



# Afton Elementary Newsletter

March 2026

## Literacy Week at Afton Elementary

March 2nd – March 5th

**At Afton Elementary, we believe reading builds confident learners, strong leaders, and a strong school community. During the week of March 2–5, we will celebrate Literacy Week with special community guest readers and an exciting schoolwide reading challenge for our Little Chiefs!**

### Community Guest Readers

We are grateful for the following community members who have volunteered to record read-aloud videos that teachers will share with students and post to our Facebook page throughout the week:

#### Monday

Ella Cranney (2025 Rodeo Queen)  
*Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon*

#### Tuesday

John Hellsten (Lead in the *Joseph Musical*)  
*Even Superheroes Make Mistakes*

#### Wednesday

Dr. Morgan  
*The Watermelon Seed*

#### Thursday

Kathy Cress (Thayne Food Pantry)  
*Feisty's Journey Home*

These guest readers help our students see that literacy is valued by leaders and community members across Star Valley.

### Superhero Reading Challenge

Students will track books they read during the week by placing a sticker on our **Superhero Literacy Tracking Poster**.

### Coming Events

- March 2-5.....Literacy Week
- March 6.....No School
- March 8.....Daylight Savings
- March 10 & 11.....Parent Teacher Conference
- March 11.....PTO Meeting 1:45
- March 13.....No School
- March 17.....St. Patrick's Day
- March 19.....High School Musical
- March 27.....No School
- March 30-April 3...Spring Break

### Book Fair

Scholastic Book Fair coming soon! Watch for parent letter and flyer. It will be sent home with students the first week of March.

March 9th-12th

M,T,W,TH 7:30-10:00 and 2:30-3:30

Tuesday & Wednesday evening 3-7:00

On-line Shopping Link

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/aftonelementaryschool>

## Our Goal:

- **500 books per grade level**
- **2,000 books schoolwide**


If a grade level reaches **500 books**, they will earn the opportunity to try to dunk the principal in a dunk tank!

Each student in qualifying grades will receive one throw at the target.

## House Competition Bonus!

Our House System will add an extra level of excitement to Literacy Week.

Students at Afton Elementary belong to one of four Houses:

-  **Amistad**
-  **Isibindi**
-  **Reveur**
-  **Altruismo**

The House with the **most students who successfully dunk the principal** will earn:

★ **10 House Points!** ★

This friendly competition encourages teamwork, school pride, and a little extra motivation to aim carefully!

We are thankful for our families who encourage reading at home and help us build a culture where literacy thrives. Together, we are helping our students grow not only as readers, but as confident learners and proud members of their House.

Let's see if our Little Chiefs can reach **2,000 books!**

—  
Danny Robinson  
Principal, Afton Elementary

## Honors

Earning their 1st honors are: Gwendolyn Andrus, Adalyn Miseirvitch, Crew Owens, Haddie Hillstead, Weston Hall, Ezekiel Cruz, Claire Gipson, William Erickson, Sami Warren, Briar Kenley, Gavin Jacquart, Emmaline Wilkinson, Georgia Jensen, Sydney Johnson, James Hirschi, Ryatt Brayton, and Kambri Trauntvein.

2nd Honors are: Emerald Day, and Bear Morss.

## Learning Update

**Kindergarten** - We are busy, busy, busy in kindergarten!

Our readers are continuing to grow as we learn new **heart words** and review the ones we already know. These are words we have to “learn by heart,” and we will keep adding more to our word banks all year long!

In writing, we are finishing up our informational unit by becoming authors of our very own **“How-To” books!** Ask your child what they can teach you to do! We are also working hard on writing complete sentences with correct structure and forming our letters the right way. During Heggerty word games, we are building strong listening and sound skills that help us become confident readers and writers.

During Reading Workshop and Reading Mastery, we are using our special reading **Super Powers:** we track each word with our finger, we smooth out our voices if they get “robot-y”, and we carefully look at every sound in each word.

Our mathematicians are beginning an exciting **operations unit!** We are looking at pictures and acting out math stories to decide if the action shows **joining (addition)** or **leaving (subtraction)**. First, we act it out. Then we tell the story. Soon, we’ll represent it with manipulatives, numbers, words, and number sentences!

We will also continue practicing number recognition, number writing, counting, and shapes all month long.

Kindergarteners are working so hard and growing every day, we are so proud of them!

**1st Grade** - Wow! We are so impressed with the growth our students are making. It is exciting to see their confidence building as readers, writers, and mathematicians!

