

## Principal's Corner

Dear Taku Families,

As the cold and dark creeps in, please be sure to keep the following in mind.

- Consider putting some reflector tape on your student's backpack or coat to help them be seen.
- Send students with appropriate winter gear. We go out for recess every day unless it is colder than negative 10 degrees. If you need assistance, please call to speak with our nurse or counselor.



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### COVID UPDATE

- Covid continues to move through our community and schools. Thank you for keeping your student home if they are symptomatic or sick. Vaccinations for children may be approved in the near future and I urge you to talk with your doctor about your personal family medical decisions.
- **Covid Testing** - Schools do NOT have rapid covid tests any longer, but we do offer testing through Beachtree. **Results are being returned within 24 hours. Families MUST register for this service. If a student is sick and needs to go home, the nurse can test them before they leave. The nurse can also arrange testing for immediate family members.**
- **How to sign up / register for Beachtree Testing:**



Anchorage School  
COVID Registration

- Use your phone camera on the QR code below
- Directions for signing up:
  - Select 'I don't have a QR code,' so you can create your own for testing.
  - It does ask for your insurance information, but you don't have to provide it if you don't want to.
  - It asks for your social security number and license number, but you can type 0000 if you don't want to provide. Same for passport number.
  - It asks you to take a photo of your ID and insurance cards, but if you aren't providing this you can take a photo of the floor.
  - Be sure to save a photo/screen shot of your new QR code, so the nurse can use it anytime you want to test and it's easily accessible.
- Please call Nurse Laura if you need help.

### TIPS FOR DROP OFF AND PICK UP

- Please be sure to use the crosswalks and watch for traffic, especially with it getting dark.
- For pick up, please wait near the crosswalk/flagpole and check in with the staff member. We will get your student to you asap.
- Please do not pull into or walk through the bus lanes. This includes the lane near the ice rink where the busses exit. Thank you.

### EARLY PICKUP

- If you need to pick up your student early, please do so before 3:15pm. After 3:15, we ask that you allow your students to exit with their class at the 3:30 bell if at all possible. The end of the day can be hectic for students, parents, and the pickup area and we want to ensure a smooth and safe dismissal. Thank you.

**Do you know your student's grades? Is your student missing work?** Parents can check their student's grades and work at any time. **This is also the proper place to report absences.**

- Login into [Q Parent Connect](#)
- Forgot PIN? Need to reset your password? Click [Reset your parent password.](#)

If you need assistance, please call the office and we can help you to get access.

I feel very lucky to be at Taku Elementary. If you have questions, concerns, or celebrations, please call or email anytime.

Chris Opitz, Principal

Taku Elementary School Newsletter

November 2021

## Specialist News

### Library



### November @ Your Library

#### Curriculum

For November, the genre, or style of writing, of the month is Historical Fiction. In historical fiction, a story is made up about something that happened in the past. Some events are based on fact, but most characters and other events are fictional. To write historical fiction, the author conducts research into the time period and includes accurate details about everyday life. Historical fiction can be a more difficult genre for students to understand because they don't yet possess enough life experience to help them relate to events from the past. Families who share stories from their own past with their children can help students develop an understanding of the past. Have fun sharing family stories!

In addition to studying historical fiction, students at specific grade levels will learn the following in November:

- K – Book handling, care, and selection; Library locations; Parts of book; Author and title
- 1 – Book discussion, handling, care, and selection; Author, illustrator, title, publisher, copyright; Library locations; Parts of book
- 2 – Book discussion, handling, care, selection; Author, illustrator, title, publisher, copyright; Elements of a story (characters, plot, setting, theme); Library locations; Parts of book (emphasis on dedication page); Fiction versus nonfiction
- 3 – Book discussion, handling, care, selection; Author, illustrator, title, publisher, copyright; Library locations; How to locate books
- 4 – Book discussion, handling, care, and selection; Author, title, illustrator, publisher, copyright; Elements of a story; Library locations; Library history; How to locate books
- 5 – Book discussion, handling, care, and selection; Elements of a story
- 6 – Book discussion, handling, care, and selection; Elements of a story

#### Activities

The following activities will continue through November and the rest of the school year:

*Library Class of the Month*  
*Recess Maker Space – 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades*

All of us at Taku wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

## Physical Education



- Healthy Futures:
  - October Healthy Futures logs are due Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - November logs will be sent home the last week of October and are due on December 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - To turn in the completed log:
    - Send to school with your student at the end of the month or take a picture and email to: [Washington\\_natalie@asdk12.org](mailto:Washington_natalie@asdk12.org)

Thank you,  
Natalie Washington  
Taku P.E. teacher

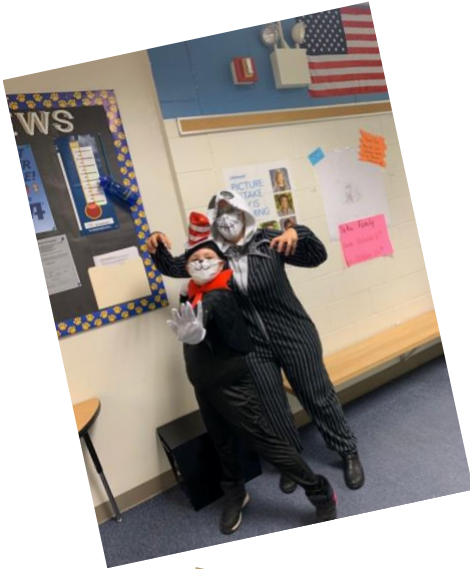
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## Art

Hello from Ms. Feucht! Thank you all for attending our first Art Show of the 2021-2022 school year! It was a huge success. It was so fun to see everyone with their families and their art. I look forward to planning another one later in the school year.



### Where's Mr. Opitz???





**November 2021**

11/10 – Picture Retake Day 9:15 a.m. (see below for more info)

**11/11 – No school** (In-service day)

11/16 – PTA meeting 5:30 pm Library

**11/25,11/26 – No school** (Thanksgiving Day Holiday)

**December 2021**

12/17- No School (End of Quarter-grading day)

**12/20-12/31 – No school** (Winter break)

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When: Thursday, November 10, 2021

Where: Taku Elementary

Time: 9:15 a.m.

Who: Virtual students, retake, absent students, siblings

**For retakes:** Please bring in the pictures you received. These need to be returned to Lifetouch.

Thank you