



# Sand Lake School's February Newsletter

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## From the principal's desk...

**With Gratitude:** Thanks for a welcoming start to my time here at Sand Lake. I have enjoyed getting to know some of you, your children, and continuing to work with such a great staff. I can sense the pride that many of you have in Sand Lake and I share that with you.

Throughout the rest of the newsletter, you'll notice many of the special events, recognitions, and opportunities that present themselves in February. We hope to see you at Sand Lake for some of these events and please know that our staff can assist with any questions that you have. As I have been getting grounded in this interim role, I've learned that there are a couple of important topics to be aware of in February:

**Weather:** Please keep an eye on the weather throughout the month. If school is closed due to the weather, you will receive a text message and an eblast message. If you have not been receiving text messages, please review [these directions](#) and ensure your contact information is up to date.

We also do take students outside if the weather is 1 degree or higher. Please send your child with the appropriate items (hat, mittens, snow pants, coat and boots). Please contact the school if your child needs any of these supplies.

**Read: This is important every month!** Reading with your child is a great family activity! Students are encouraged to read at least 20 minutes each night. This can be them reading to you, you reading to them or anything in between. It's a great way to learn about the world around you, help your child become a confident reader and will benefit your child here at school.

**Global School Play Day:** Global School Play Day took place on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Global School Play Day is annually observed on the first Wednesday of February. Participating in this day has been a long standing Sand Lake tradition. Our students and staff enjoy a day of unstructured play where creativity shines. This form of learning has great benefits in students' developing critical thinking skills as a part of overall development.

We're going to have a great finish to the school year at Sand Lake! If you have any questions or would like to connect, please don't hesitate to email ([meymat@holmen.k12.wi.us](mailto:meymat@holmen.k12.wi.us)) or call 608.781.0974 ext. 3110.

Matt Meyers  
Interim Principal

## Art Room News from Mrs. Staige

Clay, Clay, Clay! All students are learning about three-dimensional art while working with clay this month. Students are learning to create a basic form in clay using various hand-building techniques. They also get to be creative by adding texture and decorative pieces to their clay designs.

## Early Release Reminder



As a friendly reminder, there will be an early release day on Wednesday, February 8, in order to provide professional development opportunities for staff. School will be dismissed at 1:40 p.m.

## Educational Assistants **EXTRA**

Please continue to send boots, snow pants and shoes with your child(ren) every day.

Reminder - Student drop-off is from 8:10 - 8:35, students are expected to be ready and in the classroom by 8:40.

## Farm 2 School

The La Crosse County Farm2School program is a collaboration between public school districts in La Crosse County and the La Crosse County Health Department. The Farm2School program provides student opportunities for health and nutrition education. Each month, one locally grown produce item is selected as the Farm2School "Harvest of the Month". February's "Harvest of the Month" is chili. Check out the Farm2School link on our website for the recipe.

## Four-Year Old Kindergarten (4K) Registration

The School District of Holmen will begin accepting enrollments for the 2023-24 Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) Program soon. Any child, who is four-years-old on or before September 1, 2023 and lives in the school district boundaries, is eligible to participate. We encourage early registration in order to help us plan accordingly for the 2023-24 school year. **Note: All enrollment is done online.** [www.holmen.k12.wi.us](http://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 the first week of August.

If you have any questions, please call our Public Preschool Office at 608.526.1381.



Groundhog Day is February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Think Spring!

## Health Office News

Nurse: Emily Hanes, RN, BSN

Health Aide: Annette Hundt

### ***February is Dental Health Month***

The American Dental Association (ADA) advises parents to teach children the importance of oral hygiene at an early age, so when they grow up they will continue good habits that will contribute to their overall health. Oral hygiene, just like diet and exercise, should be factored together when teaching children how to keep themselves healthy.

### ***Bridging Brighter Smiles in School!***

Bridging Brighter Smiles, Inc. offers preventative dental care right at school for students' Pre-K through 12th grade. Visits are held throughout the school year.

Services Provided Include: Oral Screenings, Cleanings, Fluoride Varnish, Dental Sealants (prevents cavities), Dental Health Education and Referral Assistance

To enroll in the program there is a one-page enrollment form to fill out. Please call the Sand Lake Health Office for more information, if interested!

### ***School-Age Children and Adolescent Recommendations***

- Until they are six or seven years old, continue to brush your children's teeth twice a day with a child's size toothbrush and a pea-sized amount of toothpaste. Continue to assist with flossing as needed. Look for dental products that carry the ADA Seal of Acceptance. They have been evaluated by the ADA for safety and effectiveness.
- By age six or seven, children should be able to brush their own teeth twice a day but often require supervision until about age 10 or 11, to make sure they are doing a thorough job. Since each child is different, your dentist can help you determine whether your child is brushing and flossing properly.
- Visit your dentist regularly.
- Ask the dentist about dental sealants, a protective plastic coating that can be applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth where decay often starts.
- Adolescents may need reminders about practicing good oral hygiene, the importance of regular dental check-ups and making nutritious food and beverage choices, the benefit of using mouth guards, and the risks of oral piercings and of tobacco use.

