

The Bulldog Bulletin

Alden Primary School – December 2023



A Note from Mr. Stepnick

Dear Primary School Families,

The holiday season is in full swing and we are preparing for a fun and busy December at Alden Primary! Here are some notes about our upcoming events:

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conference Day is scheduled for Friday, December 8th. Although High School and Middle School students are still in session, this is NOT an attendance day for K-5 students.

December Traditions

We are excited for several holiday traditions taking place throughout the month such as our Merry Moose Shop and the Kindergarten Polar Express. One tradition that has become a December favorite is our annual visit from Santa! Santa will be stopping by Alden Primary School on Thursday, December 21st this year. In addition to Santa's visit, we will have several other holiday activities occurring before the break including Winterfest activities and classroom parties!

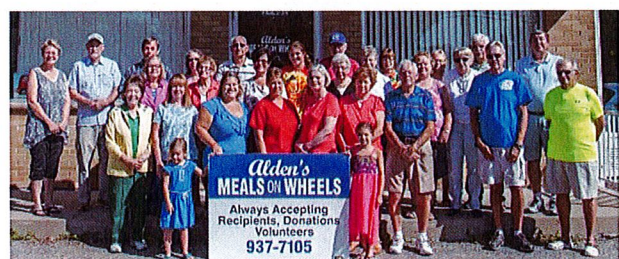
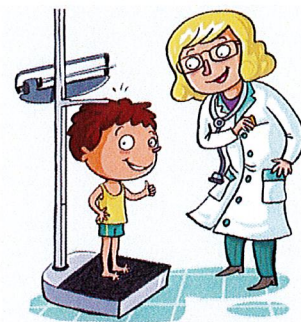
Spirit Week

The Spirit Week calendar for the week of December 18th is included. Each year during our December spirit week, we encourage students to take part in the joy of giving to others. If families have the ability, we are asking students to donate a small amount (a couple of quarters is plenty) to help support a school-wide cause. Past donation recipients have included The Alden Marilla Food Pantry, Wings Flights of Hope, and the Foster Love Closet. This year, we'll be supporting a wonderful community organization, Alden's Meals on Wheels.



Student Health Records

Anytime your child visits the pediatrician's office for an annual physical or for new immunizations, please remember to submit updated copies of these health records to our school nurse, Mrs. Schwab. Your child's doctor can print you a copy of these records, or the doctor's office can fax them to the Primary School at 716-937-9839. If you have any questions about your child's health record at school, please call 716-937-9116, ext. 6137 or e-mail Mrs. Schwab at mschwab@aldenschools.org.



PTO Happenings

Merry Moose Shop!



- December 4th & 5th

If you participated in our November Volunteer Training, we are hoping to have all attendees approved at the next BOE meeting on Dec. 13th. We will need volunteers for Winterfest on Dec. 20th and newly trained individuals will be eligible to assist! Sign-ups to volunteer are always posted on the Alden Primary PTO Facebook page.

December 12th - 6:30 PM

PTO Meeting @ APS (in the library)

Questions? Contact Mrs. Jackie Canetti,
PTO President, at 716-983-1650 or
aldenprimarypto@yahoo.com

Report Cards

Student report cards will be distributed at Parent Teacher Conferences. Please remember that our report cards are standards-based. Standards-based report cards list the most important skills that students should learn in each subject and help our teachers provide specific feedback about these skills through the use of a key (M, P, N). Although student report cards contain some helpful feedback about your child's current developmental level, there are also some things to remember about these reports:

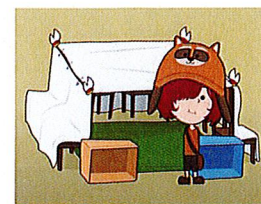


- Many standards are "end-of-year targets." Students should not be meeting this expectation until much later in the year and a mark of "Progressing" is expected.
- Some standards get increasingly more complex throughout the year and marks may only reflect what the class has covered at this point. If you see an "NA" listed on the report, classrooms are still working their way towards that skill.
- As expectations increase each marking period, it is possible that marks will change throughout the year. Students all progress at different rates and may start to struggle/do much better as the year goes on.

Standards-based report cards can help provide more consistency across each grade level because all students are evaluated on the same skills, regardless of classroom. Parents can see exactly which skills and knowledge their child has acquired, and which areas they may still need some additional help with!

Winter Doldrums

As the weather starts to get colder and the snow begins to fly, many of our students begin to spend more time indoors, with fewer opportunities to be active. If your child is reluctant to get outside and play in the snow, consider the following ideas for them to get their energy out:



- Indoor obstacle course: Pillow-piles make great hurdles and washcloths are terrific for stepping stones!
- Performances: Have your child act out a scene from their favorite book or movie, or lip-sing their favorite playlist.
- Learn a dance routine together: There are plenty of great options available on YouTube!
- Exercise videos: Get in shape together and find a family-friendly exercise tutorial.
- Build a fort: Blankets, sheets, and old boxes can all be great tools for making castles and tunnels!