Math

- Solving story problems
- Exploring measurement
- Learning about time
- Applying math skills to real-life situations

Reading

- Beginning an exciting new fiction unit
- Experiencing the power of story through empathy, imagination, envisionment, and prediction
- Tracking story events and noticing changes in the setting
- Paying close attention to what characters experience and how they respond
- Comparing and contrasting characters
- Learning about adverbs, commas, and compound words

## Writing

- Learning strategies to revise and improve writing
- Creating class books to celebrate our storytelling
- Writing friendly letters

## Phonics Focus- Vowel Teams

- oa, ow, oe /ō/
- ie, igh /ī/
- oo, u /oo/
- oo /ū/
- ew, ui, ue /ū/
- au, aw, augh /aw/
- ea /ě/, a /ǎ/
- oi, oy /oi/

120 Day will be March 12th, we will celebrate all things learning! We are also looking forward to celebrating Literacy Week, a special time to highlight our love of reading and writing! March is full of growth, imagination, and exciting learning. We are so proud of the hard work our first graders are putting in each day.

Enjoy your spring break!  
The First Grade Team

**2nd Grade** - We are so lucky to be teaching your child! Let's see if we can get a strong finish before our much needed spring break. This month we will begin our rotations with our 4H extension office rep, Shar Perry, to learn more about plants. In math we will be working on geometry, fractions, and measurement. All of these are fun skills you can practice at home. You can reinforce these skills by pointing out the 3D and 2D shapes as you encounter them. Talk about the fractions you use when cooking together. Let your child measure things they find around the house. These are all great math skills to explore at home. In writing, some classes will be exploring various writing types such as poetry, graphic novels, fairytales and more. As always: read, read, read, and read some more with your child. March celebrates literacy and we want to do the same!

**3rd Grade** - We had a busy and exciting month in third grade. Here is a look at what your child learned and celebrated.

### **Math – Fractions**

Students learned about fractions. They explored what fractions represent, identified fractions on a number line, and understood how fractions are equal parts of a whole. Students used visual models such as fraction bars and circles to build a strong foundation. We encouraged students to notice fractions in everyday life (like slicing pizza or sharing snacks) to help support their learning at home. Students made their own pizza and we divided the whole into fractional parts.

### **Science – Completing Our Unit**

We wrapped up our current science unit this month. Students reviewed key concepts, participated in hands-on activities, and demonstrated what they learned through discussions and assessments. It was wonderful to see their curiosity and scientific thinking grow!

### **Reading – Winter Olympics Celebration**

To celebrate our reading growth, we hosted a fun “Reading Winter Olympics”! Students participated in engaging challenges. and excitement about reading.

### **Building Vocabulary – Unfamiliar Words**

Students practiced strategies for figuring out the meaning of unfamiliar words. We used context clues, word parts (prefixes, suffixes, root words), and reference tools to strengthen vocabulary skills. These strategies helped students become more confident and independent readers.

### **Text Features**

In reading, we focused on text features in nonfiction texts. Students learned how headings, captions, bold print, diagrams, glossaries, and indexes helped readers better understand information. This supported both their reading comprehension and research skills.

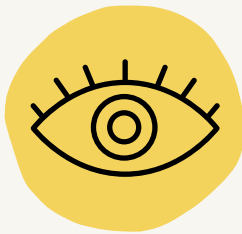
Thank you for your continued support at home. We encouraged students to read each night and practice multiplication and division facts regularly. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Warmly,  
Third Grade Team

# CALMING STRATEGY



When you feel upset, try this 5-4-3-2-1 grounding activity...



