
January 31, 2020

Mustang News

Alburghschool.org

Welcome to the 2019 – 2020 School Year! We look forward to another exciting year. Keep up to date on school events by following us on Facebook, the school webpage and Front Porch Forum.

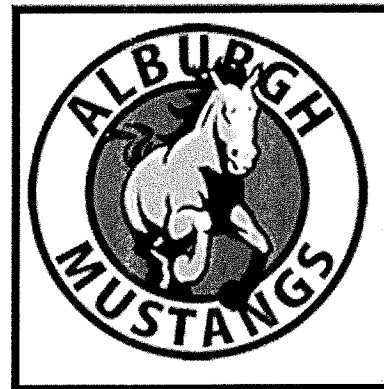
Mustang News 1/30/2020

There are less than 50 days until SPRING! January has been a tricky month for weather. Thank you to the parents/guardians who provide proper clothing for your student(s) to go outside during recess and have fun!

The first annual Talentless show will take place on February 19th from 1:30 - 3:00 (grades 5-8 participation, but all are welcome to watch the show!). There have been some questions regarding the name of the show. The name allows students who may feel they do not have a talent to participate. This is for fun and to provide students an opportunity to perform in front of their peers/ teachers, parents and community members. If you have any questions, please call Senor Farineau at 796-3573.

Many of our students and staff have been ill the past couple of weeks. We continue to discuss with our students proper handwashing, using hand-sanitizer and covering our mouths when we cough or sneeze. If you have any questions, please contact our Health Office at 796-3573 ext. 102.

We are starting to collect data for our comprehensive needs assessment that provides information to our continuous improvement plan (CIP). The next Mustang News will have a link you can go to for a parent/guardian/community member survey. It will also be posted on our school web page. This can be accessed at alburghschools.org. Students and staff will be taking a survey within the next couple weeks to provide input.



Upcoming Events

February 21

End of Trimester

February 24 – 28

Winter Break – No school

March 2

Teacher Inservice – No school

March 13

Parent/Teacher Conferences



We had a schoolwide PBIS Celebration on 1/28/20. We said the Pledge of Allegiance as a school, honored students of the month, the 5th grade lead the school with a mindfulness activity, and we sang our school song together. Our PBIS school leadership team will be working with a new PBIS coach on February 11th. Amanda Babcock will be at our school providing support while we complete the Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI). This inventory helps us measure the core features of PBIS and how well we are implementing them. Our school is working on being recognized as an Exemplar at the Annual PBIS Conference in the fall. If you are interested in volunteering on the PBIS and/or Leadership teams, please contact me.

If you have any questions or would like to speak with me about our school CIP or PBIS Implementation, please give me a call at 796-3573 ext. 105, send me an email (bhemingway@gisu.org) or stop by school.

Be well!

Ms. Beth

Classroom News



The preschool students have been learning about recycling. Here students are washing the yogurt cups and applesauce containers to recycle.

Kindergarten Happenings....

Things in the K classes have been moving right along. This past week we tested students in math and reading, and we cannot believe the growth.

In math students are comfortable counting within 100 by 1's and 10's, ordering numbers within 20, and looking at teen numbers as a group of ten ones and some more. We continue to work on adding and subtracting within 10. We are also working on making combinations to 5 and 10. For example, most students know that $5+5=10$, but we would love for them to know $2+8$, $3+7$, $4+6$, etc. are also ways to make 10. Please work on these at home as we continue in the classroom.

During literacy, students have all been tested in our SIPPS reading program. The data is wonderful, and I cannot wait to hit the ground running with reading. New and exciting books have been placed in their book boxes to read and explore. In addition to reading, students continue to work on identifying ending sounds in simple words. We have also done a lot of work with pointing to each word within different texts. This skill helps us recognize our voice-to-text relationship.

The 100th day of school is quickly approaching and with that we will have a 100th day celebration! This week in Friday folders your child will have a baggie to fill with 100 objects.

These objects can be anything from paper clips to rubber bands, pasta noodles or even pennies. Please do not go out and buy anything; find things in your home to bring in and share with the class. If you are having trouble finding items, please send me a message on dojo, and we can figure something out!

