



FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

4K & Early Childhood Services
Viking Elementary School
500 East Wall St.
Holmen, WI 54636

Ms. Sue Eitland, Principal
eitsue@holmen.k12.wi.us
608.526.3316, ext. 4133

From the principal's desk...

Thank you...

- Thank you for being your children's first and most important teachers! It makes OUR HEARTS happy that you share them with us!
- To those who are able to participate in our Family Math Event and Early Childhood Family Night!

Things you should know....

- Each and every day, and especially during the month of February, we focus on kindness. When you catch your child doing something kind for another person, please take time to notice this out loud to them. Spreading kindness brings joy and gratitude not only to the person who is the receiver, but also "fills the bucket" of the giver.
- Make certain to watch for specific school celebrations in the Communication Log from your child's teacher. The staff has some wonderful activities planned!
- Be watching for progress reports to be sent home on March 1st. It's so neat to see how the children continue to learn and grow in their skills!
- We will be scheduling Family Teacher Conferences for March 17, 19, and 21. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Contact

Feel free to reach out to your children's teachers or me if there are changes or challenges they are experiencing away from school. By collaborating, we can all help to maintain their emotional well-being, so that they are able and ready to continue learning both at school and at home!

Sincerely,
~Ms. Eitland



February 1st:

Family Math Night
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Viking Elementary School

February 14th:

District Early Release Day
No school for EC/4K students
La Crosse Children's Museum Outreach Event
207 5th Ave S, La Crosse, WI
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**This is not a field trip; It's our monthly Family Outreach event. Students and their caregiver(s) can meet us there for some great family fun time!*

February 19th:

No School for EC/4K Students

February 26th – March 1st:

Read Across America Week

**See the flyer toward the end of this newsletter for optional dress-up days this week*

4K REGISTRATION INFORMATION

School District Open Enrollment

Wisconsin's inter-district public school Open Enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live. Applications may be submitted to no more than three non-resident school districts.

Students in 4K through grade 12 may apply to participate in Open Enrollment. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for Open Enrollment.

The Open Enrollment application period for the 2024-25 school year is from February 5 - April 30, 2024 until 4:00 p.m. Parents must apply to the non-resident district. A non-resident district is defined as the district in which you do not live, but where you want your child to attend.

It is recommended that you apply for Open Enrollment through the on-line application process at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oe>. The Open Enrollment application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.

If you have any questions regarding Open Enrollment, please contact Courtney Wilson, Open Enrollment Coordinator/Registrar for the School District of Holmen, Student Services Department, at (608) 526-1309.

The School District of Holmen is currently accepting enrollments for the 2025-25 Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) Program in early February. Any child, who is four-years-old on or before September 1, 2024 and lives in the school district boundaries, is eligible to participate. We encourage early registration in order to help us plan accordingly for the 2024-25 school year. **Note:** **All enrollment is done online – www.holmen.k12.wi.us**

Important 4K Information:

- All 4K classes are held at Viking Elementary School
- AM Session: 8:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- PM Session: 11:45 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Placement in AM or PM session is based upon transportation needs. We notify families of class placements during Picture Day in August.

If you have any questions please call Viking Elementary School at 608.526.3316.

Speech Update

Articulation is the pronunciation of sounds. Articulation Therapy works to help a child find the right placement of articulators (a fancy word for tongue, lips, teeth, etc.) to say words so others understand them. Different sounds are expected to be developed at various ages. The following is a list showing at what age certain sounds are expected:

-3 years old: p, m, d, n, y, b, h, w

-4 years old: k, g, t, f, ng, y

-5 years old: v, j, s, ch, l, sh, z

-6 years old: r, voiced 'th' (this), zh (measure)

-7 years old: unvoiced 'th' (thumb)

It may be time to show concern if you observe one or more of the following:

1. Family members or friends have a hard time understanding your child.
2. Your child demonstrates frustration because you don't understand his/her speech.
3. Your child does not show outward frustration when trying to communicate, but he/she may give up, walk away, or stop attempting to communicate.

If you are concerned about your child's ability to speak clearly or if you have any questions, please talk to your child's teacher.

~Liz Dahlen & Caitlin Mosel, EC/4K Speech/Language Pathologists



Don't Forget!

Wednesday, February 14th is a District Early Release Day. Therefore, **EC/4K students will not have school!**

Join us for our monthly Family Outreach Event at the La Crosse Children's Museum from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.



There is No School on Monday, February 19th, 2024!

Enjoy the three-day weekend!

Be Prepared for Inclement Weather or Emergencies

As a reminder, The School District of Holmen utilizes a text message notification system to alert families and staff about emergencies, including school closings due to inclement weather.

Additionally, we will communicate information regarding school closings or delays on the following platforms:

1. District's Homepage: [www.holmen.k12.wi.us]
2. Facebook Page: [<https://www.facebook.com/holmenschools>]
3. Instagram Page: [<https://www.instagram.com/holmenschooldistrict>]
4. Local Media Outlets: [WXOW, WKBT, WEAU, La Crosse Tribune]

We encourage you to stay connected with us through these channels to receive timely updates on any changes to the school schedule due to inclement weather.

The safety and well-being of our students and staff are our top priorities, and we want to ensure that everyone is prepared and informed during these situations.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the District Office at, 608.526.6610.



Please note:

If there is a 2-hour school delay, the AM session of Early Childhood and 4K will be cancelled for the day, but the PM session will run as usual.

If school is cancelled or if there is an early release due to inclement weather, all Public Preschool activities and programs for the remainder of the day/evening will also be postponed.



Creative Curriculum Interest Area: Classroom Library

The Library Area is a very important part of your child's classroom. It's where children gain the foundation for reading and writing. It's also a place where students can relax and enjoy the wonderful world of books.

We encourage students to look at books, listen to recorded stories, retell stories, and "write" their own stories throughout the day. Sometimes children dictate stories to an adult, which we record for them.

We read stories to the children every day. Reading introduces new ideas, helps students learn how to handle problems that come up in life, and mostly encourages children to develop a love for books. As children listen to us read, their own reading skills begin to develop.

Here are some of the things we do as we read:

- Look at pictures and ask: "What do you see?"
- Encourage children to predict what will happen next: "What do you suppose will happen now?"
- Encourage children to repeat words, rhymes, and phrases they've memorized.

What You Can Do at Home

Research has shown us the important role families play in helping children learn to read and write. The single most important thing you can do is to read to your child every day. When your child sits next to you as you read, he begins to connect books with good feelings. Here are a few more things you can do with your child.

- Encourage your child to talk about the stories you read.
- Ask questions like, "I wonder what will happen next, or "I wonder why..."
- Try to relate the story to something in your child's life ("That looks just like Grandpa's dog!")
- Visit the library and check out books that interest your child.
- Give your child paper and pencils, pens, or markers and let him experiment with writing.

If you would like some help choosing books, or guidance on how to read with your child, please let us know. To keep your child's home library well stocked, you can draw on the resources of our local public library. When you take the time to read to your child every day, you are doing the very best thing to help your child grow up to be a successful reader.

Virtual Backpack

The School District of Holmen utilizes a "green" approach for distributing flyers from community organizations. Note that most of these advertisements are not district publications (unless marked). The District enables this online distribution as a community service to inform you of educational opportunities, activities and events available in our area. Click on this link to be directed to the information: <https://www.holmen.k12.wi.us/community/pre-k-elementary-school-flier.cfm>.

Health Office Update Emily Hanes BSN, RN

With hat season upon us, I would like to bring to your attention the possible spreading of head lice. Good head hygiene habits are essential. If your child complains of an itchy scalp, we encourage you to check your children's heads for the presence of any lice or nits. Head to head contact is the most common form of transmission. Lice do not jump or fly from head to head, but crawl. Articles such as combs, brushes, helmets, towels, pillowcases, hats, or other head coverings also aid in the spread of head lice. Please discourage your child from sharing these personal items.



There is a rumor that “Super Lice” are present. This is due to lice being resistant to head lice brands that have been around for many years. Just like how some antibiotics aren't as effective due to over use, the same thing is happening with head lice treatments. Prescription shampoo treatments are also available from your doctor. Other alternative treatments include mayonnaises, olive oil, and coconut oil to the head, covered with a shower cap or cling wrap for 8 hours to suffocate the lice. We do not recommend putting your child to bed with this on their head due to the risk of suffocation. Nits (eggs) have to be either combed or picked out of the hair. Also deep cleaning of the home and the classroom is required to prevent re-infestation, or infestation of others. All couches, car seats, mattresses, and flooring needs to be vacuumed. The vacuum bag must be thrown out after vacuuming or they may crawl out. Sheets must be washed daily and placed in the dryer for drying for at least 30 minutes. Anything that cannot be laundered must be placed in plastic garbage bags and let to sit for two weeks or longer if lice and nits are still present.