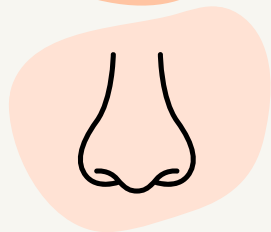
5 THINGS YOU CAN SEE



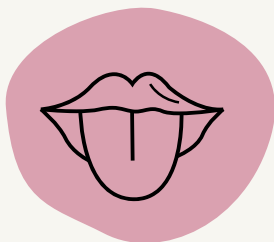
4 THINGS YOU CAN TOUCH



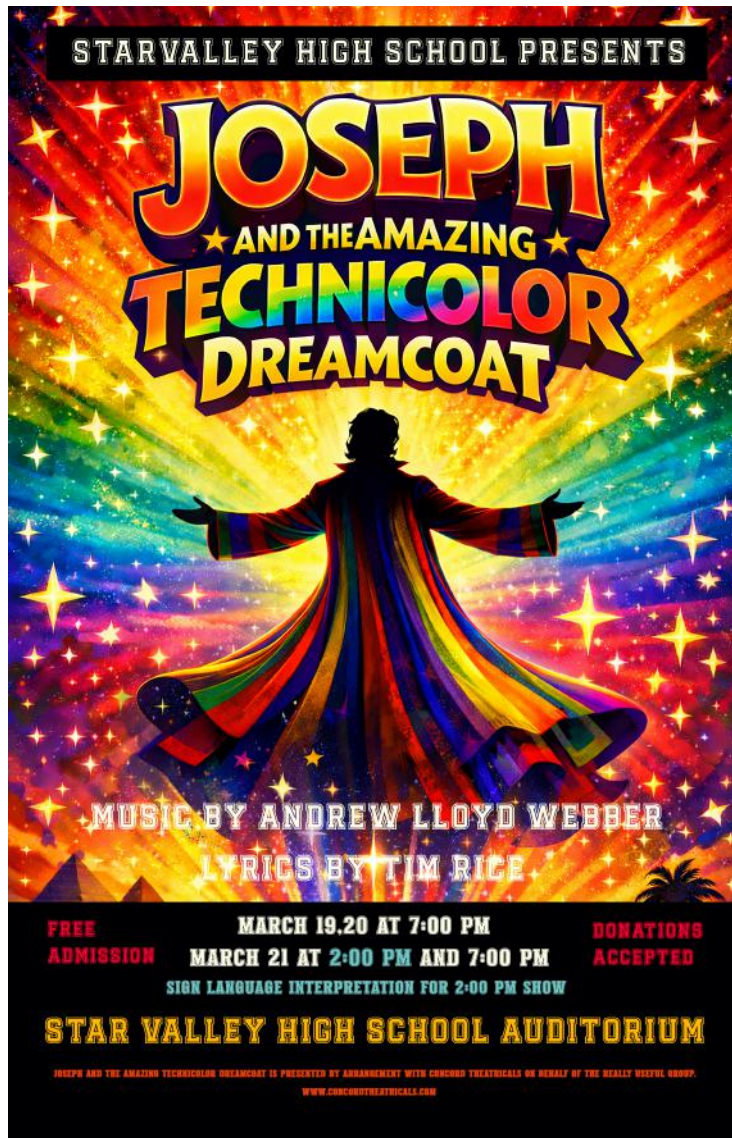
3 THINGS YOU CAN HEAR



2 THINGS YOU CAN SMELL



1 THING YOU CAN TASTE



## SUMMARY

“Sha la la, Joseph, you’re doing fine! You and your dreamcoat, ahead of your time!” One of the most enduring shows of all time, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* is a reimagining of the Biblical story of Joseph, his father Jacob, eleven brothers and the coat of many colors.

Told entirely through song with the help of a main character Narrator, the musical follows preferred son Joseph. After being sold into slavery by his brothers, he ingratiates himself with Egyptian noble Potiphar, but ends up in jail after refusing the amorous advances of Potiphar’s wife. While imprisoned, Joseph discovers his ability to interpret dreams, and he soon finds himself in front of the mighty but troubled, Elvis-inspired, Pharaoh. Joseph’s solution to Egypt’s famine elevates him to Pharaoh’s right-hand man and reunites him with his family.

The magical musical is full of catchy songs in a variety of styles, from a parody of French ballads (“Those Canaan Days”), to country-western (“One More Angel in Heaven”) and calypso (“Benjamin Calypso”), along with the unforgettable classics “Any Dream Will Do” and “Close Every Door.”

Appropriate for all audiences and groups, *Joseph* is performed hundreds of times a year by schools across North America, the U.K. and around the world.

# Breakfast

March 2026


## Afton, Etna, Osmond, Thayne

Milk Variety Served Daily:

[View Milk Nutritionals](#)

### Monday

2 Dutch Waffle  
-or-  
Campfire Smore's Bar  
Strawberry Yogurt  
--Served With--  
Strawberry Cup  
Watermelon Craisins



### Tuesday

3 Crunchy Egg Taco  
-or-  
Trix Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Diced Peach Cup  
Apple Juice


### Wednesday

4 Chicken Breakfast Bowl  
-or-  
Bug Bite Grahams  
Strawberry Yogurt  
--Served With--  
Diced Cinnamon Apples  
Zee Zee Dried Fruit



