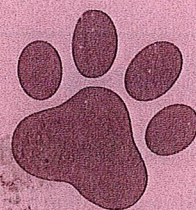


The Bulldog Bulletin

Alden Primary School – February 2023



A Note from Mr. Stepnick

Dear Primary School Families,

Although the groundhog will let us know his prediction in a couple of days, the winter weather will likely be around for quite some time. While you're cuddled up with your blankets at night, take advantage of this time indoors to establish some new reading routines with your child with a nightly read aloud! Reading aloud is one of the best ways to spend time with your youngster, build their basic reading skills, and help them learn to love books! Here's a few quick tips for making this time enjoyable:

Select the Right Books: If your home library is lacking in variety, check out one of the public libraries. (Alden, Marilla, and Lancaster all have hours extending up to 6-7PM into the evening). If your child has a particular interest, don't be afraid to ask the librarian to help you find some new books on that topic. In addition, don't forget about some of your own personal preferences as a kid. Your excitement for a childhood favorite is likely to get your child excited too!

Make Reading Time a Priority: Be sure to make your time together special. Get teeth brushed ahead of time and limit potential distractions. Turn the TV off, silence your cell phone, and build the excitement beforehand ("I can't wait to see what happens at the end of our story. I wonder how they're going to find their way home.").

Be Silly: You can use different voices for different characters (a high, squeaky voice for a mouse or a deep, booming voice for a horse). Or substitute your youngster's name for the main character's name and use family members' names for others.

Don't Neglect the Nonfiction: If fairytales and adventure don't hold your child's attention, there's nothing wrong with non-fiction! Talk about topics that interest your child (a type of animal, a sport, a famous landmark) and find books to help expand their knowledge. Many new non-fiction series like *Who Would Win?* and *National Geographic* are packed with fun facts and interesting photographs.



2023-2024 School Year

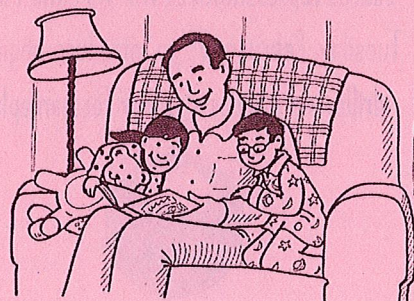
If you have a child who will be starting kindergarten in the fall, information will be coming out very soon! Spread the word to any friends or relatives and pass along the following dates:

Mon, Feb. 20th - K Registration Opens

- Info will be posted on the District website.
- UPK students will bring printed packets home.
- Registration packets will be available for pickup in the PS foyer.

Fri., Apr. 21st - Registration Deadline #1

Once registration packets are received, we will begin scheduling K Screening appointments for June and July!



PTO Happenings

Our Little Caesar's fundraiser closes on February 8th! Don't forget to place your orders. Pizza kits will ship directly to homes this year.

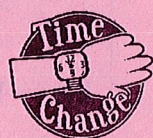
Our second apparel sale of the year is currently in progress. Please return order forms and payment to your child's teacher by Feb. 10th.

Spring candy order forms went home this week!

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, February 14th

3:00 PM - APS Library



Questions?

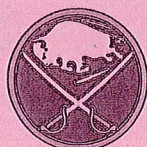
Please contact Mrs. Nicole Braun, PTO

President, at 716-867-1567 or

aldenprimarypto@yahoo.com

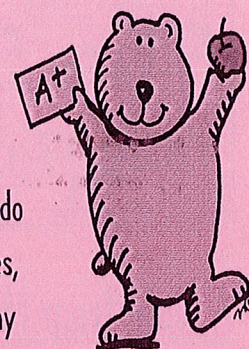
Coming Soon!

During their upcoming Physical Education classes, 2nd grade students will have an amazing opportunity to work with representatives from the Buffalo Sabres as they learn more about the game of hockey! Sabres representatives will visit the PS on Tuesday, February 7th to introduce beginner drills and discuss strategy for gameplay.



Conclusion of the Second Trimester

At the elementary level (K-5), our second trimester will conclude on Monday, March 13th. Progress Reports will be mailed out to families by Friday, March 24th. Although we do not designate a date for spring Parent-Teacher Conferences, you are welcome to reach out to your child's teacher at any time to discuss their academic, behavioral, or social-emotional progress. If your child's teacher feels the need for a second conference, they will reach out to you in March.



Looking for Something New?

