

# Viking Elementary March 2024 Newsletter

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Nina Swanson, Principal



From Mrs. Nina Swanson, Principal

Happy March!

We're heading into a bustling month of March! It's been wonderful to have such lovely weather to see us through these winter months. Please make sure to sign up for parent-teacher conferences this month! We deeply value our partnership and are eager to share all the remarkable growth students have achieved this year.

We're also kicking off our Forward Test (state assessment) for grades 3-5 this month. Please encourage students to give their best effort and ensure they get enough sleep and eat breakfast! Speaking of breakfast, next week is School Breakfast Week! Have your child check out all the delicious options available each morning.

I wanted to share an article that you can try at home with your child. We highly value our relationship with our families and are looking forward to seeing you all soon for conferences!

## **“HOW WAS SCHOOL TODAY?”**

### **A CONVERSATIONAL GUIDE FOR PARENTS**

Research from several studies have proven that parental involvement in a child's school life has proven to increase academic achievement. Have you ever asked your child “how was school today?” only to get a one-worded answer like “good” “ok” or “fine?” This is common! Open-ended questions allow students to think about their day, reflect and provide a more thoughtful answer, and also gives you insight into what their day at school is like from their perspective. This guide was designed to assist parents with engaging their child in conversations surrounding school using open-ended questions.

Choose 1-2 prompts to ask your child daily.

**(continued on next page)**

## BEFORE SCHOOL

What are you looking forward to at school this week/today?  
What was your favorite part of the weekend you can share with your class?  
Which classmate are you looking forward to seeing today?  
What is something kind you could do for yourself or a classmate today?  
Who are you looking forward to seeing today at school?  
What subjects/teachers do you have today?

## LITERACY

What book are you reading in class?  
What is a reading strategy you can use when you get stuck on a word?  
If you don't know how to spell something, what strategy do you use?  
What are you writing about at school?  
When is your next presentation? What are you presenting about?  
**While reading together at home:**  
Who is your favorite character? Why?  
What do you think will happen next in the book?  
Does this book remind you of anything?

## MATH

What has been your favorite part of the book so far?

What are you learning about in Math?  
Is there anything you are finding hard to understand?  
Is there something you think you need more practice with?  
What is something you did well in Math today?  
Can you teach me something you learned in Math today?

## SOCIAL

What is your favorite recess activity?  
Who did you play with/hang out with at recess today?  
If you have an issue with a classmate/friend at recess how could you solve the problem?  
Is there a team or club you have joined at school?  
Tell me about the best part of your day.

## AFTER SCHOOL

What was your favorite subject/lesson today?  
What was the most interesting thing you learned today?  
What made you laugh today?  
What was the best part of your day?  
Who did you sit beside at lunch today?  
What was the hardest thing you did today?  
What is something you are looking forward to tomorrow?  
Can you show me/teach me something you learned today?  
Did you need help with anything today? Who helped you?  
Is there anything I can do to support you?

Parent/teacher conferences will be held

**Tuesday, March 19, 2024 and**

**Thursday, March 21, 2024**

**Thursday, 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!*

**JOIN US**

**March 5, 2024  
Viking Elementary  
School - Library**

**PTO  
Meeting**

**6:30pm - 7:30pm  
Child Care  
Provided**

**Questions: Email  
vikingptopresident@gmail.com**

**March**

DATES TO REMEMBER

**MARCH 13TH**

EARLY RELEASE  
STUDENTS ARE DISMISSED AT 1:30

**MARCH 25TH TO 29TH**

NO SCHOOL-SPRING BREAK

**5th Grade Bash is Coming!**

Information was sent home with your child late February. Packet includes Invitation/Information page, Registration Form, Volunteering information, and a T-Shirt Design contest form. Forms and fee must be turned in to your child's teacher by **Friday, March 8th.**

**NEW PHONE NUMBERS?**

**CHANGE JOBS?**

**DISCONTINUED A NUMBER?**

Keep your information up-to-date! Log into [Infinite Campus](#) to update contact information. Accurate contact information is important so we are able to contact your if your child is ill or injured. Please contact us if you have any questions!

For questions or concerns  
[holmen5thgradebash@gmail.com](mailto:holmen5thgradebash@gmail.com)

BE PART OF THE PLANNING AT THE

# 5TH GRADE BASH MEETING



**MONDAY**

18 MARCH, 2024



**START AT**

05:00pm - 6:00pm



**HMS - Library**

502 North Main St

\*Enter Door A

## 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).



## National School Breakfast Week

### **March 4th—8th**

We encourage students to join us for breakfast during National School Breakfast Week! We will celebrate the importance of a nutritious school breakfast to fuel students for success. There will be games and prizes in the morning during breakfast!

### **CAMP INVENTION IS COMING!**

Flyers were sent home with students in February with complete details.

Camp Invention is June 10-14, 2024 at Prairie View Elementary.

See flyer for discount code. Discount expires 3/27/24.



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

The School District of Holmen is now accepting enrollment for the 2024-2025 Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) Program. 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 2024-2025 school year.

**Note: All enrollment is done online– [www.holmen.k12.wi.us](http://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 our Public Preschool Office at 608.526.3316

# MUSIC News

Our Viking Elementary Third Grade Students will be performing *High Seas*, Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 PM in the “New Gym”

On Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00 p.m., the Viking Elementary First Grade will present *Go Fish!* in the “New Gym” Students should report to their classrooms at 5:45 p.m. for lineup. Doors to the gym will open at 5:30 pm. Students should wear bright colors to represent a variety of colorful fish and creatures in the sea. Please have your child wear clothing and shoes that are comfortable for them to move and dance safely on stage.

If you choose to come early to save seats for either of these events, please make sure your child stays in the gym with you until 5:45 p.m., as teachers may not be there earlier.

