



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERT – Friday, January 26, 2024

Fargo Public School District #1

FARGO FORCE PLAYERS TO READ TO THIRD GRADE CLASSES

Escaping into a good story is the perfect activity for the middle of winter when the weather gets cold and icy, and members of the Fargo Force hockey team are visiting Clara Barton Elementary School to share a couple of their favorites.

WHAT: Force Players Reading to Third Graders
WHEN: **Tuesday, January 30** from 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.
WHERE: Clara Barton Elementary School, 1417 6th Street South, Fargo
CONTACT: **Zoe Goroski**, Clara Barton third grade teacher, goroskz@fargo.k12.nd.us or 701.446.4413; OR **Vicki Opgrand**, Clara Barton third grade teacher, opgranv@fargo.k12.nd.us or 701.446.4144 for more information.

The Fargo Force are aiming to inspire a love of reading in students at Clara Barton Elementary School as players will visit the school to read to Vicki Opgrand and Zoe Goroski's third grade classes on Tuesday. And they'll get to pay a visit to the Fargo Force Reader of the Month from the month of November.

The hockey players have selected a couple of books to read to the class, either personal favorite children's books or books with a message they believe in. And they will talk to the kids about the importance of reading to help them lay the foundation for a lifelong love of literature.

After the reading time has concluded, students will have a short question and answer session with the players and time allowing, will have an opportunity to get their picture taken with them.

The visit is part of the Sanford Children's X Fargo Force Reading Program. The program challenges students to read for 400 minutes a month during the months of November, December, and January for chances to win prizes. All participating classes get to attend a Force game for free in February, and the class that reads the most gets a pizza party with Force mascot Ogie and Force players.

Each month, teachers can nominate a student read for the Reader of the Month Award. A member of Goroski's class, Eletta Wiedenman, won the award in November. Wiedenman was invited to a Force game, recognized on screen, and got to ride on the Zamboni during period breaks.

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