



# Altoona Elementary School

## November Newsletter



### Important Dates

Nov. 1 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
PTO Family Dance

Nov. 5 6:00 p.m.  
Elem. PTO Meeting (Math Night)

Nov. 7 5:15-7:00 p.m.  
2nd & 3rd Grade Family Learning  
Night

Nov. 12 3:00-6:00 p.m.  
Fundraiser Pick Up Day

Nov. 25-29  
No School-Thanksgiving Break

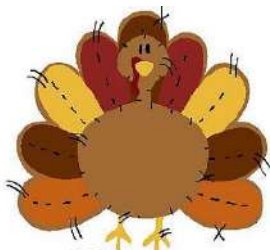


Daylight  
Savings  
Time  
Ends  
Nov. 3!

Dear Altoona Elementary Families,

Thank you for attending Parent/Teacher Conferences in October! It is so important that we keep the lines of communication open and that we work together to best meet your child's needs. Research has shown that having families as partners is associated with positive student outcomes in regards to academic achievement and increased attendance. If you ever have questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or me. We would be happy to speak with you.

Tara Betlach  
Altoona Elementary  
Principal



## Happy Thanksgiving



## 4K NEWS



We have enjoyed soaking up what's left of our fall weather here in Wisconsin. Some of our 4K sites have traveled to the Apple Orchard and the Fire Station; others have taken walks outside to explore the changes we notice going on around us.

Young children, beginning from birth, are naturally curious about science, or the study of the natural world. They are drawn to questions that help them make sense of their world like how birds fly, why leaves change color, and which objects sink and which float in the tub. At the same time, young children are also fascinated with the process of doing science-exploring cause-and-effect, discovering patterns, and more. In the early years, children use scientific practices like:

- Making observations and noticing similarities and differences
- Asking questions
- Describing animals and plants, and natural processes like rainstorms
- Predicting what will happen next in a process
- Providing explanations for processes they observe-such as why there is thunder
- Using tools to further exploration, such as binoculars, a shovel, or measuring cups.

Encourage your preschooler to notice the plants and animals in his world. Offer him a little bag or bucket to collect different leaves, rocks, or seeds at the park. Talk about all the animals the two of you see on the way to the bus-stop.

- Which fly?
- Which climb?
- Where do they live?
- What do they eat?

Talk together about your child's observations and questions. It's okay if you don't have all the answers, just let your child know: "We can find out together!"



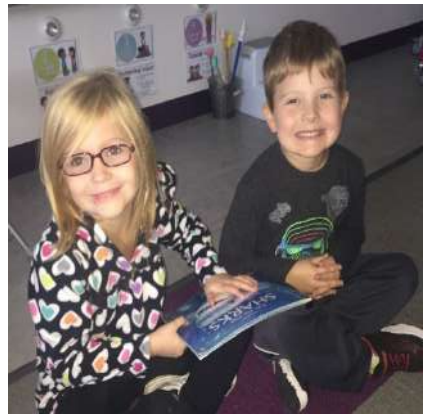




## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Throughout this past month, the kindergarten students have been working hard learning their Daily 5 routines. Daily 5 is used during our literacy instruction and teaches independence and the skills they need to grow as readers and writers. They have been practicing Read to Self, Listen to Reading, Read to Someone, Word Work, and Work on Writing.

October was also Fire Prevention Month and the kindergartners have been learning about fire safety. We talk about examples of good and bad fires and what they should do if there is a fire at school or at home. Later in the year, the Altoona Fire Department will come to talk more about fire safety with the kids.



# First Grade News



## Reading

This month, we have practiced asking and answering questions about books. We have specifically studied the work of Eric Carle. To end our unit, we did collage painting and cut it into animal shapes. We then wrote about our pictures, just like Eric Carle.



## Math

In math, we have been busy exploring 2D shapes. We have played "Fill a Hexagon" and have solved pattern block puzzles. Ask your first grader to draw a square, rectangle, triangle, and trapezoid!



## Second Steps

During our Second Steps lessons this month, we have been learning about empathy. Empathy is feeling or understanding what someone else is feeling. We learned that people show their feelings with their faces, bodies, and voices.







## News from 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



Second graders have been observing Painted Lady caterpillars in their classrooms over the last several weeks. They got to observe the caterpillars in each stage of their life cycle: caterpillars eating lots of food, forming their "J-shape" (preparation stage), making their chrysalis, and finally (after 7-10 days) emerging as beautiful butterflies! We fed them cut up fruit and sugar water to help them grow as strong as possible.