### Thursday

5 Breakfast Fruit Crisp  
-or-  
Cinnamon Chex Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Fresh Orange  
Very Berry Juice



### Friday

6

### New breakfast items! Come try them and tell us what you think.

9 Ham & Egg Bagel  
-or-  
Cocoa Cherry Bar  
Strawberry Yogurt  
--Served With--  
Watermelon Craisins  
Applesauce Cup

10 French Toast Sticks  
-or-  
Trix Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Mandarin Orange Cup  
Fruit Punch

11 Choco Chip Muffin  
-or-  
Campfire Smore's Bar  
Strawberry Yogurt  
Diced Peach Cup  
Zee Zee Dried Fruit

12 Pumpkin Bread  
-or-  
Cinnamon Chex Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Mixed Fruit Cup  
Grape Juice

13

16 Big Daddy Biscuit & Gravy  
-or-  
Cocoa Cherry Bar  
Strawberry Yogurt  
--Served With--  
Watermelon Craisins  
Diced Pear Cup

17 Yogurt Parfait  
-or-  
Trix Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Applesauce Cup  
Fruit Punch

18 Fluffy Golden Pancake  
-or-  
Bug Bite Grahams  
Strawberry Yogurt  
--Served With--  
Zee Zee Dried Fruit  
Fresh Strawberries

19 Breakfast Pizza  
-or-  
Cinnamon Chex Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Fresh Orange  
Grape Juice

20

23 Pancake Wrap  
-or-  
Cocoa Cherry Bar  
Strawberry Yogurt  
--Served With--  
Watermelon Craisins  
Applesauce Cup

24 Mini Cinnis  
-or-  
Trix Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Mixed Fruit Cup  
Apple Juice

25 Pancake Sausage Griddle Muffin  
-or-  
Bug Bite Grahams  
Strawberry Yogurt  
Diced Peach Cup  
Emoji Fries

26 Maple Iced Little John  
-or-  
Cinnamon Chex Cereal  
Mozzarella Cheese Stick  
--Served With--  
Diced Cinnamon Apples  
Very Berry Juice

27

30

31

# Spring Break!

Menus are subject to change without notice

This institution is an equal opportunity provider



# March 2026

## Lunch

### Afton and Thayne

Milk Variety Served

Daily:

View Milk Nutritional

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**

2	Vanilla Waffle Scrambled Eggs Fresh Orange Cauliflower Florettes Emoji Fries	3	Boneless Chicken Wings Cheesy Rotini Applesauce Cup Romaine/Green Leaf Salad Grape Tomatoes	4	BBQ Chicken Teriyaki Brown Rice Warm Roll Golden Delicious Apple Broccoli Florettes Baby Carrots	5	Cheese Quesadilla Strawberry Cup Sweet Corn Celery Sticks Black Beans	6	
9	Egg Patty Sausage Patty French Toast Sticks Fresh Orange Power Punch Juice Hash Brown Patties	10	Chicken Zoo Nuggets Diced Peas Crinkle Fries Broccoli Florettes Cucumbers Grape Tomatoes	11	Beefy Rotini Bake Warm Breadstick Fresh Mandarins Cauliflower Florettes Baby Carrots	12	Cheese Pizza Rounds Strawberry Cup Romaine/Green Leaf Salad Grape Tomatoes Black Beans Chocolate Chip Cookie	13	
16	Beef Patty Sliced Cheese Hamburger Bun Mixed Fruit Sweet Corn Broccoli Florettes	17	Pepperoni Ripper Red Variety Apple Romaine/Green Leaf Salad Tomatoes Cucumbers Black Beans Mint Chocolate Cake	18	Mandarin Orange Chicken Brown Rice Diced Peaches w/Juice Celery Sticks Steamed Carrots	19	Hearty Chicken Noodle Soup Warm Breadstick Diced Peas Cauliflower Florettes Red Pepper Strips	20	
23	BBQ Pork Rib w/Sauce Hoagie Bun Cantaloupe Steamed Broccoli Cauliflower Florettes Brownie	24	Chicken Drumstick Warm Roll Kiwi Mashed Potatoes Chicken Gravy Baby Carrots Broccoli Florettes	25	Pepperoni Pizza Applesauce Cup Romaine/Green Leaf Salad Cucumbers Grape Tomatoes Black Beans Banana Creamie Jr	26	Golden Crispy Chicken Tenders Diced Peaches w/Juice Emoji Fries Steamed Green Peas Red Pepper Strips	27	
30		31		<b>Spring Break!</b>					

*Menus are subject to change without notice*

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider*