



Afton Elementary Newsletter

February 2023

Valentine's Day

Parents, please do not send flowers or presents to school for your child on Valentine's Day. It is too disruptive in the classroom and students are not allowed to take flowers home on the bus.

Souper Bowl

It's that time again for our annual "Souper" Bowl food drive competition against Osmond Elementary to support our neighbors in need. It will only run for 4 days starting next Monday, Feb 6 through Thursday the 9th. Last year there was some stiff competition, but Osmond squeaked it out and won by a "Ramen." It's time to bring the trophy home, while helping our friends and neighbors. All food is welcome, there are a few new needs this year, so look for the letter coming home with the details! Some things they need are beef stew, canned soup, ramen, ravioli, spaghetti, mac and cheese, knorr meals, peanut butter and canned pasta sauce (no glass). They are also in need of granola bars, oatmeal packets, microwave popcorn, fruit snacks, fruit roll ups, and individually packaged crackers/chips/nuts/ and other snacks.

If you have any questions, please contact Wendy (307-421-8299) or Melinda (307-226-0069). We are excited! Let the "souper" bowl begin!

Honors Students

The following students have received their 1st Honors: Aubri Clark, Canon Trauntvein, Kyson Bagley, Eli Forsythe, Dayton Dockstader, Jentry Kennington, Emma Shields, Katelyn Myers, Damian Statham, Michael Hunsaker, Grant Esplin, Chase Martin, and Jacquelynn Johnson. Congratulations to all of these students! They worked really hard to achieve this.

Learning Update

Kindergarten - On Thursday, January 26th, we had our kindergarten sing and Terrific Tiger Award assembly in the kindergarten pod. Students earning awards for January for the Hard Worker Award- Jaylee Plowman, Tallie Nield, Essynce Lilly, Allia Kennington, Creedance Kilroy, and Sophie Downs. **Best Friend Award** was earned by Ashlyn Bagley, Krimzon Bolinder, Olivia Anderson, Lincoln Bagley, Zack Jessop, and Phoebe Rivard. **Super Helper Award** students were Braxton Leavitt, Mollie Allred, Mackenzie Klein, Anna Harris, Lincoln Ritchie, and Tuff Thayer. **Bucket Filler Award**

Coming Events

- Feb. 2.....Groundhog Day
- Feb. 3.....1st Grade Alpine Dog Sled Race
- Feb. 6-9....Souper Bowl
- Feb. 10.....No School
- Feb. 13.....Buehner Book orders due (see attached form)
- Feb. 14.....Valentine's Day
- Feb. 14....PTO Meeting 8AM
- Feb. 17.....No School
- Feb. 20....President's Day
- Feb. 24.....No School
- Feb. 28.....Parent Teacher Conference
- Mar. 1.....Parent Teacher



was given to Chanley Cram, Elizabeth Mattson, Ruby Boice, Trayvon Bess, Emmy Day, and Tane Hepworth. **Tidy at Lunch Awards** students were Emerson Steed, Calvin Taylor, Benntlei Merrit, Haddie Hillstead, Lily Rodgers, and Merah Leavitt.

We will celebrate 100 days of kindergarten on February 9th!!

Kindergarten is also having a parent afternoon on February 21st. Look for information on these fun activities!!

In science this next month we will be learning about how things move with the forces of push and pull. Kindergarteners will get to observe simple machines and then discover and create their own models. They will also get to experiment to see how these forces work.

Students will continue counting to 50 by ones, and counting to 100 by 10's. We will also work on solving addition problems with manipulatives and equations. Measuring length and weight is also a fun unit that we are doing in math along with 2 and 3 dimensional shapes.

Our writing unit is an interesting addition as we begin writing our "how-to" books. These are fun for students as they draw and write sequential steps to show how to make or do something. We have a lot of fun with this.

We are continuing to work on reading across the curriculum with leveled readers as well as our "Red Books". We are all working on the skills to help us become successful lifelong readers!

1st Grade - First graders are taking off as readers, writers, and mathematicians. The AIMS Web winter testing showed just how much these students have grown since the fall testing. It will be exciting to share this information with you when we meet for conferences in March. And the learning continues as a new month begins. We will be finishing our nonfiction reading and writing units early in the month. It is amazing how much they've learned. You've probably enjoyed the little tidbits of information they've shared with you—like how many teeth a shark has in its mouth or how much a baby giraffe weighs. Our next units will focus on fiction. We will learn more about story elements and write our own stories with characters, settings, and plots. In math we will be learning about numbers within 40 and focusing a lot on place value. The next unit will be a review of story problems only using larger numbers. Again, you can support by making up story problems for situations around the house. Of course we will also be celebrating Valentine's Day and the 120th Day of school with fun activities planned. Watch for more information. Lots of activities and learning to squeeze into a month that has only 28 days.

2nd Grade - February is already here! In second grade we are reading like pros and doing three-digit addition and subtraction. We are excited to go to Jackson Hole to the Elk Feed ground on February 3rd. This trip is free for all Second grade students in the state of Wyoming. We look forward to it every year. We will be celebrating Valentine's Day with lots of love and fun on February 14th. Your child's teachers will be sending more information as the month rolls on.