When checking for nits, if it removes easily from the hair, it is not a nit. Nits are attached by a strong glue to the hair shaft, about one to two inches from the scalp. Lice can live 1-2 days on a surface without a human host. They live about a month on the scalp, and the female louse can lay 6 eggs (nits) a day.

If you believe your child has head lice, **PLEASE contact the health office for assistance in treatment.** Your child will need to be checked for the presents of lice and nits before returning to class. The school district currently has a no lice or nit policy. A student should only miss one day of school due to the presence of head lice and nits.

For more information please refer to the CDC website <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/index.html>

2024 Elementary Summer School
July 8 – 25, 2024
Evergreen Elementary



New this year:

- Families determine whether to register for summer school. There will be no staff recommendations to attend Summer School.
- Registration for ALL students will occur on the same date for Incoming Kindergarten (Ready, Set, Let's Learn Class) through gr. 5 students.
- **The Registration Date is April 9, 2024. Mark your calendars now!**
 - ◆ The Registration link will be emailed to families who are within our student information system, Infinite Campus, as well as those in our Census School.
 - ◆ The Registration link will also be available on the School District of Holmen website under Families - Summer School - Elementary Summer School - Registration Link.
- Parents will register their children online for the grade level they will be going into during the upcoming fall.

Friendly Reminders about Registration:

- All ENROLLMENT occurs on a first-come, first-served basis for each grade level.
 - ◆ There are NO summer classes available for students going into 4K during the fall of 2024.
- We have limited space and staff availability, so even if you register your child for summer school, they are not considered ENROLLED until you receive notification from us that they receive one of the spots in their grade level.
- Once spaces are filled, we place students on a waiting list for their grade level.
- By **April 30th**, we will notify all families whether their child is enrolled or if they have been placed on the waiting list for their grade level.
- If a space becomes available in a grade level, we contact the first person on the waiting list. There is not a space available if you do not hear from us.

Additional Information regarding Elementary Summer School classes, transportation, and breakfast, etc. will be included in the March Newsletter.

Contact Information:

Sue Eitland, Elementary Summer School Principal 608.526.3316
Kim Edwards, Executive Director of Instructional Services 608.526.1311
Jill Mason, Executive Director of Student Services 608.526.1308

Holmen Public Preschool

Read Across America Week

February 26
to
March 1

This Week's Note

We hope you enjoy our celebration of reading and that you celebrate reading at home too!
Happy reading!

Dress-Up Days

Monday

Reading is amazing and so are comfy days!
(Wear your pajamas or something comfy.)

Tuesday

Reading helps us follow our dreams!
(Dress like what do you want to be when you grow up.)

Wednesday

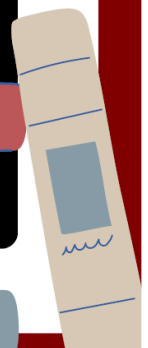
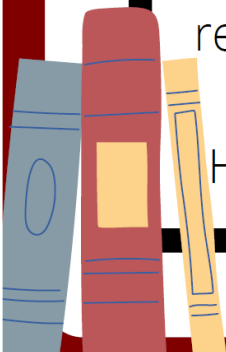
Reading takes us places!
(What would you wear on vacation?)

Thursday

Reading is active!
(Wear your workout or sports gear.)

Friday

We are wild about reading!
(Wear your animal or safari outfit.)





HELP WANTED

JOIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF HOLMEN TEAM TODAY!

Enjoy being on our substitute list
and work when it's convenient for
you. Doesn't that sound...**LOVELY?**

Sub Cook \$15/hr

Sub Custodian \$16.30/hr

Sub Bus Driver \$21/hr

Sub Van Driver \$16.80/hr

SDH IS AN EOE – APPLY VIA THE EMPLOYMENT TAB