Spring is right around the corner and that means that many local youth programs are completing registrations and starting to plan for the warmer weather. Our Town of Alden Recreation Department is a wonderful resource to find out more about the opportunities that are available for our elementary students. Swimming, baseball, softball, and soccer are popular programs with many of our K-2 students. Involvement in sports and extracurricular activities is a great way for students to get exercise, spend time outdoors, meet new friends, and learn valuable lessons about sportsmanship and being part of a team.

If you've never checked out the website, feel free to visit <https://www4.erie.gov/alden/recreation> for additional information!

Alden Recreation Pool Schedule

January 31
thru
June 10

Lap Swim: Tuesdays & Thursdays from
6:00am-8:00am & 6:00pm-8:00pm \$2 per person
Open Swim/Family Swim: Saturdays 1:00-4:00pm \$2 per person
Senior Swim: Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00-10:15am

The pool will be closed 1/31 pm only, 2/4, 2/20-2/26,
2/28 pm only, 3/2 pm only, 3/4, 3/23, no senior swim, 4/13-4/10, 5/27

News and Notes



Student Arrival

If your child attends breakfast, please ensure they are dropped off prior to 8:00. We do not want to rush any of our students out of the cafeteria each morning.

7:45 AM - PS doors open and busses unload.

7:45 - 8:05 AM - Doors remain open for parent drop-off.

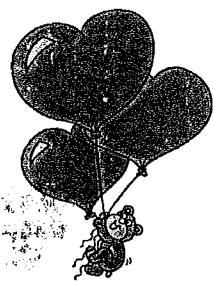
7:45 - 8:10 - Breakfast








Valentine's Day

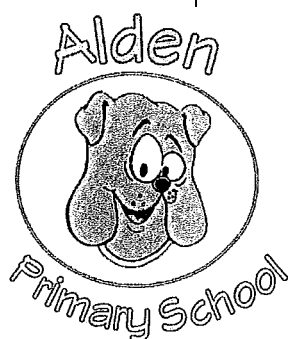
PS students are allowed to pass out valentines and treats to their classmates. Edible items will be brought home for parent approval.



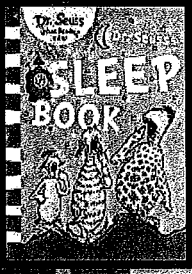
February



| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|---|----------|
| | | 1 | 2  | 3 | 4 |
| | | | BOE Mtg. HS - 6:30 | | |
| 6 | 7 Sabres Day! (Wear your Sabres gear or blue and gold!)  PTO Mtg. PS - 3:00 PM | 8 HS Musical Preview (9:45 AM) "Fiddler on the Roof" | 9 | 10 NO SCHOOL Supt.'s Conference Day PTO Apparel Orders Due! | 11 |
| 13 | 14 ↓ Valentine's Celebrations  Wear Red & Pink! | 15 | 16 BOE Mtg. HS - 6:30 | 17 Bulldogs  Spirit Day (Wear Alden blue & gold!) | 18 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| NO SCHOOL - Mid-Winter Recess | | | | | |
| Presidents' Day | | | | | |
| 27 Pajama Day (The Sleep Book)  | 28 Hat Day (The Cat in the Hat)  | 27 Wacky Wednesday: Polka dots, leopard, stripes, and plaids! (Wacky Wednesday) | 28 Shirts with Messaging (I Can Read with My Eyes Shut) | 3 Red & Blue Day (One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish)  | 4 |

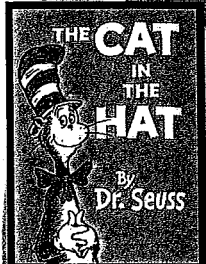


Dr. Seuss Week - Alden Primary



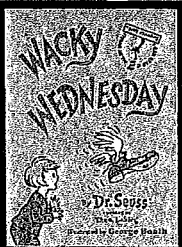
Monday, February 27 - The Sleep Book - "Pajama Day"

For a sleepover, slumber party or going to bed, come to school in your pajamas instead!



Tuesday, February 28 - The Cat in the Hat - "Hat Day"

Hats and sombreros and baseball caps; berets and bonnets and warm things with flaps!



Wednesday, March 1 - Wacky Wednesday -

Polka dots and stripes together if you dare...
which kind of wacky combination will you wear?
Leopard print and flannel, who cares?!?



Thursday, March 2 - I Can Read with My Eyes Shut

The words on your shirt will let everyone see,
just how stylish that reading can be!

Friday, March 3 - One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish

Wear red and blue, any shade will do!

