

TUKWILA ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

March 2026

A Message from Principal Nur

Hello Tukwila Tiger Families,

Well, goodbye February and hello March! This month is long and can feel intense for students. This is a time for perseverance as we continue pushing forward in our learning, routines, and goals. The stretch between winter and spring break can test our stamina, but together we will stay focused, steady, and strong.

We're reaching out to ask for your support with a few school-wide food and snack expectations. At school, students may not share food, and lately this has become a complex issue. This is primarily due to allergy safety, promoting healthy eating habits as well as conflicts that can arise between students. To promote health, wellness, and consistent expectations, we are asking families to support the following:

Please send healthy snacks and lunches whenever possible.

- No gum at school.
- No soda at school.
- No family-size bags of chips or snacks — please send single-serving portions only.
- We strongly prefer no candy. If included in a home lunch, please limit it to a single small piece.
- Students may not share food at school.

We appreciate your partnership in helping us maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for all students.



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More Information from Principal Nur

★ March Character Trait: Cooperation

This month, our schoolwide character focus is Cooperation. We are encouraging students to work together, listen to one another, share responsibilities, and solve problems respectfully. Cooperation helps us build stronger classrooms and a stronger school community. When we work together cooperatively, everyone benefits.

● Schoolwide Expectations

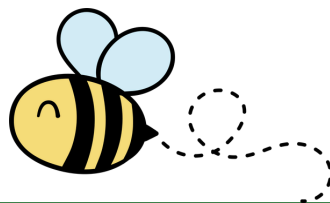
We will continue reinforcing our core expectations:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe

These expectations apply to all Tiger Scholars in every setting, classrooms, hallways, cafeteria, buses, and playground. March is a great time to revisit expectations and recommit to strong choices as we move toward spring.

🌍 Lockdown Drill:

Lockdown drills help students and staff practice what to do in the unlikely event that there is a safety concern inside or near the building. Just like fire or earthquake drills, practicing ahead of time helps everyone stay calm, follow directions quickly, and know exactly what to do. When procedures are familiar, students feel more confident and adults can respond efficiently to keep everyone safe.



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Lockdown Drill, continued...

To help your child feel prepared, you may want to talk about:

- 💬 Why we practice drills at school
- 💬 Why it's important to stop, listen, and follow adult directions
- 💬 That drills are practice, not real emergencies
- 💬 How staying calm helps everyone stay safe

Thumbs Up 3 Reminders: During all safety drills, our scholars follow three simple expectations to help us move safely and calmly:

- 👍 Voices Off
- 👁️ Eyes Looking
- 👂 Ears Listening

Please take a few moments to review the Thumbs Up 3 with your Tiger Scholar at home so they feel ready, calm, and confident during our schoolwide practice.

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Staff Spotlight – Ms. Tracy

Get to know Tukwila's Speech & Language Pathologist!

How many years have you been teaching?

5 years

How long have you been at Tukwila Elementary?

My eldest daughter began attending Tukwila Elementary in 2009, but I only started working at Tuk in 2021.

What did you want to be when you were younger?

A pediatrician

What's your favorite candy?

Skittles!

If you could meet anyone, who would it be?

Eugenio Suarez, the 3rd baseman on the Mariners

If you could only watch one show for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Survivor

March Events

March 4: Early Release, 1:55pm

March 11: Early Release, 12:40pm

March 11: Spring Conferences, 1:00pm to 6:00pm

March 16-19: 5th Grade Camp

March 18: Early Release, 1:55pm

March 20: Kids Heart Challenge Assembly, 2:25pm

March 23: Soccer Begins, 4th & 5th Graders only, 3:30pm-4:45pm

March 24: NOISE Assembly, 10:00am

March 25: Early Release, 1:55pm

March 26: Cooperation Character Trait Assembly, K-2, 9:10am

March 27: Cooperation Character Trait Assembly, 3-5, 9:10am

April 1: Early Release, 1:55pm

April 6-10: No School, Spring Break

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Kindergarten News

Can you believe it's already March? Before we know it, our students will be ready to be first graders! Just a friendly reminder that spring parent-teacher conferences are available if you'd like to meet, but they're totally optional. If you want to touch base with your child's teacher about how things are going or have any questions, just let us know via Talking Points.

Thanks for being such great partners in your child's learning!



Grade 1 News

Hello first grade families! This month we will be working on numbers up to 120, focusing on place value (ones, tens, hundreds). We will be learning about different types of folktales and reading lots of stories. We will be reading and writing words with r-controlled vowels and will finally begin our first grade sight word list! We will also be learning all about space! Please make sure that your student continues to bring a coat to school each day. We want them to stay warm and healthy.

Grade 2 News

Second grade has a lot of things going on this month! In writing, students are working on creating a well-organized paragraph (or multi-paragraphs for some students). They are doing this by creating a topic sentence, including relevant details, and writing a conclusion. In math, students will be working with numbers up to 1,000. Students will be using different strategies to add and subtract three-digit numbers. Students will also be working on reading, writing, and comparing numbers up to 1,000.



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Grade 3 News

Third grade has been busy working hard on reading comprehension, area and perimeter, fractions, and opinion and informative writing. Science focuses on community science with lessons presented by Nature Vision and a field trip to Tukwila Park. Students will be sampling the water quality and removing evasive species of plants. Our small group work has focused on reading comprehension. In addition students have also taken a focused SBA practice test, <https://wa.portal.cambiumast.com/> (Practice and Training Test) which we encourage you to take at home as a family.


Grade 4 News

Fourth graders worked hard on their Black History Month projects and many are on display in the hallway, along with students' artwork inspired by Jean-Michel Basqiat. Our readers continue to work on comprehension strategies for informational texts. In science, we are wrapping up a unit about the structure and functions of the human body, specifically how our hands, eyes, and brain work. Fourth graders continue to practice and review strategies for multiplication and division in math. Our next math unit will be a jump into fractions and decimals.



Grade 5 News

Our fifth graders are getting ready for an exciting overnight learning experience at Camp IslandWood from March 16–19! This hands-on camp will extend our classroom learning as students explore ecosystems and ecology through direct observation and inquiry, aligning with NGSS practices such as asking questions, analyzing evidence, and understanding interactions within ecosystems. Back at school, students are strengthening their math skills with fractions by solving real-world problems and explaining their reasoning, building conceptual understanding and fluency in line with the CCSS for Mathematics. In literacy, students are reading informational articles and writing opinion pieces that use evidence from texts to support their claims, addressing key CCSS Reading and Writing standards.



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MLL News

The MLL students spent all of February taking the WIDA test. The test was on the computer and measured students' knowledge in English. The test had four sections: Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. Tukwila MLL students did an amazing job and worked so hard. I saw many students taking their time and reading through each question carefully. I was so proud of their perseverance and attention to detail. Way to go Tukwila Tigers!



Music News

Music class in Feb covered songs, dances and stories relating to Lunar New Year. We sang Valentines and Groundhogs Day songs. 2nd-5th graders learned about Jazz history and all students have sung jazz songs. Kinder-1st graders have been working hard on keeping a steady beat, playing rhythms and matching pitch. In March we will be hosting a performance from the NOISE Opera Company! They will be performing a scene from the Barber of Seville by Rossini. All students will be learning about opera to prepare for this performance.

PE News

During March students will be learning about the American Heart Association's Life's Essential 8™. These lessons talk about healthy eating habits as well as getting the proper amounts of sleep and exercise that young people need. According to the American Heart Association, "Supporting good heart and brain health early helps lower the risk for heart disease, stroke and other major health problems later in life."