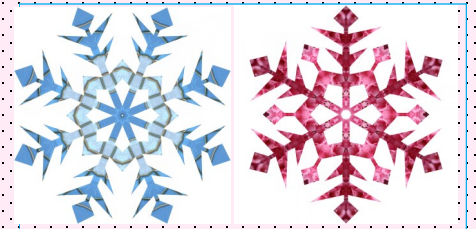


December 2023 Newsletter



From Mrs. Nina Swanson, Principal

Happy December, Viking Elementary Families!

As winter settles in, bringing with it the magic of the holiday season, let's take a moment to reflect on the warmth and gratitude within our school community. It's a time to appreciate the support we provide one another and to express my sincere thanks for your ongoing commitment to your child's education.

The chilly temperatures caught us by surprise this year, but that hasn't dampened our spirits. We continue to venture outdoors daily, provided the temperature is above zero degrees. A friendly reminder to send your child with all their winter gear each day. If they're wearing boots, including a pair of shoes in their backpack ensures comfort throughout the day.

In exciting news, our state report card was unveiled last month, revealing that Viking Elementary achieved a stellar score of 79.8, marking an "Exceeds Expectations" rating. This is a testament to the relentless efforts of both students and staff. While there's always room for growth, let's take a moment to celebrate the hard work that shapes our school's success.

As we approach the end of the year, my wish for you is to savor precious moments with your family and find time to unwind together. May this holiday season bring joy, laughter, and unforgettable memories.

In partnership and gratitude,

Nina Swanson



Our Kid's Closet contains winter outdoor items students can use if they don't have their own. Currently, it is in need of restocking on a few items. If you have any of these you are ready to part with, please think of us. Donations can be dropped off in the Viking office from 7:30-3:30. THANK YOU!!

Boots—sizes 1 and up

Snow mittens and gloves child size large or adult size small & up





ENJOY WINTER BREAK!
There will be no school from
December 25th through
January 1st.

*School will resume on
Tuesday, January 2, 2024.*



**Early Release Day
is Wednesday,
December 13th.**

**Viking students will
be released at
1:30pm.**

HEARY YE, HEAR YE!!

Grade 2 and 3 will be bell ringing the week of November 27th through December 1st in the morning before school. They will be collecting money inside the front doors to help purchase gifts for children on the Holmen Lutheran Giving Tree. They would greatly appreciate small donations to this cause! Thank you for your generosity!



**The next PTO meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, December 12, 2023.**

**We will meet in the LMC from
6:30-7:30pm
Childcare provided - 2nd Floor - Library**

Attention Kindergarten Families!!
Gingerbread day will be Friday, December 8th
at 2:30pm.

SAVE THE DATE

More info will be coming home with students
as the date gets closer.



**Viking Elementary
Concerts
2023-2024**

Fourth Grade 11/30/23

Second Grade 12/5/23

Third Grade 3/7/24

First Grade 3/12/24

Kindergarten 4/25/24

Fifth Grade 4/30/24

**All
Concerts
start at 6
PM**



PLEASE HELP

**KINDERGARTEN &
1ST GRADE FAMILIES:**

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR STUDENT'S LIBRARY BAG. THIS BAG IS THEIR LIBRARY CARD AND ALLOWS THEM TO CHECKOUT EACH TIME THEY COME TO LIBRARY CLASS. IT ALSO HELPS TO KEEP OUR BOOKS IN GOOD CONDITION SO THAT OUR STUDENTS CAN CONTINUE TO ENJOY THEM.



Thank you for your help!



**The Pump House Regional Arts Center and the School District of
Holmen Proudly Presents-**

Holmen Elementary Schools Art Exhibit

Featuring artwork from Viking, Evergreen, Sand Lake, and Prairie View Artists Grades K-5, November 15th to January 6th.

There will be an artist reception on Wednesday, December 13th from 3:30-6:00pm.



Students and parents will be notified if their art is chosen for the show.

Message from the Health Office: NurseEmily Hanes BSN, RN

When to Keep Your Child Home:

1. Any temperature of 100 degrees or higher requires exclusion from school. If your child is requiring Tylenol or Ibuprofen to keep the fever down, they should stay home. They should be fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication to maintain a normal temperature.
2. Cold symptoms serious enough to interfere with the child's ability to learn.
3. If your child has diarrhea and/or vomiting, keep them home until their bodies have had time to recover. Sometimes, children return too early and end up having a relapse or infecting more students.
4. Coughing that causes difficulty breathing, moderate to severe chest pain and/or vomiting.
5. Headache severe enough to interfere with learning.
6. Abdominal pain accompanied by elevated temperature, vomiting, or diarrhea.
7. Sore throat serious enough to interfere with swallowing or accompanied by a fever or rash.
8. Pink eye-if fever present, behavior changes or unable to avoid touching the eyes.
9. Certain bacterial conditions which are prescribed an antibiotic, such as strep throat and impetigo, require a student to be on the antibiotic for 24 hours prior to returning to school.
10. Unknown rash.