## **Kidz Klozet**

The Kidz Klozet has school supplies and clothing items for families! Please contact Mrs. Kobs (ext.3400) or the office if you would like to stop by the Kidz Klozet. We will continue to take winter gear donations! We are also in need of boxes of markers. A huge thank you to PTG for their generous donation to help purchase winter gear (especially waterproof gloves and snow pants). Also, thank you to an anonymous donor for their monetary donation. Thank you!

Any questions, please contact us at:

[timmeg@holmen.k12.wi.us](mailto:timmeg@holmen.k12.wi.us)

[yassar@holmen.k12.wi.us](mailto:yassar@holmen.k12.wi.us)

## **La Crosse County Library**

The Holmen Library story times are Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.

The Onalaska Library story times are Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m.

The youth services team would also like to remind you that LitLOve bundles are available for parents to request and pick up at the libraries. Just fill out the interest form and the team will gather a collection of books for your child to enjoy!

## Lost Little Valentines

The Sand Lake Drama Club will present “Lost Little Valentines” on Tuesday, February 14. “Lost Little Valentines “ is a play about two valentines who get left behind and are looking for the place they belong. We will be having a show for the students at 9:00 a.m. and one for the parents at 6:30 p.m. The Sand Lake Drama Club is made up of about forty 2nd and 3rd graders who have been meeting every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday before school for about six weeks. They are very excited to share their play.

## Musical Notes from Mrs. Heerts

**This February** in Music we will be focusing on the following musical elements:

Kindergarten: Introduction to instruments of the orchestra; matching pitch; melodic direction; concert preparation

1st: Concert preparation; seasonal songs and activities; instruments of the orchestra

2nd: Instruments of the Orchestra, read and create rhythm patterns;

3rd: Concert preparation; Instruments of the Orchestra preparation; note reading

4th: Beginning recorder, note reading/note values/terminology

5th: Concert preparation, note reading/note values/terminology

Upcoming Concert Dates:

March 9 - 1st grade 6 p.m. and 3rd grade 7 p.m.

March 30 - Kindergarten 6 p.m. and 5th grade 7 p.m.

Thank you for supporting music education!

## No School

On Monday, February 13, 2023, there will be no school for students in the School District of Holmen.

## Parent Teacher Group (PTG) News

Brrrrr! Hopefully, you have been able to stay warm during these cold months. We are having our next PTG meeting on February 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room here at Sand Lake. If you are not able to make it in person we would love for you to join us virtually. We had some technical issues in January but those have all been worked out now. A reminder of the meeting will be sent out with the link to join virtually the week of the meeting.

Thank you for your continued support of our PTG!

## Physical Education - Sneaker News from Mr. Fredrick

Over the last month, students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade have been snowshoeing when the conditions have been right. It has been so great this week getting some fresh snow! Students will continue to snowshoe until February 1st. After that, they will be starting a target games unit. In 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, students have been working super hard on becoming better dribblers, passers, and shooters using the basketballs. Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students have grown as well, being able to dribble a ball and do it while they play games!

I would like to welcome Mr. Sidders to our PE classroom. Mr. Sidders is a student teacher from UWL who will be joining us for the entirety of the 3rd quarter. We are excited to have him!



**President's Day February 20, 2023**

## 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. Students in 5-year old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment. Open enrollment for pre-kindergarten, 4-year old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. 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 2023-2024 School year is from **February 6 - April 28, 2023**. Parents must apply to the nonresident district. A nonresident district is defined as the district you do not live in, 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 28, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.**

If you have any questions regarding open enrollment, please contact Courtney Wilson, Open Enrollment Coordinator for the School District of Holmen and Student Services Department at 526-1309.

## Summer School



### Ready, Set, Let's Learn (RSL) & Elementary Summer School

July 10<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at Viking Elementary

\*RSL is for students who will be enrolled in Kindergarten during Fall 2023.

\*All classes are contingent upon staffing and space availability.

Additional information will be forthcoming!

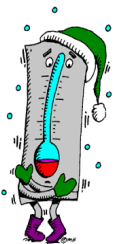
## Virtual Backpack

The School District of Holmen has implemented a “green” approach for distributing flyers from community organizations, and has discontinued the process of sending paper flyers in your student's backpack, unless they are school related. The information is divided into three sections, by grade levels, and updated on a regular basis.

Click on this link: <https://www.holmen.k12.wi.us/community/virtual-backpack.cfm> to be directed to the actual webpage which is housed in the COMMUNITY tab of the homepage.

Note that most of these advertisements are not district publications (unless marked). The District enables their online distribution as a community service to inform you of educational opportunities, activities and events available in our area.

## Winter Recess Guidelines (in effect every day)



- Students will go outside when the temperature is 1 degree or above.
- Students will stay indoors when the temperature is 0 degrees or below or when the wind chill is 0 degrees or below

# School District of Holmen

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking for a "match"  
with flexible hours?

WE'RE HIRING HEARTS AND SOULS

INTERESTED IN WORKING AS SUBSTITUTES,  
ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

Sub  
Custodian  
\$15.50

Sub Van  
Driver  
\$16

Sub  
Cook  
\$15

Sub Bus  
Driver  
\$21

Visit [www.wecan.waspa.org](http://www.wecan.waspa.org), or stop  
by the TMT or District Office for a  
paper application to complete

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE REACH OUT  
TO WENDY MCCOY @ 608.526.6610 X1314 OR  
MCCWEN@HOLMEN.K12.WI.US

SDH is an EOE