News and Notes:

With the temperatures getting colder each week, please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Hats, gloves, winter coats, and boots are recommended. In the event of an emergency, (bus breakdown, evacuation, etc.) we want to make sure that all students are properly prepared.



Spirit Week Reminder

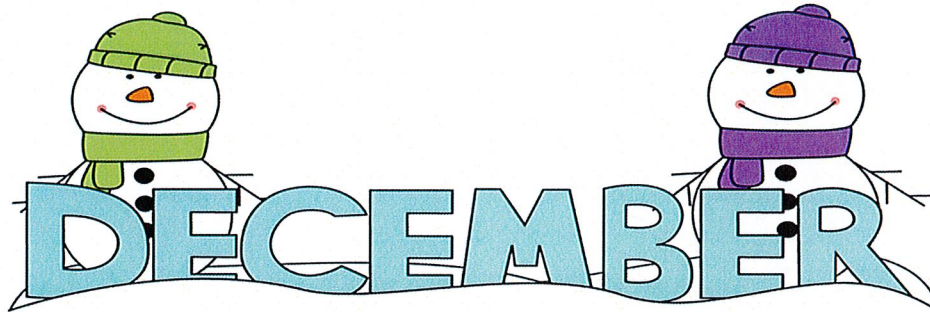
18th - Candy Cane Day!








19th - Pajama Day!

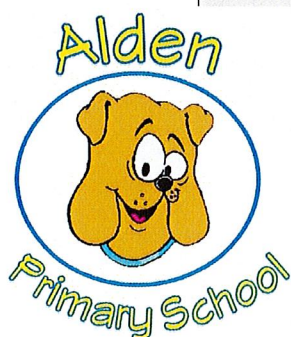
20th - Wear red and green!

21st - Wear holiday headwear!

22nd - No School ☺



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9
Merry Moose Shop - Flyer enclosed!					
Spirit Day: Wear flannels and plaids! 			Spirit Day: Wear blue and gold! 	Parent Teacher Conferences (No School for K-5)	
11	12	13	14	15	16
	PTO Meeting 6:30 PM	BOE Mtg. 6:30 PM			
18 Candy Cane Day Wear red and white! 	19 Kindergarten Polar Express 	20 Winter Fest Holiday Colors 	21 Santa Visits! Holiday Headwear 	22 No School	23
Spirit Week - Donations to benefit Alden's Meals on Wheels					
25	26	27	28	29	30
Winter Recess - NO SCHOOL					



The Merry Moose is coming to Alden Primary School!



We are excited to announce the PTO will be hosting the Merry Moose Shop this year. Shopping will be open to all students in school, Monday, December 4th through Wednesday, December 6th. Each child will have a chance to shop with their class during designated times. A schedule of classes has been printed on the back of this letter. Volunteers will assist students through the shop as well as teachers.

Gifts range from \$1 for items such as pencils to \$8 for Bills or Sabres items. Gifts may be purchased with cash or checks, made payable to Alden Primary PTO. Attached is an envelope that will aid in shopping. It will allow you to help children list and budget for who they will be shopping for. If you would like your child to use the money left over after their purchases to purchase something for themselves, please indicate so on the envelope. Participation is voluntary and no fundraising is done with these efforts. The service is offered and run by the PTO, and volunteers.

If you have completed volunteer training, and have been approved by the Board of Education, please consider helping us. You may sign up using Sign Up Genius. The link can be found on our Facebook page or in the Remind App.

We appreciate your help and look forward to a fantastic Merry Moose Shop!

Samantha Willard, Merry Moose Shop Coordinator

Alden Primary School

Merry Moose Shop

Game Cave – December 4th – 6th



Time	Monday, Dec. 4 th (A Day)	Tuesday, Dec. 5 th (B Day)
8:00 – 8:30	Set-Up/Organization	
8:30 – 9:00	Pacer	Bowman
9:00 – 9:30	Occhipinti	Ritchie/Smith
9:30 – 10:00	Kozub	Speranza
10:00 – 10:30	Scimia	Kindt
10:30 – 11:15	Restocking/Lunch	
11:15 – 11:45	Pawlewski	Remick
11:45 – 12:15	Wery	Yates/Landers
12:15 – 12:45	Etzel	OPEN
12:45 – 1:15	Stoltman/Whiteford	Ferrentino
1:15 – 1:45	Restocking	

