

# The Bulldog Bulletin

Alden Primary School – January 2023



## A Note from Mr. Stepnick

Dear Primary School Families,

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

I hope everyone had an enjoyable winter recess! I know the weather put a damper on many family traditions and parties, but hopefully you were able to stay warm and safe throughout the Christmas weekend. Here's to a smoother start to 2023!

## Primary School Updates:

### PTO Fun Nights (K & 1<sup>st</sup>)

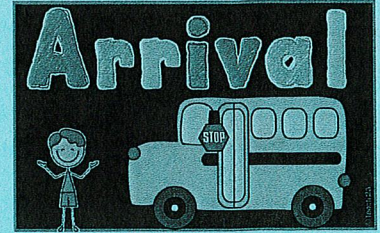
This month, our Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will both have the opportunity to take part in a PTO Fun Night. Please remember to RSVP so that the PTO has an accurate head count for each event. We are still in need of parent volunteers for both nights, so if you are available and willing to help, please contact Mrs. Braun as soon as possible.

### PE Department Shifts

Congratulations to Mr. Tim Stone, who retired at the end of December! Because of Mr. Stone's retirement, we now have several shifts taking place in our Physical Education Department. Beginning on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mr. Cornwell (IS) will be transitioning to the High School and Mr. Bergler will be moving into a full-time spot at the Intermediate School. To replace the extra K-5 vacancy, the elementary buildings would like to welcome Mrs. Holly Follett to our instructional staff. Mrs. Follett will take over each of Mr. Bergler's Primary School PE classes on B/D/F days. There will not be any changes to Mr. Carll's current groups. Welcome Mrs. Follett!

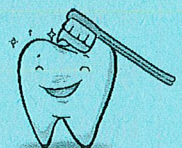
### Dental Health Presentations - Grade 2

In December, about half of our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students had an opportunity to learn about the importance of dental health and taking care of their teeth. Ms. Katie Herzog, a dental hygienist from the ECDOH will return in January to meet with our remaining 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes!



Just a reminder that our doors open at 7:45 AM and our PS instructional day begins at 8:05 AM. Students arriving after 8:05 will have to enter through the Main Office and will be marked tardy. Students entering the building late should be accompanied by an adult.

Mornings are already a busy time for our Main Office and large groups of students arriving late puts additional strain on our office staff, and creates confusion for our classroom teachers (breakfast, lunch counts, attendance, etc.). If you are having a hard time arriving before 8:05 AM, and would like additional information about your child's bus pickup, please do not hesitate to reach out.





### PTO Happenings

Look for info regarding our Little Caesar's fundraiser coming out soon!

We are still in need of volunteers for both of our upcoming January Fun Nights.



### Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 PM in the PS Library

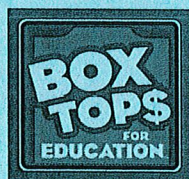
### Questions?

Please contact Mrs. Nicole Braun, PTO President, at 716-867-1567 or [aldenprimarypto@yahoo.com](mailto:aldenprimarypto@yahoo.com)

The January reading log is attached. If students have been tracking their December reading, they can turn logs in by Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>!

### Box Tops for Education

Thank you to all of the families that have been scanning in your Box Tops for Education! Our PTO receives substantial donations from Tops that help to fund our fun nights and other school events. If you'd like to help us accumulate additional points, please download the app and start scanning your receipts. Eligible products will automatically be calculated.



### Combatting Winter Boredom

Because the January forecasts force many of us to stay indoors more than we're used to, it is easy to let the doldrums of winter take hold. Here's a few quick ideas (with an educational twist, of course) to help break up the day when you hear those dreaded words: "I'm bored."

### Play a Game

Many board games are extremely beneficial to students' overall language development. Here's a few suggestions for some fun ways to improve children's speaking and listening skills through play: *Headbandz*, *Guess Who?*, *Outburst*, *Scattergories*, *Catchphrase*.

