

Hello Van Buren Families!!

No School (tomorrow) Monday 18th - Martin Luther King Day

No School Monday (January 25th) and Tuesday (January 26th) - these are teacher work days for report card and preparing for the 2nd semester.

Friendly Reminder: Please make sure your child has a mask before boarding the bus or leaving for school each day.

Your feedback matters: Please use the links below to give us feedback on parent communication this year. The district goal is that 90% of families feel connected to the school. we will use this information to help us plan for conversation #4.

English: <https://forms.gle/j3CtyTFZ1LLo6oXU6>

Swahili: <https://forms.gle/xS9tDx9Fy6stjBrD7>

Spanish: <https://forms.gle/58e266amvaQnvuA3A>

For Parents of Kindergarten and First Grade Students and those with known hearing loss:

Grant Wood Area Education Agency (GWAEA) hearing department will be here February 4th and 5th to provide a hearing screening for all kindergarten, first grade, and students with known hearing loss. This is a free service provided by the AEA annually however this year there are increased procedures being implemented by GWAEA due to COVID - 19. If you do not want your child's hearing tested for the 2020-2021 school year, please notify the school's health office at 558-3474 before February 3rd.

Crossing Guard

We are in need of a Friday afternoon crossing guard. This would be from 2:10 - 2:50 each Friday on Wilson. If interested please apply at:

<https://www.applitrack.com/cr/onlineapp/default.aspx?AppliTrackPostingSearch=van%20buren>

Report Cards

On Tuesday, January 26th report cards will be available for parents to access. We will not be doing a printed copy until the end of the year. Here is a video from the district on how to access report cards as this is a new option for us:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/126lbYCiLmWBmGjrVI+7MEHvVvqEZfnA/view>

AK Information for Fall 2021:

Would you like more information about Alternative Kindergarten for next year? Here is a link to a district video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAXvzwCI_ck&feature=youtu.be

Jefferson Football opportunity for students currently in 3rd - 8th grade:

Jefferson is hosting a series of free football clinics on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays beginning on January 26th. The Tuesday/Thursday's will be a focus of learning skills with drills and team coaching, Sunday's will feature competition and fun with flag football games. This will all be coached by the Jefferson Football Staff. They are hosting these at 2 different locations. Tuesdays and Thursdays will be at the OT located at: 1500 20th St SW UNIT 2 Sunday games will be hosted at FC United's Indoor facility located at: 8610 Milburn Rd. If you have any kids interested, they can sign up through the link on the form(<https://forms.gle/Ywplj54H2GJgB7X4A>).

PBIS News & Updates (from Miss Dvorak & the PBIS team)

Hello, VB families! We hope you all had a wonderful week! Below are a few updates to pass along from the PBIS team. Thank you for your continued support.

Be the One Expectations & Acknowledgements

The Van Buren teachers and staff have been reviewing the expectations with the students since returning from Winter Break. Last week, the PBIS team shared some examples with families of what our Be the One expectations might look like at home. This week, we would like to share some ideas on how parents can acknowledge their children at home when they do follow expectations. Remember this catchy phrase, "5:1 gets it done" to ensure five positive interactions for each negative interaction. When the expected behavior becomes routine, the reinforcement can fade away. You can use home acknowledgements to help motivate your child to keep up the good work at school, or for exhibiting the expectations at home. Home acknowledgements do not need to cost any thing, so give them a try! Some suggestions for home recognition include any of the following:

- Read a story to your child or have them read to you.
- Allow your child to stay up 10-15 minutes past their bedtime.
- Cook his or her favorite dinner.
- Provide them extra computer time at home.
- Play a board game or complete a puzzle together.
- Let them skip chores for a day.
- Watch his or her favorite movie with them.
- Go for a walk outside together.
- Color, draw, or do a craft with your child.
- Send a positive note to your child's teacher about the good job he or she is doing at home.

January Ticket Goal and Celebration

Our Chargers continue to earn those tickets! We are currently at 6,894 tickets, with a few classes still left to enter their totals from last week. Once all ticket totals are entered, that should put us well over 7,000 tickets for the week. That's amazing! Keep it up, Chargers!!! With no school tomorrow, students will only have four days to earn tickets this week. We are confident in our Chargers and believe they will again demonstrate expected behaviors this week to earn more tickets. Please continue to encourage your child to listen to adults and follow all expectations while at school. Thank you!

Our school-wide ticket goal for January is 12,000 tickets. The PBIS team is finalizing plans for our school-wide Glow Party on Friday, Jan. 29th, if we meet this goal. We have a long way to go, but we remain hopeful that our Chargers will go above and beyond and get it done. We look forward to sharing more details of our January celebration in next week's email. Until then, have a terrific week! Stay safe and healthy!

Please reach out with any questions or concerns!

Mrs. Evans

Principal of Van Buren Elementary

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Amy Evans

Principal of Van Buren Elementary

319-558-1064