***Mrs. George's Class: Push-in throughout the day.**

Time	Wednesday, Dec. 6 th
8:30 – 9:30	Last Call (K-2)
9:30 – 11:00	UPK Classes
11:00 – 2:00	Breakdown & Pack Up



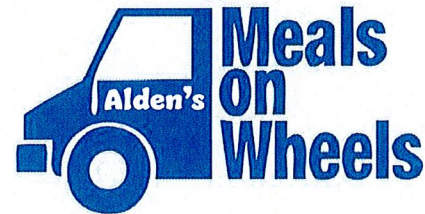
Alden Primary School

"Spirit of Giving Week"



The week of December 18th - 21st Alden Primary will be having a special Spirit Week in hopes of making the holidays a little brighter for our neighbors in need.

Voluntary donations will be given to Alden's Meals on Wheels. Those that would like to participate are encouraged to bring in pennies, or other spare change to donate throughout the week (students may also bring in dollar amounts if families choose to). Collection jars will be placed in the classroom all week long. Along with donating, students can have some holiday fun and dress up according to the schedule below. This coincides with our character trait for the month: **Generosity**. We appreciate your thoughtfulness during this season of giving!



Monday, Dec. 18th - **Candy Cane Day**

Wear your red and white!

Tuesday, Dec. 19th - **Pajama Day** - No slippers please!

(Slippers get too dirty and the hallways become slippery!)

(Kindergarten Polar Express Day)



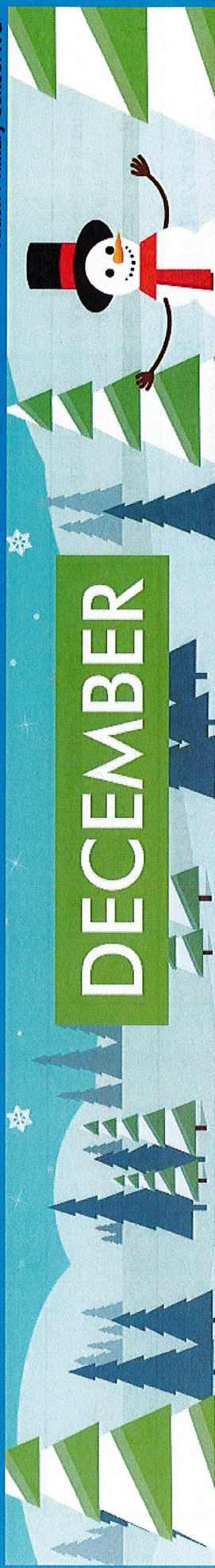
Wednesday, Dec. 20th - **Holiday Attire (Wear red, green, and white!)**





Shirts and socks that are merry and bright!

Thursday, Dec. 21st - **Holiday Headwear**

Santa hats, headbands, and reindeer antlers all are welcome!

(Santa Visit!)