As a final celebration, each class released their butterflies outside into the butterfly garden. We enjoyed observing them, and it was bittersweet to say goodbye as they flew away. Watch for them when you're on the playground... they may stop back to visit!





# News from Third Grade

Eureka!

## Third Grade Science is Cutting Edge!

In third grade we have finished up our first science unit. We have been studying the power of flowers. We learned and studied how plants reproduce and pass on their traits. We have learned how the plants we eat are grown and how to make them more useful to us! We first started science by exploring pollination and how plants make fruit. We then learned why some fruits look and taste different than others. We took a look at different apples and learned how people who grow fruit can select the traits they like in a fruit and have that fruit reproduce. We also explored how we could make the BIGGEST fruit! To end our science unit we took a field trip to Ferguson's Apple Orchard.



At Ferguson's Apple Orchard we learned about all the different kinds of apples they had. We had an opportunity to pick our own Cortland apples. The experts at Ferguson's taught us how to pick apples. To do so we needed to firmly hold on to the apple, rotate our wrists toward the sky, and twist. The experts also taught us that apples have a waxy protective layer on them. This layer almost is like a sun screen for apples. It helps the apples stay fresh for longer!



To end our field trip, we brought back four different kinds of apples to try. At school we had our own taste test! We had an opportunity to try Honeycrisp, McIntosh, Sweet 16, and Wealthy apples. The kids took data, looked at each apples' colors, and how sweet or sour the apples were. At the end we compared our data and worked on a lab report to share our findings!

# News from our Specials

## Phy Ed

Hello from the AES physical education department. So far this year all students have spent time learning what it means to be safe, respectful, and responsible in PE. The second and third graders have also been learning how to kick and dribble with their feet. Next they will be learning how to throw, toss, and roll by participating in individual practice tasks as well as group games that facilitate their skill development. The kindergarteners and first graders have been learning how to throw and kick with force. Next they will be learning various locomotor skills such as skipping, galloping, leaping, jumping, hopping, etc. We look forward to continuing to assist your children in becoming physically literate individuals.

Mr Hugo. & Mr. Wojtyna



## Spanish



### **Kindergarten**

Students are in the middle of their unit about calabazas (pumpkins). In this unit, students learned how to talk about sizes of pumpkins and have also learned to identify emotions, as learned in this song: <https://youtu.be/UK59hUTnliM>

### **1st grade**

Students are busy both counting and identifying numbers 0-10 through different games, activities, and projects. Here are some songs we've used for practice:

<https://youtu.be/8ydJr1Is8xl>

<https://youtu.be/6-fM6rNooHw>

### **2nd grade**

Students are in the middle of their unit about sports, which started with them learning about the most popular sport in the world, fútbol! In this unit, students will learn vocabulary for different sports, review counting and identifying numbers up to 20, as well as be able to express their opinions about the various sports.

### **3rd grade**

Students are just wrapping up a unit about Hispanic Heritage Month. They've learned about many Spanish-speaking countries and the difference between people who identify as Hispanic and/or Latino. Next up will be choosing a person they've learned about for a Google Slideshow presentation project.

# Art



It's well into autumn and students have been learning all about Nature Art - with a focus on leaves! **Third grade** learned about Fiber Arts and natural color and made some beautiful nature weavings. **Second graders** learned about printmaking and used leaves to make bright and beautiful prints on black paper. **First grade** pressed leaves into clay to make clay leaves and are painting sunflowers inspired by Van Gogh. **Kindergarten** is learning about organic leaf shapes and will drawing and painting their own leaves in the days to come.



# Music



**Kindergarteners and 1st graders** are working on singing in tune (tuneful), keeping a steady beat (beatful) and showing/using expression in music (artful). Ask your child to sing one of our songs for you! When they sing one of our songs to you, write a note and send it to school with them and they will earn a sticker!

## **Kindergarten songs:**

Oh My!  
Johnny on the Woodpile  
Frog in the Meadow  
Pitter, Patter  
Chop, Chop  
Five Little Ladies  
Engine #9

## **First grade songs:**

Kye Kye Kule  
Lucy Rabbit  
There Was an Old Woman  
Hop Old Squirrel  
My Hat It Has Three Corners  
Wake Up You Lazy Bones

**Second graders** have met the 'Do', 'Re', and 'Mi' families and helped them move in to Music Street! Ask them about what they have learned about each family. We are singing songs with these three pitches in them and look for a music video that stars our 2nd graders on ClassDojo this week!