Hearing and Vision Screenings: Almost all the hearing screenings have been completed. We hope to have The Lion's Club come in December to complete vision screenings for students in EC, 4K, K, 1st, 3rd, and 5th. No dates are currently set at this time. If there were any concerns with the screenings, a text message or a letter will be sent home to notify. Feel free to contact the health office if you have any questions about your child's vision and/or hearing.



DECEMBER 5TH

4PM - CLOSE

608-526-2244

PIZZA
Time

**SUPPORT
VIKING
ELEMENTARY**



T-JO'S PIZZA

105 STATE STREET HOLMEN, WI

**CARRY OUT- DELIVERY-
LIMITED DINING**

**VIKING ELEMENTARY WILL EARN A
PERCENTAGE OF ALL SALES THAT NIGHT**



VIKING ELEMENTARY HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

PLEASE BRING NON-PERISHABLE,
FOOD AND HYGIENE ITEMS TO
THE VIKING ELEMENTARY
LIBRARY.

DONATIONS WILL BE GIVEN TO
VIKING STUDENTS IN NEED,
HOLMEN'S HOPE, AND THE HOLMEN
AREA FOOD PANTRY.

Thank you!

**NOVEMBER 15
TO
DECEMBER 22**

MOST NEEDED ITEMS INCLUDE:

- peanut butter
- jelly
- breakfast foods
- canned fruit
- crackers
- canned stew or chili
- canned chicken
- individually packaged snacks
- sides (instant potatoes, rice, hamburger helper)
- hygiene items

TO ENSURE THAT NO CHILD GOES HUNGRY DURING THE HOLIDAYS, EACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS UNITING IN A COLLECTIVE EFFORT TO GATHER 250 ITEMS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE FOOD PANTRIES.

OUR GOAL IS TO ACHIEVE THIS MILESTONE BY NOVEMBER 28, GIVING TUESDAY. HERE'S AN EXCITING INCENTIVE - IF WE REACH OUR TARGET, THE DBS GROUP WILL GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTE \$500 TO FURTHER ENHANCE OUR SUPPLIES.

WE KINDLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN REACHING THIS GOAL.





SUB ELVES NEEDED!

VISIT THE EMPLOYMENT
TAB ON OUR WEBSITE
TO LEARN MORE OR
APPLY TODAY

High Demand

\$21.00 Sub Bus Driver

\$16.30 Sub Custodian

\$15.00 Sub Food Service

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
HOLMEN IS AN EOE

HARVEST OF THE MONTH NEWSLETTER December 2023



Winter Squash is the Harvest of the Month!

Add winter squash to your favorite family meals:

- Dice, microwave or roast and add to salad, tacos, rice, or mac and cheese.
- Halve squash, roast cut side down, then add stuffing
- Puree microwaved or roasted squash for a soup or pie!

Make meals and memories together. It's a lesson kids will use for life.

Select – Choose squash that are heavy, firm, and have a full stem.

Store – Store in a cool, dark place for up to one month.

Prepare – Squash with thinner skin, like delicata and sweet dumpling, can be eaten without being peeled. Other winter squash, like butternut or acorn, have a hard rind that can be peeled with a vegetable peeler or sharp knife. You can peel squash before or after cooking.

Did you know?

In Aztec, Incan, Mayan, and Native American cultures, squash was grown in companionship with corn and beans. Squash, corn, and beans make up the traditional "Three Sisters".



Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin!

#WlitarVestoFtheMonth

This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP. The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension is an EEO/AA institution committed to diversity among its employees and in its programs.

Recipe of the month

Roasted Butternut Squash Soup

Serves 4

Ingredients:

- 1 3-4 lb butternut squash
- 1 medium onion
- 1 head garlic
- 2 Tablespoons oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon dried sage
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 3 cups cooking stock or water
- 1/2 cup milk (can sub cashew or coconut milks)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 425° and line baking sheet with parchment paper. Cut butternut squash in half and remove seeds. Remove onion skin and quarter. Cut top off garlic and drizzle all with olive oil and season with salt, pepper, sage, and thyme. Wrap garlic in foil. Arrange veggies and wrapped garlic on baking sheet. Bake for 45 minutes or until you can easily pierce flesh of squash with fork. Peel skin off squash, squeeze garlic cloves from the base. Place in blender along with some of the stock or water and blend until smooth. Pour into stock pot along with the remaining stock or water and cook on low until heated through. Stir in milk and season to taste.

Per serving: 196 calories, 7g fat, 5g protein, 30g carbohydrate, 7g fiber, 575mg sodium

Source: laxf2s.org



Coulee Region Farm to School is a partnership between UW-Madison Division of Extension, LaCrosse County Health Department, Mayo Clinic Health System-Franciscan Healthcare, Gundersen Health System, and the School Districts of Bangor, LaCrescent-Hokah, Holmen, LaCrosse, Onalaska, and West Salem.