out, and drive-thru orders only.

Please mention you are supporting Freedom Elementary when placing the order and Tom's Drive In will generously give back 20% of the nights qualified sales.



Address: 708 S Railroad Street Kimberly, WI

Please Join PAC for a Family Fun Night

At Skate City

Skate City will be open for Freedom Elementary School

Families Thursday, October 26th, 2023

From 5:30-7:30

\$8 Per skater and includes rental





Freedom Elementary School Night

OSHKOSH ARENA | 1212 S MAIN ST OSHKOSH, WI 54902

Join friends, family, and staff of Freedom Elementary School for a fun night out with the Wisconsin Herd! Freedom students and families will be invited to participate in exclusive experiences provided by the Herd!

- 5 Students /Staff Randomly Selected to be Co-Captain of the Night
- Jockey High Five Tunnel
- Post-Game Group Photo + Free Throws

**FOR TICKET INFORMATION:
SCAN THE QR CODE!
OR VISIT:
fevogm.com/Freedomes**



**GAME:
SATURDAY DECEMBER 16TH
@7PM**



VS



**LIMITED INVENTORY! SIGN UP
FOR TICKETS TODAY!**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR WITH QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:
TREVOR KROLL AT 920.744.0263 OR TKROLL@WISCONSINHERD.COM**

October 2023

Freedom Elementary School Student Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3	4	5	6 KDG to Fire Station <i>Irish Pride Day</i>	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 <i>Wear Pink</i>	14
15	16	17 4K Mulberry Farm Tom's Drive In Fundraising 4:00-8:00	18 4K Mulberry Farm Gr. 5 Heritage Hill	19	20 Gr. 2 Lambeau <i>Wisconsin Sports Day Apparel</i>	21
22 Red Ribbon Week October 23-26	23 Be Kind to Yourself- wear red or kindness shirt PAC Meeting 5:30 Staff Room	24 Be Kind to your Mind Wear a hat	25 Be Kind to Others Wear orange to unite against bullying	26 Be Kind to your body wear exercise/athletic clothes Early Dismissal 12:15 Child Develop. Day 4K Outreach Kauk. Skate City 5:30	27 No School Conference Break	28
29	30	31 HS/MS Masquerade Concert Gym <i>Halloween</i>				

