



Viking Elementary Newsletter

February 2024

MRS. NINA SWANSON
PRINCIPAL
500 E WALL ST
HOLMEN WI 54636
(608) 526-3316
FAX (608) 526-9482

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Warm greetings as we step into the enchanting month of February! I hope this message finds you well and that you've been enjoying cherished moments with your family during the extra days off.

Assessments:

January has been busy giving our mid-year assessments. We will be sending home more information this month regarding iReady data. Students have been busy showing how much they have grown this first semester!

February Events:

- Global Play Day - February 7th: Let's celebrate the joy of play! Join us in embracing the spirit of Global Play Day on the 7th, promoting creativity, imagination, and collaboration. Stay tuned for more information from your child's classroom teacher.
- Family Fun Night - February 9th: Join us for an evening of joy and connection! All are welcome to attend and make it a memorable night for our school community.
- Valentine's Day - February 14th: Let's spread kindness! Please be on the lookout from your child's teacher if there are any celebrations for that day. Just a reminder, we do encourage store-bought treats!
- Read Across America - February 26th to March 1st: We're gearing up for a celebration of reading! Students will enjoy a special author visit, Stef Wade, on the 27th. Explore her inspiring work at [Stef Wade's Website](#).

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in your child's education. Your support is invaluable, and we deeply appreciate your commitment to their success.

Wishing you a delightful February filled with moments of learning, laughter, and cherished memories!

Warm regards,

Nina Swanson
Principal



Important Dates and INFORMATION

February 14th: Early Release
Students are dismissed at 1:30

February 19th: No School

February 26th: Yearbook Orders Due
Order at www.jostens.com

March 1st: Chuck E Cheese PTO Fundraiser 3:00 to 9:00 pm

FAMILY FUN NIGHT



VIKING
ELEMENTARY



Friday,
February 9th
5PM - 7:30PM

**Thank you to
volunteers and
donors!**

Immediate Family Only

Viking Elementary
500 E Wall St, Holmen, WI 54636

Join the Fun

Free to Students

Donations from:

- ✔ Crafts
- ✔ Gym Games
- ✔ Story Reading
- ✔ Face Painting
- ✔ Food Provided
- ✔ McDonald's
- ✔ Target
- ✔ Kwik Trip
- ✔ Home Depot
- ✔ Viking PTO



Check us out on Facebook
Viking Elementary PTO- Holmen, WI

*Hot Dog Meal with
Chips, Fruit and Water

More Information
Email: vikingptopresident.com



Supervision for students before school begins at 8:00, therefore, students who walk to school or get dropped off should not arrive before 8:00. Breakfast also begins at 8:00.

100TH
DAY OF
SCHOOL
Thursday,
February 8th



Parent/teacher conferences will be held
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
and
Thursday, March 21, 2024

Tuesday, March 14, 2024 will be an option night for teachers to use if they need additional sign-up times for conferences

You will sign-up for conferences via Pick-A-Time, an online scheduling system. Additional information and details regarding sign-up will be sent home and on our website soon!



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February 7th is Global Day of Play!

This day is observed every first Wednesday of February and promotes the importance of unstructured play for children. Each class will do something different, watch for communication from your child's teacher regarding how they plan to celebrate!

VIKING PTO
MEETING
TUESDAY,
FEB. 13TH
6:30PM - 7:30PM

2ND FLOOR LIBRARY
CHILD CARE PROVIDED



JOIN US

Questions: Email

vikingptopresident.com

Four-Year Old Kindergarten (4k) Registration

The School District of Holmen will begin accepting enrollment for the 2024-25 Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) Program soon. 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:

- 4K classes are currently 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 Viking Elementary at 608.526.3316.

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](tel:608.526.1309)

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

Viking Elementary

Read Across America Week

February 26
to
March 1

This Week's Note

We will celebrate reading with: a read-a-thon, treats, prizes, dress-up days, contests, book trivia, and more!

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!
(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.)



HEY PARENTS!

Viking Elementary



READ-A-THON

FUNDRAISER IS ABOUT TO START!

WHAT IS IT?

Read-A-Thon makes it easy, fun, and rewarding to practice reading at home and at school. Friends and family support your child's reading efforts by making a donation to their personal Read-A-Thon page.

**WATCH
FOR
MORE
INFO
TO
COME
SOON!**

EARN FUN REWARDS



YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT!

Earn rewards by participating in exciting goals and contests from your school.

Message from our School Nurse: 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>



SCHOOL COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

NEVER GIVE UP

BASED ON SCIENCE



1 Be a Supportive Role Model

Model resilient behaviors. Be calm and consistent. Admit your own mistakes and talk about how you'll get better next time.

2

Let Them Make Mistakes

Let them see the consequences of their actions. They will learn how to bounce back from their mistakes and do better next time.



3 Praise The Right Way

Give "process praise" by focusing on strategies, progress, or effort. "I can tell you've been working really hard." or "You really understand decimals."

4

Teach to Manage Emotions

Teach that *all* emotions are okay. Deal with bad behavior to set limits. Brainstorm ways to fix the problem and prevent it in the future.



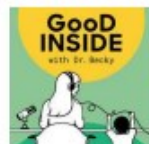
5 Teach to Problem Solve

Don't rush to solve problems for them or tell them the solution. Brainstorm solutions to address the challenge. Discuss potential consequences of each solution.

A GUIDED GROWTH MINDSET JOURNAL FOR KIDS

BigLifeJournal.com

Looking to extend your learning? Here is a great podcast episode that discusses the importance of letting kids struggle. Click on picture for youtube link.