We have been working on being CLASSY this year and doing kind things for others. Students who get their name on the CLASSY board get to go to the gym and play dodgeball with other CLASSY kids. February is the perfect month to do some acts of kindness for others.

3rd Grade -We started off the month by celebrating reading! Everyone who met their reading goal in December went sledding on our hill! It was the perfect way to end the first week back to school after the long break! Three cheers for READING!! We finished our AIMS testing this month and were very excited to see all the growth your students have made! You have amazing kids! In math we finished our perimeter unit and started fractions. Now that we aren't teaching lessons on multiplication and division daily, it is really important that students keep practicing their facts at home. We would love it if every third grader had their multiplication facts memorized before going to fourth grade! In writing we are just finishing our opinion writing unit. And in reading--well, we are reading everything we can. We love nonfiction, fiction, poetry, graphic novels! We love to read!! Keep those kids reading at home!!



February is American **Heart** Month.

The **HEART** is a muscle about the size of your fist! It carries blood full of **oxygen** and **nutrients** all around the body and rids the body of waste. For school age kids, the **heart** beats anywhere from around 60 to 118 times a minute when you're resting and even more than that when you're active. **That's hard work!**



Exercise is the best way to keep the **heart** strong and healthy. Kids can make it a goal to play outside as much as possible, get involved in **sports**, or even to participate in activities often such as **tag** or **hide and seek!**

Healthy eating is another great way to take care of the **heart**. **Fruits** and **vegetables** are at the top of every pediatrician's **heart**-healthy food list. Try mixing them in a smoothie or preparing low-calorie dipping sauces to pair with them. Pediatricians also recommend **whole grains**, **fish**, and **lean meats**. (Cleveland Clinic, American Academy of Pediatrics.)

1. Be active with family/friends.
2. Snack wisely.
3. Watch your portion sizes.
4. Practice mindful eating.
5. Get plenty of sleep.
6. Control your stress levels.
7. Balance meals with protein.
8. Focus on fiber.
9. Cut back on taste testing.
10. Bring a healthy dish to share.
11. Limit your dessert intake.
12. Limit liquid calories.
13. Use a smaller plate.
14. Modify your recipes.
15. Weigh yourself regularly.
16. Use the buddy system.
17. Avoid processed foods.
18. Plan ahead.
19. Skip seconds.
20. Set limits and stick with it

**Author/Illustrator team,
Mark and Caralyn Buehner**

We are excited to share some fun and exciting news with our Afton Elementary students. On Monday, March the 6th the author/illustrator team, Mark and Caralyn Buehner will join us to share their writing and illustrating talents. In anticipation of this event, they are offering our students an opportunity to purchase a signed copy of one of their many books.

If your child is interested, please fill out the attached order form and return it to the main office by Monday, February the 13th. All checks should be made payable to Afton Elementary.



Mark Buehner - Illustrator

His sisters claim that Mark Buehner learned to walk by holding a pencil. Perhaps that is why he loved drawing, even at an early age. His imagination bloomed with creative play, and the joyousness of his childhood influences his whimsical style today. He is the illustrator of many children's picture books, including, *The Adventures of Taxi Dog*, *My Monster Mama Loves Me So*, *Harvey Potter's Balloon Farm*, and *My Life with the Wave*. His work has garnered medals from the Society of Illustrators, as well as library and bookseller awards and have been featured on Reading Rainbow and Storytime on PBS.

Cara Buehner - Author

Caralyn Buehner grew up in a family of readers. Her writing won state and national awards in her teen years, and Mark's career as an illustrator led to her collaboration with him, and together they have created outstanding picture books including the *Snowmen at Night* series, *Fanny's Dream*, *Dex*, *The Heart of a Hero*, and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. Their books have been honored with multiple children's choice awards, a CBC Children's Choice Award, a Parent's Choice Award, and ALA Notable Book designation, a Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor Award, and Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold and Platinum awards, and have been on the NY Times Bestseller list.

Grab a Buehner Book!

| Title/Format | Price | # | Total | Inscription |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|---|-------|-------------|
| Christmas Day in the Morning/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Dex, the Heart of a Hero/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Dex, the Heart of a Hero/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| Fanny's Dream/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| Goldilocks and the Three Bears/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Goldilocks and the Three Bears/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| Harvey Potter's Balloon Farm/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Harvey Potter's Balloon Farm/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| Merry Christmas, Mr. Mouse/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| My Life with the Wave/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| My Monster Mama Loves Me So/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| My Monster Mama Loves Me So/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| Niccolini's Song/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Night/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Night/board | 7.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Christmas/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Christmas/board | 7.00 | | | |
| Snowmen all Year/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Snowmen all Year/board | 7.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Work/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Work/ board | 7.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Halloween/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| Snowmen at Halloween/board | 7.00 | | | |
| The Adventures of Taxi Dog/hardback | 15.00 | | | |
| The Adventures of Taxi Dog/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| The Escape of Marvin the Ape/paperback | 7.00 | | | |
| This First Thanksgiving Day/paperback | 7.00 | | | |

For book descriptions, visit buehnerbooks.com
Orders are due no later than February 13.

