



Birchard Library ProgramsPg. 3
Calendar of EventsPg. 4
College CornerPg. 3
Counselor's CornerPg. 3
Third Grade NewsPg. 2
Learning & Liberty StudentPg. 2
P.T.O. NewsPg. 4
Student AttendancePg. 4
Students of the MonthPg. 2
Winter Safety TipsPg. 2

Principal's Perspective . . .

Happy New Year! As we begin the New Year I wish all our parents and students success in reaching whatever goals they have set for the New Year. Most of all I hope we find happiness in each and every day... happiness brought on by the love of children, the strength of family and the comfort of good friends. This is the kind of happiness in which families and children truly prosper with each and every day of the New Year.

Dismissal time can be chaotic. To avoid any problems just a reminder when picking up your children at the end of the day please do not stop in the street. This can be very dangerous. The students' safety is our number one concern. We can not release the students in the street. Please follow the flow of traffic in the bus lanes. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

During arrival time please release your children at the school. They are to walk by themselves to the classroom. This is a matter of safety as we are to know who is in the building at all times. It also creates a sense of independence for the students.

With the cold weather here to stay for a while please dress your children appropriately. This would include winter coats, hats, and gloves. We will be going outside everyday unless the wind chill is below 20 degrees.

We are accumulating many items in our lost and found. If your child is missing any hats, gloves, jackets, coats, lunchboxes, or eyeglasses, please check our lost and found area.

Atkinson's Make a Difference Club was very busy during the month of December. They collected 25 pairs of new pajamas through the Scholastic Pajamas Drive. Through this program Scholastic put 25 new books into the hands of children in need. The pajamas were given to Sandusky County Department of Children Services. They also helped during our annual Donuts with Dads celebration. The Make a Difference Club is also responsible for the beautiful Character Counts signs that are seen around the building. They are great role models for positive character building. What a way to make a difference.

Be sure to check out the Atkinson school website to see all the committees, activities and the building CCIP. The staff and students have been working hard on academics, safety and a positive school climate.

Please make sure you call the school if your child will be absent. When you call in it helps to alleviate any confusion about student absences and cuts down on the phone calls that we make home.



DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Fremont City Schools is to develop well-educated, life-long learners prepared to be responsible, productive and respectful members of their communities.

The Fremont City School District will not discriminate nor tolerate harassment in its educational programs or activities for any reason, including on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, military status, sexual orientation or ancestry. Additionally, it will not discriminate in its employment policies nor practices.

DISTRICT GOALS

1. INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
2. CLOSE SOCIO-ECONOMIC, ETHNIC AND DISABILITY GAPS IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
3. BUILD HOPE, TRUST AND RESPECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

WWW.FREMONTSCHOOLS.NET



Thank you for your support and cooperation. Again, Happy New Year!

Yours in education,


Mrs. Diana McNulty

Third Grade News...

Our third grade students at have done a fabulous job showing their support for the men and women in the military serving overseas. After completing a unit on Veteran's Day and learning more about the military, the students were interested in being supportive members of the community and wanted to know how they could show their support. So, they chose "Step up for Soldiers", a program through the USO of Northern Ohio that collects a variety of items to be put into care packages and sent overseas. Some of the items collected from the students were: hand sanitizer, dental floss, chap stick, cough drops, deodorant, canned meat, peanuts, powder drink mixes, and hard candy.

Through their generous donations, the students were able to experience a feeling of patriotism. This patriotism was clear in the letters that the students wrote to the soldiers thanking them for their dedication to our country and for defending our freedom. Not only was this a great experience for our students, this touch of home is a tremendous morale boost for those serving far from home. Thank you to those who donated!





 Congratulations to **Maddox Nehls** in Mrs. Kimball's second grade class. He was selected as the Learning and Liberty Foundation Student of the Month for December. On his nomination form Mrs. Kimball states, "Maddox is an excellent student who always tries his best. He is a wonderful role model for his peers and is always willing to help his friends. Maddox loves to play sports and be with his family."

Winter Safety Tips...

- When using space heaters, ensure at least 3 feet of space between the heater and any furniture, curtains, blankets, pets and people.
- Never use an oven or range to heat your home.
- Fireplaces and wood burning stoves should be inspected by a professional each year, as well as the chimney for cracks, blockages and leaks. Make sure any build-up in the chimney is cleaned out that could start a fire.
- In case of a snow emergency, stock up on canned foods, a manual can opener, a battery-operated radio, bottled water, flashlights, batteries and blankets.
- Install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home and inside or near sleeping areas.
- Install at least one Carbon Monoxide alarm near sleeping area.
- Teach your children to stay off the ice in any ponds, creek, or on the river.
- If the temperature outside is below freezing and your home has no heat, run water at a trickle to help prevent pipes from freezing and bursting.
- Store food outside in the snow if the power goes out.
- Use a flashlight instead of candles to avoid fire hazards.
- Limit the amount of time spent playing outdoors, bring children in periodically to warm up. Dress in layers and remove wet clothing immediately.
- Make sure to cover your child's head, ears and hands in the cold temperatures.
- Do not permit children to dig snow tunnels or forts as they could collapse and bury them.