### Get Competitive

Contests (sit-ups, planks, wall sits) are a good way to burn some energy! Indoor tag, (put plastic bags or pieces of streamer paper in your waistline), and obstacle courses, (pillows and blankets make great things to jump over), can also be fun.

### Make a Craft

Many crafts that involve cutting, pinching, and sorting force students to utilize important fine motor skills. Sites like "Pinterest" can be a great source of inspiration for just about any month, season, or theme.



## **Pet Connection Programs, Inc.**

12935 Williston Road, East Aurora, NY 14052 🐾 716.652.0192 Fax: 716.655.3612  
[www.petconnectionprogramsinc.com](http://www.petconnectionprogramsinc.com) 🐾 [admin@petconnectionprogramsinc.com](mailto:admin@petconnectionprogramsinc.com)

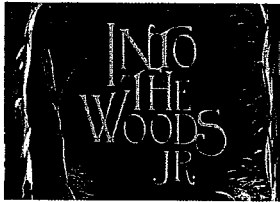
Thank you for your generosity during our December Spirit Week. We were able to raise over \$280 which will be donated to the Pet Connection later this week. We appreciate your support in giving back to our community organizations!

## Holiday Spirit Week



## News and Notes:

\* On Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, students will be traveling to the main campus to preview this year's MS musical, Into the Woods, Jr. Reminder notices will be sent home early in the month.



\* Please remember that any phone calls to add students to our parent pick-up lists should occur in the morning (before 12:00 PM). Although we understand that emergencies occasionally occur, communicating this information to staff gets harder the later we get in the day.



Alden



# January



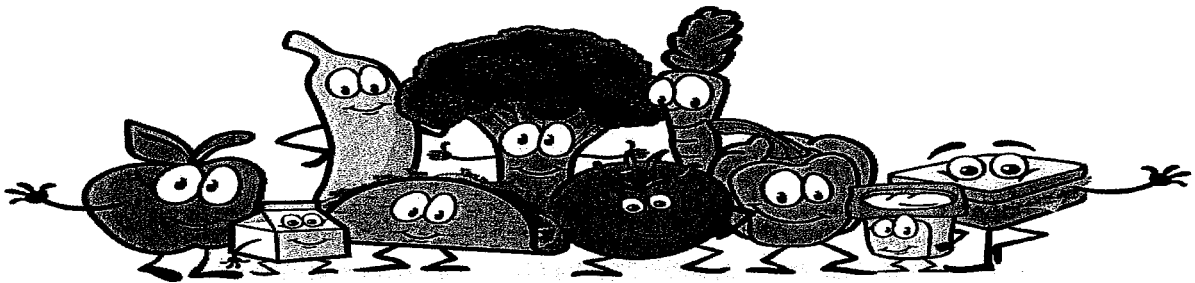
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2 HAPPY NEW YEAR	3	4	5  BOE Mtg. 6:30PM - HS	6 Buffalo Bills Spirit Day Wear red, white, and blue!  Kindergarten Fun Night	7
	9	10  PTO Mtg. 6:30 PM	11	12	13 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Fun Night	14  AYBS Sign-Ups 9AM-12PM (Community Center) Baseball
	16  NO SCHOOL  Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17 Bulldog Spirit Day -Wear blue & gold!	18 Dress Your Best Day -Wear your best for our MS Musical preview!	19 Superhero Day -Show your love for your favorite superhero!  BOE Mtg.	20 Buffalo Bills Spirit Day Wear red, white, and blue!	21
	23	24	25	26	27	28  AYBS Sign-Ups 9AM-12PM (Community Center) Baseball
	30	31	<div> Middle School Musical (Into the Woods Jr.) January 19<sup>th</sup> - January 21<sup>st</sup> </div>			

11197 Broadway, Alden, NY 14004

(716) 937-9116 ext. 6191

# **EARN WHILE YOUR CHILDREN LEARN!**

Alden Food Service Department is  
now accepting applications for  
Food Service Helper (RPT &  
Substitutes)



Please apply at the District Office or  
contact:

Reanna Lizauckas

@ 716-937-9116 extension 4186