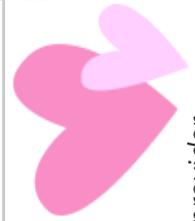
Payment should be made to: Afton Elementary

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____

FEBRUARY

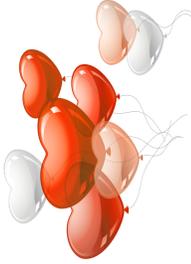
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Afton, Etna, Osmond, Thayne Breakfast | | | | |
| 6 Breakfast Burrito -or- Smore's Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Diced Pear Cup Dried Cranberries | 7 Mini Cinnis -or- Mateys Cereal String Cheese --Served With-- 100% Juice Variety Orange Smiles | 1 Biscuit and Gravy -or- Smore's Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Fresh Apple Slices Watermelon Raisels | 2 Donut Holes -or- Cinnamon Toasters Cereal String Cheese --Served With-- 100% Juice Variety Mixed Fruit Cup | 3 Apple Frudel -or- Cocoa Cherry Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Orange Smiles Watermelon Raisels |
| 13 Apple Frudel -or- Cocoa Cherry Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Mandarin Orange Cup Dried Cranberries | 14 Egg & Cheese Muffin -or- Mateys Cereal String Cheese --Served With-- 100% Juice Variety Pineapple Tidbits | 8 Chocolate Chip Muffin -or- Cocoa Cherry Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Fresh Apple Slices Watermelon Raisels | 9 Sausage Pancake Wrap -or- Cinnamon Toasters Cereal String Cheese --Served With-- 100% Juice Variety Diced Peach Cup | 10 |
| 20 Banana Bread -or- Smore's Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Diced Pear Cup Dried Cranberries | 15 Mini Strawberry Bagel -or- Smore's Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Fresh Apple Slices Watermelon Raisels | 16 Yogurt Parfait -or- Cinnamon Toasters Cereal String Cheese --Served With-- 100% Juice Variety Diced Peach Cup | 17 | 24 |
| 27 Ham & Egg On Bagel -or- Cocoa Cherry Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Mandarin Orange Cup Dried Cranberries | 21 Ham & Egg Quesadilla -or- Mateys Cereal String Cheese --Served With-- 100% Juice Variety Applesauce Cup | 22 Blueberry Muffin -or- Cocoa Cherry Bar Yogurt --Served With-- Fresh Apple Slices Watermelon Raisels | 23 Mini Apple Bites -or- Cinnamon Toasters Cereal String Cheese --Served With-- 100% Juice Variety Orange Smiles | |
| <i>Menus are subject to change without notice</i> | | | | |
| Milk Variety Served Daily: View Milk Nutritionals | | | | |
| <i>This institution is an equal opportunity provider</i> | | | | |



Afton, Etna, Osmond, Thayne

February 2023

Monday



Tuesday



Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Lunch

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 6 | Breaded Chicken Drumstick Whole Grain Roll Diced Peaches Mashed Potatoes Chicken Gravy Fresh Broccoli | 7 | Pork Rib on a Bun Diced Apricots Green Salad Grape Tomatoes Cucumber Sticks Black Beans | 8 | Chili Diced Peas Baby Carrots Celery Sticks Cinnamon Roll | 9 | Pepperoni Pizza Ripper Pineapple Tidbits Steamed Broccoli Baby Carrots Jerri's Chocolate Cake | 10 | Golden Chicken Boneless Wings Fresh Apple Slices Crinkle Cut Fries Mixed Vegetables | |
| 13 | French Toast Sticks Egg Patty Sausage Patty Orange Smiles Hash Brown Wedges Power Punch Juice | 14 | Cheese Pizza Diced Apricots Green Salad Grape Tomatoes Cucumber Sticks Valentine Cookie | 15 | Beefy Rotini Bake Warm Breadstick Diced Peas Fresh Cauliflower Baby Carrots | 16 | Baked Chicken Chimichanga Strawberries Sweet Yellow Corn Fresh Broccoli Black Beans | 17 | | |
| 20 | Pork Steak Whole Grain Roll Fresh Pineapple Mashed Potatoes Country Gravy Baby Carrots Fresh Broccoli | 21 | Homestyle Chicken Strips Applesauce Cup Emoji Fries Steamed Green Peas Chewy Chocolate Cookie | 22 | Debra's Sloppy Joe on a Bun Orange Smiles Green Beans Fresh Cauliflower | 23 | Primo Pepperoni Pizza Diced Peaches Green Salad Grape Tomatoes Cucumber Sticks Black Beans | 24 | | |
| 27 | Crispy Chicken on a Bun Fruit Cocktail California Blend Vegetables Cucumber Sticks | 28 | Beef Nachos Strawberries Mixed Vegetables Green Salad Grape Tomatoes Black Beans |  | | | | | | |

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[Milk Variety Served Daily:](#)
[View Milk Nutritionals](#)