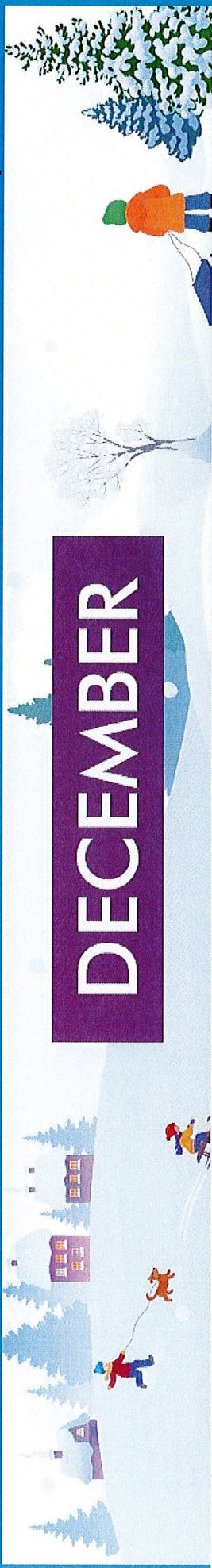


Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 Dec 4 Wild Mikes Cheese Bites with Sauce Green Beans Broccoli	 Dec 5 Pancakes with Blueberry Glaze Sausage Links Hash Brown Patties Carrot Coins	 Dec 6 Cheeseburger on a Bun Baked Vegetarian Beans Crinkle Cut Fries	 Dec 7 Elbow Pasta Bake Dinner Roll Broccoli Green Beans	Dec 1 Creamy Mac and Cheese Dinner Roll Broccoli Green Beans
Dec 11 Breaded Chicken Patty on Bun Baked Vegetarian Beans Crinkle Cut Fries	Dec 12 Taco in Bag Seasoned Rice Golden Corn Black Beans Salsa Sour Cream	Dec 13 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Campbell's Tomato Soup Green Beans Cucumber Slices with Ranch Dressing	Dec 14 Cheeseburger Mac & Cheese Dinner Roll Broccoli Carrot Coins	Dec 15 Pizza Crunchers with Sauce Golden Corn Carrot Coins
Dec 18 Mini Turkey Corn Dogs Broccoli Baked Vegetarian Beans	Dec 19 Mini Waffles Colby Cheese Omelet Hash Brown Patties Carrot Coins	Dec 20 Diced Chicken & Gravy Dinner Roll Mashed Potatoes Green Beans	Dec 21 Seasonal Chicken Nuggets Buttered Pasta Broccoli Carrot Coins	Dec 22 NO SCHOOL TODAY!
Dec 25 Mini Turkey Corn Dogs Broccoli Baked Vegetarian Beans	Dec 26 Mini Waffles Colby Cheese Omelet Hash Brown Patties Carrot Coins	Dec 27 Diced Chicken & Gravy Dinner Roll Mashed Potatoes Green Beans	Dec 28 Seasonal Chicken Nuggets Buttered Pasta Broccoli Carrot Coins	Dec 29 NO SCHOOL TODAY!

Meal Prices & 2nd Meal Prices: Lunch: @ PS \$2.45 / Juice \$.60 - Milk \$.55 - Small Water - \$0.60 - Large Water - \$1.00
 Daily Items: Milk Variety, Fresh Fruit Variety and Canned Fruit Variety. Always Offered: Pizza, Yogurt Lunch & PB&J.

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider. Menu is subject to change. **ICE CREAM AVAILABLE FRIDAY FOR PURCHASE \$0.75-\$1.25** A La Carte
 Sales: Pretzels \$0.75 / Cheese Slice \$0.25 / Yogurt 4oz. \$0.50/ WG Cheese It \$0.50 / Scooby-Doo Gummies \$0.75

Interested in working as a Lunch Monitor or Food Service Helper (regular or substitute)? Contact Reanna Lizauckas @ 716-937-9116 X 4186



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				
Dec 4 Assorted Cereal w/ Graham Main Fresh Juice	Dec 5 Warm Frudel - Cherry or Apple Fresh Juice	Dec 6 Egg, Ham & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Juice	Dec 7 Warm Buttered Bagel Fresh Juice	Dec 8 Muffin and Graham Cracker Fresh Juice
Dec 11 Assorted Cereal w/ Graham Main Fresh Juice	Dec 12 Warm Frudel - Cherry or Apple Fresh Juice	Dec 13 Egg, Sausage & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Juice	Dec 14 Warm Buttered Bagel Fresh Juice	Dec 15 Muffin and Graham Cracker Fresh Juice
Dec 18 Assorted Cereal w/ Graham Main Fresh Juice	Dec 19 Warm Frudel - Cherry or Apple Fresh Juice	Dec 20 Egg, Ham & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Juice	Dec 21 Warm Buttered Bagel Fresh Juice	Dec 22 NO SCHOOL TODAY
Dec 25	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29

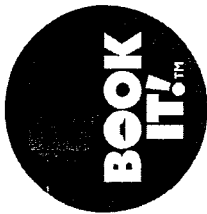


Meal Prices & 2nd Meal Prices: Breakfast: @ PS \$1.55 / Juice \$.60 - Milk \$.55 - Small Water - \$.60 - Large Water - \$1.00

Daily Items: Milk Variety, Fresh Fruit Variety and Canned Fruit Variety. Always Offered: Cold Cereal & Graham, Pop-Tart Meal & Yogurt Meal.

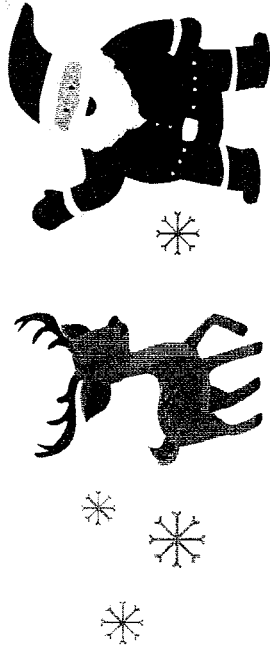
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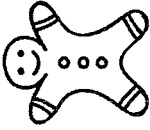
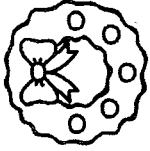
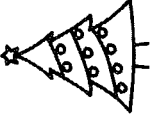


DECEMBER 2023

Reading Log



For each day that you read toward your goal, color in the picture.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Student signature _____

Parent signature _____



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