**Third graders** have now met the 'So' family, so we now have four families living on Music Street! We are singing songs with all 4 pitches in them and learning our verses of *This Land is Your Land* for our Veteran's Day Assembly.



## Please put these dates on your calendar:

Kindergarten: March 19th, 6-7pm - Kindergarten  
Specials Night

First Grade: April 30th, 12:30pm Music Program  
Second Grade: Jan. 16th, 6-7pm Folk Dance Night  
Third Grade: April 30th, 2pm Music Program



Have you signed up for the Box Tops app yet? It's so easy! Don't forget, you have only 14 days to 'scan' your receipt before it expires. The paper Box Tops are quickly disappearing, and the App will be our only way to earn Box Tops money.



Homecoming Parade



Author Visits First Graders

3rd Grade Field Trip



October was Principals Month.  
We celebrated Ms. Betlach!



THERE IS  
*always, always,*  
ALWAYS  
something  
*to be thankful for*





# Altoona Elementary Lunch Menu

November  
2019

Fruit and Vegetable Bar offered with Every Meal

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <p>ChooseMyPlate.gov</p>				<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Cheeseburger Basket Golden French Fries</p> <p>Fish Nugget Basket Golden French Fries Whole Grain Dinner Roll</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich Tri Tater</p> <p>Waffles with Scrambled Eggs Tri Tater</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Creamy Macaroni and Cheese Caesar Side Salad</p> <p>Hotdog on Whole Grain Bun Caesar Side Salad</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>6</b> <b>National Nacho Day</b></p> <p>Beefy Nachos with Cheese Sauce, Salsa, Lettuce and Tomato</p> <p>Turkey and Cheese Sub Sandwich Tortilla Chips</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Cheeseburger on a Whole Grain Bun Mashed Potatoes</p> <p>Baked Chicken Mashed Potatoes Breadstick</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Cheesy Italian Flatbread Corn</p> <p>Mini Corn Dogs Whole Grain Dinner Roll Corn</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup</p> <p>Crispy Chicken Nuggets Whole Grain Dinner Roll Tomato Soup</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Homemade French Bread PIZZA Potato Triangle</p> <p>Pancakes with Sausage Potato Triangle</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Crispy Chicken Tenders Whole Grain Dinner Roll Caesar Side Salad</p> <p>Ham, Egg &amp; Cheese on Bagel Caesar Side Salad</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Breaded Chicken Sandwich Golden French Fries</p> <p>Cheeseburger on Bun Golden French Fries</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>15</b> <b>Mom &amp; Dad at Lunch</b></p> <p>Roast Turkey &amp; Gravy Mashed Potatoes Stuffing Corn</p> <p>Hotdog on a Whole Grain Bun Mashed Potatoes Stuffing Corn</p> <p>***Homemade Pumpkin and Apple Desserts***</p>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Pancakes Scrambled Eggs Strawberry Topping Hashbrown Yogurt Pack - Yogurt, String Cheese, Bagel and Cream Cheese Hashbrown</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>19</b> <b>HOM Broccoli</b></p> <p>Pasta with Meat Sauce Broccoli Salad</p> <p>Crispy Chicken Nuggets Whole Grain Dinner Roll Broccoli Salad</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Fish Nugget Basket Golden French Fries Whole Grain Dinner Roll</p> <p>Cheeseburger Basket Golden French Fries</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Homemade Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Bread Stick</p> <p>Crispy Chicken Tenders Mashed Potatoes Bread Stick</p> <p>Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Walking Taco with Lettuce, Cheese and Salsa Steamed Vegetables</p> <p>Creamy Macaroni and Cheese Steamed Vegetables</p> <p>***Ice Cream Cup*** Fruit and Vegetable Bar</p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p>No School This Week - Have a Great Thanksgiving Break!</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>

## INFORMATION

Regular	\$2.70
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult	\$3.05
Milk	\$0.50

## EXTRA INFO

Milk choice of 1% White or Chocolate Skim is  
Included with lunch.  
For questions or comments, contact  
Bernie Allen at 715-839-6006  
or email ballen@altoona.k12.wi.us.

## HARVEST OF



## THE MONTH

Your MENUS plus more  
information on our app  
Taher Food4Life®



www.taher.com