Dear Parents,

This month in Classroom Counseling students will be learning about having a Growth Mindset. Struggle is an important part of learning and growth. In this unit we will be talking about how to approach challenges and why what we say to ourselves when we are struggling matters. We will explore the power of "Yet!" and how using this powerful word can help us when things feel tough. "I know I can do this, I'm just not there YET!" To extend this learning at home, offer encouragement when you see your child struggling. Ask them questions like, What is the hard part of this? Then offer to come up with a plan and cheer them on. Model and share stories about things that have been tough for you that you have had to overcome. The more students hear about and practice overcoming hardship with you, the more prepared they will be at school and beyond. As always, if you have questions or need more resources, please reach out.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dummer - School Counselor

dumcou@holmen.k12.wi.us

608-526-3316

Read about Growth Mindset

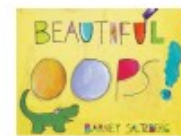
Read alouds on Youtube

After the Fall By Dan Santat

Bubblegum Brain By Julia Cook

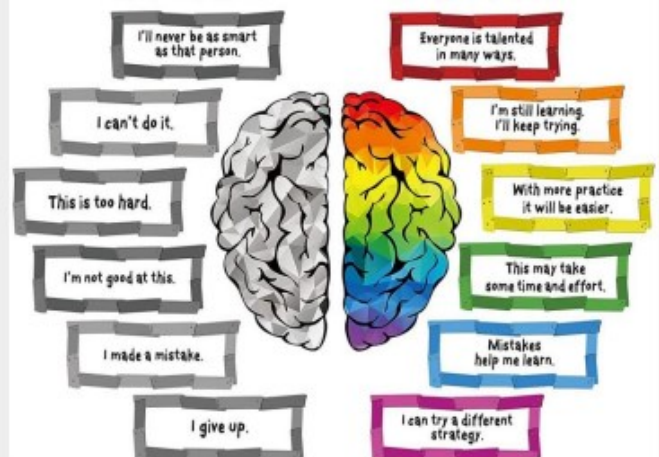
Beautiful Oops By Barney Saltzberg

The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes By Mark Pett-Gary Rubinstein



FIXED

GROWTH





March Concerts Will Be Here Soon!

Our **Third Grade** students will be performing **High Seas**, Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 PM in the "New Gym".

The **First Grade** students will be performing **Go, Fish!**, on Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00 in the "New Gym". For both events, the gym doors will open at 5:30. Students should report to their classrooms at 5:45. Please keep your child's coat with you. If you wish to come at 5:30 to save a seat, please keep your child with you in the gym. We ask that students not run around the gym or go on the stage while they are waiting to report to their classrooms. A reception sponsored by our amazing PTO will immediately follow in the commons area. More specific information about student dress will follow soon. Thank you!



*Did you know there is a free website that students can access at home to play music games and find songs from Music Class to sing along to? Go to www.musicplayonline.com. Click the Blue Student Rectangle at the top of the page to login. Enter the access code **v388356** then Access Some Fun! There are many games and other activities to help kids practice musical skills.*

Another great website to help with Recorder skills: <https://recorderdojo.com/> Here your child can find help with songs from Recorder Karate 1 and 2. They will also find fun music to play along with.

*Recorder Karate username: **karate** password: **rubric***

*Recorder Karate 2 username: **karate2** password: **blackb3lt** (Note: the "l" is a lower case L, not the number 1.)*

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions and I will do my best to help.

walbet@holmen.k12.wi.us

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR VIKING YEARBOOK!

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS FEBRUARY 26TH.

Please order directly through Jostens.

www.jostens.com > My School Store > type Viking Elementary in search

YR
BKS

ARE

COOL



www.jostens.com
1-877-767-5217



Harvest of the Month is Chili!

Make chili with as many local ingredients as you can find! Add local meats, cheese, yogurt, or green onions to level up your chili game. Have leftovers? Serve it over fries or a baked potato!

The Wisconsin Chili Lunch Challenge is Feb. 22!

Celebrate Wisconsin-grown foods and farm to institution efforts by participating in the 2024 Wisconsin Chili Lunch. Join K-12 schools, early care and education programs, hospitals, colleges, and more by cooking and serving a chili recipe made with local ingredients on National Chili Day!

In 2023 Wisconsin Chili Lunch participants served up 6,023 bowls of local chili at 46 different cafeteria sites across the state! Let's gather together at even more sites in 2024 to share our bowls of Wisconsin-grown goodness this winter!

Fun Facts!!

- Some states add pasta to their chili!
- Chili was popularized during the Gold Rush of the mid-1800s. Cowboys and prospectors combined dried beef, fat, pepper, salt and chili peppers together into stackable rectangles or "chili bricks" that were then dumped into boiling water
- In 1977, chili was proclaimed the official state food of Texas.



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Health Department
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WSU Kids Dance Clinic

Saturday, February 24

Grades: K - 4th grade **Cost:** \$40 Includes poms, water bottle, scrunchie, & a snack

Times: 12:30 – 4pm WSU Talbot Gym (Memorial Hall)

Clinic/Performance: Learn dance skills/techniques & a fun routine that will be performed at **half-time of the WSU women's basketball game @ 3:30pm!**

Online Registration Form: <http://tinyurl.com/WSUDanceClinic2024>

***Must be registered by Feb. 17!**

Questions: E-mail Claire McGinn at clairewsudt@gmail.com



Find us at "Winona State Dance Team"

Kids Dance Clinic 2024 event page

No dance experience required!



Sponsored by:





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