December
Students of the Month

KG: Andrew Heberling and Laci Sayre
 1st: Chelsie Gilbert, Samantha Wenger, and Darius Cook
 2nd: Maddox Nehls, Mackenzie Miller, and Anastasia Chavarria
 3rd: Case Stevenson and Camden Arriaga
 4th: Grace Inman, Samantha Voelzke, and Alex Smith
 5th: Arnoldo Cabrera and Morgan Liggins
 6th: Darius Santiago and Brianna Hilton

Birchard Library Programs...

Dinosaurs are coming to Birchard Library! Join us on January 14th at 2pm as we:

- Dig for dinosaur bones!
- Make our very own fossils!
- See how big dinosaurs really were!
- Make our own cave drawings!
- Create our own dinosaur!

There will also be a very special presentation by Sandusky County Park! Kindergarten thru 6th grade are welcome. Please register at the Children's Reference desk.

College Corner...

Happy New Year! Many people make New Year's Resolutions or set goals for themselves to start the new year. Use the secret message below to remind your student to work hard each day to learn and do the very best he/she can! ***There are prizes for the first 5 students to bring a completed message to Ms. Guthrie.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|----|
| 25 | 15 | 21 | 18 | 6 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 18 | 5 | | |
| 19 | 20 | 1 | 18 | 20 | 19 | | 20 | 15 | 4 | 1 | 25 |

| | | | |
|-----|------|------|------|
| A-1 | H-8 | O-15 | V-22 |
| B-2 | I-9 | P-16 | W-23 |
| C-3 | J-10 | Q-17 | X-24 |
| D-4 | K-11 | R-18 | Y-25 |
| E-5 | L-12 | S-19 | Z-26 |
| F-6 | M-13 | T-20 | |
| G-7 | N-14 | U-21 | |

Counselor's Corner...

The Character Word of the Month for January is SELF-CONTROL. This is a great trait to practice as we begin a new year. Self-Control is the ability to be in control of one's actions and make positive choices! Students will hear about ways to practice self-control on the morning announcements, and here are some ways to continue to building character at home:

- Have your child use a technique, such as deep breathes or counting backwards, to calm down when upset, rather than acting impulsively.
- Encourage your child to wait patiently when 2 people are talking and say 'Excuse me,' when interrupting.

Use this phrase with your child "You are in control of your body, your words and your actions."

Sincerely,
Ms. Guthrie
Professional School Counselor



**January
Calendar of Events:**

- 1/1: HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 1/3: School resumes
- 1/3: Yearbook sale begins
- 1/3: 6:00 PM—PTO Meeting
All parents welcome
- 1/5: 9:30-11:00 AM—Travel
Passport Expo for gifted class
in the gym
- 1/12: 1:30 PM—WSOS visits
2nd graders for Book Buddies
- 1/12: 2:00 PM—Fundraiser
Assembly
- 1/13: Yearbook sale ends
- 1/13: End of 2nd Quarter
- 1/16: **NO SCHOOL**—Martin
Luther King Day
- 1/17: **NO SCHOOL**—Teacher
work day
- 1/18: **NO SCHOOL**—Teacher
Professional day
- 1/19: School resumes—6th
graders begin attending FMS
- 1/20: Grade Cards go home
- 1/24: 8:15 AM Make a Differ-
ence Club Meeting
- 1/24: 1:00 PM—2nd grade to
Ritz Theater
- 1/25: East of Chicago Fund-
raiser—Mention Atkinson
School when ordering
- 1/26: 1:00 PM—2nd grade to
WSOS for Book Buddies



January PTO News...

- Jan. 3 PTO Meeting, Atkinson Library at 6:00 pm. ALL parents welcome
- Jan. 12 Fundraiser assembly—top sellers honored ALL parents welcome
- Jan. 25 East of Chicago Fundraiser—mention Atkinson when ordering

All fundraiser money should now be turned in. If you have not yet done this, please return your money immediately. We need to close out this Fall campaign.

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Santa shop from setting up, working during the week, to tearing it down. We hope everyone enjoyed their gifts that the children selected themselves.

Student Attendance...

Parents / Guardians need to call the school office in the morning on the day your child is absent unless previous notification has been given. You can leave a message on our voice mail system if you are calling before office hours or if the secretary is on the other line. A note should be sent to school upon your child's return. Please check your child for signs of illness before sending him/her to school. To avoid exposing other children, your child should remain at home if they have a fever or are vomiting. If your child is habitually out due to illness, a doctor's excuse will be required. If you are unable to obtain a doctor's excuse, you may be asked to bring your child to the school to have the nurse verify his/her illness. Also please notify the school office if you have any change in emergency contact numbers and/or addresses.

Please make sure your child is at school on time. Students need to be sitting at their desks in their classroom when the tardy bell rings at 9:15 am. They may enter their classroom when the first bell rings at 9:00 am. Students who arrive late to class not only disrupt their own education, they interrupt the learning process of every child in that classroom.

Please try to limit doctor / dentist and other appointments for your child during the school day. If appointments are necessary during this time, please send a note to school indicating what time you will be picking your child up and if they will be returning to school after their appointment. A note from the doctor / dentist needs to be given to the secretary when your child returns to school.

Your child's education is our top priority, and we want to help your child develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility.