

JANUARY & FEBRUARY ~ 2018/2019

PTARMIGAN

ELEMENTARY

Dear Ptarmigan Families,

2018 ended with lots of wonderful things happening at Ptarmigan Elementary. Our Choir completed 3 performances to close out the year and our Lego Robotics team competed and received the Judge's Award for being an "up and coming team with great spirit." The last week of school, Mrs. Benton also led the school wide Holiday Sing Along. I really love this Ptarmigan tradition! A big thanks to those parents and family members that were able to attend any and all of these events.

We began our 2019 with our 2nd quarter assemblies, where we celebrated the hard work of numerous students. I was always proud of all our students and how they appreciated the hard work of their peers. Thank you, family members, for joining us.

Our attendance percentage for the month of December was 64% of student attended 90% of the days. This is about the same from last month. February seems to be a difficult month for attendance, so please help your student do the best they can in school by getting them to school every day they are healthy. Attendance is especially importance in the months leading up to our end of the year tests.

Let's continue to ring in 2019 with amazing behavior and wonderful attendance, which will result in higher academic success for all students.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ramey

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
1ST GRADE TEACHER, MRS.
CANNAMORE. SHE WAS MAGIC
98.9 FM TEACHER OF THE
MONTH FOR NOVEMBER.**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

JANUARY

- **MATH FAMILY NIGHT @6pm:** 1/17/2019
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day: NO SCHOOL** 1/21/2019

FEBRUARY

- **VISIT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL MONTH:**
Every Tuesday of February from 9:30am-10:30am
or 2/26/19 @ 6pm
- **Football Jersey Day:** 2/1/2019
- **Presidents Day: NO SCHOOL** 2/18/2019
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Cancelled
- **2/22/19 In-Service:** Cancelled
- **Spring Pictures** 2/27/2019



Ptarmigan's Robotics Team, the Space Wolves, finished 9th out of 19 competing teams on December 15, 2018 at the robotics competition at Central. Even cooler, they were one of two programs to receive a Judge's Award for being recognized as a new but "up and coming team with great spirit."



Then, on Saturday, January 19th our Robotics Team competed at the State Competition. Go Spacewolves!

~Meet Mrs. Jen~



My name is Jennifer Inguagiato, I am a Special Education teacher and teach a Structured Learning Classroom. I am a first-year teacher but I have worked in Anchorage School District for 8 years and in Special Education for over 4 years. I previously was an elementary school secretary, a teacher's assistant in kindergarten and in resource. I also worked many summers in Extended School Year for Special Education students. I am married to my wonderful husband who retired from Active Duty Army and I myself served for 10 years Active Duty Army. I have two wonderful kids; my daughter goes to UAA and my son is a freshman at Chugiak High School. I am proud to join the Timberwolf Pack and look forward to positively impacting my students lives and helping them meet their educational goals.



Staff, students, parents, and community members have the opportunity to provide information about teacher and administrator performance. The input forms are shared with the person's immediate supervisor. Forms are available now until May 3.

Parents, members of the public, and employees can complete the web-based input form anonymously by visiting <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/7965>



"Notes" From the Ptarmigan Music Room

Happy New Year! A new term of Choir will be starting on Tuesday January 29th. Choir practice is open for all third-fifth graders who love to sing and can make early morning practices every Tuesday and Thursday 8:00am. This Spring we will be putting on Pirates II. Argh!!!!

Fifth graders are working recorders this third quarter. I encourage you to purchase a recorder for home practice. I have a recorder at school for each student. They will improve greatly if they have an instrument at home. They can be purchased at:

Music Man
4637 Old Seward Hwy.
Anchorage, AK 99503

Horn Doctor
1000 Ingra Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Please do not buy toy recorders for your child to play on. These do not tune well and will not give your child the proper sound. I love working on recorders with fifth graders because they really start putting all of their musical knowledge together with this melodic instrument.

As fourth graders begin working on the Ukulele the lower grades continue their exploration with beat, rhythm and pitch. The musical artist of the month is The Beatles! It's been fun exploring this energetic and influential band with your students.

Have you seen or heard the wonderful drums in the Ptarmigan Music Room? Many are purchased through the collection of boxtops! Please clip and save those boxtops and help us get more fabulous instruments for our music room. All students enjoy the benefits of musical instruments. We have a class competition and the class that collects the most wins a popcorn party each quarter and at the end of the year the class with the most (GREAT Job Mrs. Schneider's and Mrs. Fisher's class last quarter), wins a pizza party! Clip and Save today!

In Harmony,
Mrs. Benton
Classroom Music Specialist



~ Health / Social Emotional Learning ~

Here's to a "Happy and Healthy New Year!" This is the time of year where some of us may take a look at the choices we are making for our lives. Below are some examples of New Years Resolutions for children that come to mind that encourage a healthy lifestyle:

- * I will get 60 minutes of exercise daily.
- * I will drink low fat milk and water, and limit soda and fruit drinks.
- * I will apply sunscreen before I go outside.
- * I will always wear a helmet when bicycling, skating, snowboarding, or riding my scooter.
- * I will wear my seat belt every time I get in a car.
- * I'll be kind to other kids. I'll be friendly to kids who need friends – like someone who is shy, or is new to my school.
- * I'll never give out personal information such as my name, my home address, my school name, or telephone number on the Internet.
- * I'll eat healthy foods from the food pyramid daily, and limit fast food.
- * I will eat fruits and vegetables every day, and limit sugar.