The Viking Elementary PTO will once again host socials after the music concerts but we need your help! Please use the links below to sign up to bring a treat for the socials to help celebrate a job well done by all students. Thank you so much for your support and generosity!

Third Grade Sign Up : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044CA4A822A2FD0-46104333-31dgrade#/>

First Grade Sign Up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044CA4A822A2FD0-46104333-1stgrade#/>



# ART News

Original Works Fundraiser  
Mr. Boland & Mrs. Flynn



Our school is again participating in the Original Works Fundraiser. This program allows you to have your child’s very own artwork reproduced onto over 20 quality products. These products range from magnets, mugs and mouse pads to t-shirts, tote bags and tiles.

Again this year we will be sending a packet home containing artwork created in art class, order forms, and pictures of the products which can be ordered. These packets will be sent home on Tuesday, March 12th, before parent/teacher conferences. All orders need to be returned by Monday, April 2nd.

# From the Health Office:

Emily Hanes BSN, RN



## *Cold and Flu Season Continues...*

We recommend **a student stay home** if they have any of these below signs/symptoms:

- Fever (100 degrees or higher)
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Headache severe enough to interfere with learning
- Cough causing difficulty breathing, chest pain or enough to interfere with learning
- Sore throat serious enough to interfere with swallowing or accompanied by fever or rash
- Undiagnosed rash
- Any bacterial infection until student has been on antibiotic therapy for 24 hours

## **Returning to School:**

- Your child should be fever free (100 degrees or lower) for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medications.
- If your child has vomited or has diarrhea we recommend they stay home an additional day.

## **Suggestions for Recovery:**

- Encourage fluids as tolerated
- Encourage extra rest time, consider limiting their extracurricular activities for a couple of days.
- Reinforce the importance of hand washing.
- Wipe down hard surfaces with a disinfectant solution.





# 2024 ELEMENTARY SUMMER SCHOOL

March Update



## SUMMER SCHOOL NEWS

In hindsight, we have reconsidered the registration process that was outlined in the February Newsletters

We believe in a collaborative effort between home and school. Therefore, **teachers will have the opportunity to recommend students.** Then, families can decide whether to enroll their children in our grade level review of reading and math, as well as the grade level enrichment course

We apologize for any confusion this change may cause, but know we are always here to clarify and answer your questions. All you need to do is reach out to us

## WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN?

### WHO?

Students who will enter Kindergarten through 5th grade in the Fall of 2024

### WHAT?

Kindergarten will be a class called, Ready, Set, Let's Learn or RSL. Grades 1 - 5 have reading, math, and enrichment

### WHERE?

Evergreen Elementary School

### WHEN?

July 8th - July 25th, 2024

## REGISTRATION PROCESS



**Students who are recommended** will enroll for summer school between April 2 and April 4, 2024  
A registration link will be emailed to those families on April 2nd at 7:00 a.m



**ALL students** will have an opportunity to register for any potential remaining grade level spaces from April 9th - April 11th

## REMINDERS



Completing the registration form **does NOT guarantee enrollment**



All students are enrolled on a first come - first served basis. Mark your calendars and submit the registration form as early as possible



Once spaces in the grade level are filled, we will place students on a waiting list. This may occur even if you complete the registration process right away on the first available registration date as we have limited spots available in each grade level



By April 30th, we will notify all families whether their child is enrolled or placed on the waiting list



District transportation is available upon request during registration

CONTACT US

LEARN MORE >>

Or Need Help With Registration?



Sue Eitland, Summer School Principal



608-526-3316, ext. 4133

Kristine McKnight, Administrative Assistant



608-526-3316



THE SCHOOL  
DISTRICT OF HOLMEN

Mustache

YOU TO APPLY

CLICK THE EMPLOYMENT TAB @  
[WWW.HOLMEN.K12.WI.US](http://WWW.HOLMEN.K12.WI.US)

Substitute Bus Driver  
\$21.00/HR

Substitute Custodian  
\$16.30/HR

Substitute Food Service  
\$15.00/HR

Substitute Van Driver  
\$16.80/HR

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FLEXIBLE  
SUBSTITUTE POSITIONS TODAY!

SDH IS AN EOE

**Viking Elementary is also hiring a Health Office Educational Assistant. For more information, click the employment tab on the School District of Holmen website.**

With **POWER UP  
SWEET POTATO**



**Select** – Choose sweet potatoes that are firm and smooth.

**Store** – Store in a cool, dark place for 3-5 weeks.

**Prepare** – Rinse under cool, running water and scrub to remove dirt.

### Sweet Potatoes are the Harvest of the Month!

#### Add sweet potatoes to your favorite family meals:

- Slice, toss with oil and seasonings, and bake to make sweet potato fries.
- Mash with butter and cinnamon for a sweet side dish.
- Bake whole and top with black beans & salsa or maple syrup & toasted pecans.

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

#### Did you know?

Sometimes people call sweet potatoes yams, but yams and sweet potatoes are different vegetables! Sweet potatoes are root vegetables that came from the tropical regions of Central and South America. Yams are large, starchy roots from Africa and Asia.



Nutritious, Delicious, Wisconsin!  
#WitHarvestOfTheMonth

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

### Chocolate Sweet Potato Pudding

Serves 4

#### Ingredients:

- 2 medium mashed sweet potatoes
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 3 Tablespoons sweetener (sugar, brown sugar, maple syrup, honey)
- 1 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/4-1/2 cup liquid (milk, water)

Place all ingredients in a blender or food processor and blend until smooth. Chill and serve.

Per serving: 117 calories, 1g fat, 2g protein, 27g carbohydrate, 2g fiber, 37mg sodium

Source: laxf2s.org