Parents can discuss this with their children and mentor them with some healthy suggestions.

These are the topics being taught in January during Health class.

K	Going to The Doctor and Dentist
1	How I Breathe
2	Your Heart, Small But Strong
3	When Bodies Have Problems
4	No Smoking!
5	Love Your Lungs



Here's wishing you a Happy & Healthy 2019 New Year!

Ms. Anny Hunsucker - Health/SEL Specialist

Email: hunsucker_anny@asdk12.org



Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) 2019 School Climate and Connectedness Survey

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The Anchorage School District is partnering with the Association of Alaska School Boards to conduct the School Climate and Connectedness Survey, a statewide survey that measures how students and staff view their school climate, and how connected students feel to adults and peers. These are all factors directly linked to improved academic achievement and reduced risk behaviors.

This survey will be administered to students in grades 3-12 at participating schools and to school staff during the week(s) of **January 18 – February 1, 2019**.

The survey measures student perceptions of: school safety, expectations for learning, student involvement, caring adults, respectful climate, how peers treat each other, connections between school and the community, and observations of other students' risk behaviors at school and school events.

The survey is voluntary, anonymous, confidential, and does not ask questions about students' families. The survey and information describing its purpose and benefits to the district are available at the school office, at the Assessment & Evaluation Department (Education Center) and on our website if you wish to review them. If you do not want your child to take the survey, please notify the school office in writing.

Results of this survey will help students, parents, staff, and the community to better understand the interactions and relationships among students, teachers, and staff that constitute each school's social and academic climate, and to identify ways we can improve our schools to be more supportive, caring, and productive places for all students.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Kelly Ramey
Principal Ptarmigan Elementary

~ Ptarmigan staff, students, and family celebrated Perfect Attendance for Quarter 2. Please join us in celebrating Perfect Attendance for Quarter 3 on the morning of March 20th ~



Hello Ptarmigan Families!

We are in the midst of winter, but I am encouraging you to think about a quickly approaching warmer time, Spring.

Last fall many of your girls participated in an after-school program called, Girls on the Run. Ptarmigan has the opportunity to host this again in the spring for our girls in 3rd, 4th, & 5th grades. We are in need of coaches and assistant coaches to make this possible. Girls on the Run is a national program that has been brought to our girls now for several years. It helps to foster confidence, perseverance, friendship, communication skills, all while working towards completing a 5 km.

The girls have been asking me when we are going to start our practices again, and others are asking if they can be on the team. To make this possible, we are in need of you! To be a coach or assistant coach you will need to be able to commit to joining us for practices on Tuesdays & Thursdays between February 25th – May 13th. (If we have enough coaches we could have a second team that meets on Monday & Wednesdays, this would allow an additional 16 girls to benefit from this amazing program!) Coaches need to be 18 years of age or older, pass a background check, participate in a coaches training, and have a heart for helping to bring out the best in our kids. You can be female or male. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please use the link at the top of the page or the bottom of the page to sign-up. I would love to hear from you as well. (Kim Meck, Title 1 Support Specialist)

Here are the important dates you will need to know:

Spring Dates

Registration Opens:	Feb 1st
Lottery Registration:	Feb 1st - Feb 15th
Open Until Filled:	Feb 15th - March 3rd
NEW coach training:	Saturday, Feb 23rd
First Week of Practices:	Week of February 25th
Last week of practices:	Week of May 13th.
5k:	Saturday, May 11th

Thanks for all you do for our community!

www.gotrsouthcentralak.org

CREATIVE CORNER



Here are a few of our finished masterpieces from December:
1st Grade Raven Cut Paper Collages:



2nd Grade Mitten Design:



4th Grade Printmaking:



Here are our upcoming art lessons:

Kindergarten - Learn about patterns in art using shapes, lines, and colors.

1st Grade - We will use clay to make pinch pot bowls.

2nd Grade - Learn about art by Marc Chagall and then create a dreamlike drawing of our own.



3rd Grade - Examine the famous "Starry Night" by Vincent Van Gogh, then paint our own night time scene.

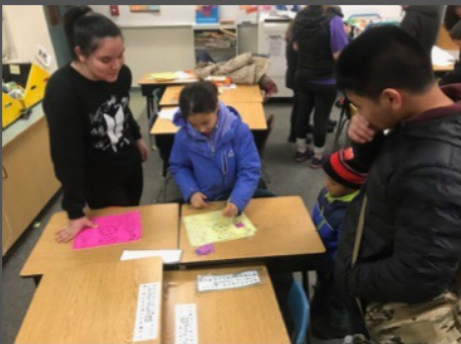


4th Grade - Sculpt with clay to make cacti in pinch pots.

5th Grade - Explore creative cartoon portraits, Pablo Picasso, and abstract portraits.

Feel free to contact me through email:
winkelman_katie@asdk12.org

Ptarmigan Family S.T.E.M. Night - 1/17/19



Anchorage School Board:

Starr Marsett (President), Deena Mitchell (Vice President), Alisha Hilde (Clerk), Elisa Snelling (Treasurer), and Members Mark Foster, Dave Donley, and Andy Holleman. ASD Superintendent, Dr. Deena Paramo.