Primary News

Our first and second graders had a special treat waiting for them after recess on one of our cold and grey winter days, hot chocolate!

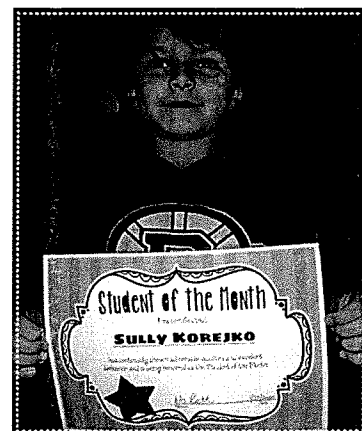
We are also continuing to celebrate our accomplishments with schoolwide PBIS celebrations. These are times for all of our students and staff to come together as a community and recognize one another's hard work. Our students love seeing each other and there are smiles and cheers all around. Our older students do a great job supporting our younger students by giving them high fives and encouragement. These positive interactions help all students develop their sense of belonging in our school community and encourages them to work hard and do their best.

Mr. Flax's mathematicians are continuing to learn and practice their numeracy skills and are making so much progress! Math is a lively time for our students, they tackle challenging tasks with manipulatives, sing songs to understand concepts, and everyone enjoys the frequent sing-along chant that makes math exciting! Our students are also continuing to use technology to reinforce math skills.

Mrs. Giroux's readers and writers are about to embark on an expedition to the Arctic, to explore penguins! They will become experts on penguin habitats, behaviors, how they hunt and take care of their young. It's an exciting time of year for our students and helps spark our students' curiosity about the world far beyond our school. Best of all, the students become world explorers! In the coming weeks, be sure to ask your young explorer to share their penguin knowledge!

Grade 3 Congratulations to Sully Korejko for receiving our Student of The Month award for January! Sully embodies all of the characteristics of a well-rounded, kind, caring and super smart individual. He is a friend to all and reaches out to help the underdog anytime he sees the need! He puts 100 % into everything he does and never gives up! So very proud of him!

We are finishing up unit 4 in math and will begin unit 5 next week. Unit 5 is all about fractions, which is one of the power units for 3rd grade. We will be learning about fractions on a number line, equivalent fractions and comparing fractions among other things.



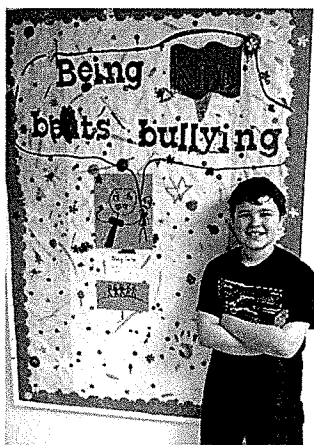
I'm so proud of the class with their writing! We've completed 3 formal writing pieces so far this year, focusing mostly on narrative writing. On those pieces we've spent a significant amount of time editing, revising, rewriting and most recently typing our final copies. With the help of our school librarian Ms. Bellevance the class has started formal keyboarding. This

will certainly help them prepare for the SBAC testing in May (which is completed on their chromebook) as well as further on as a lifelong skill.

Activity on the eagle's nest in Iowa that we are watching has increased significantly! They are bringing in soft items to line the nest bowl in preparation for the eggs. The eggs should be laid within the next few weeks and once they are laid there will always be an adult eagle on the nest at all times. It's been great fun watching them this year and we look forward to the eaglets!

Fourth Grade has been working on equivalent fractions and division in mathematics. Slide show presentations have continued on topics like trucks, wild bunnies, and coelacanths. In reading, we continued to work on author's message, characters, plot, setting, and symbolism. We used the music video Gang of Rhythm to help hone our skills. Keep working on multiplication facts!!!

Fifth graders are working on their responsibilities of maintaining a classroom where everyone feels safe and can learn. Students are working on communication through presentations and listening to others. We will be learning how to work as a team player by communicating and sharing ideas in science meetings and groups. Students have made their classroom goal of filling our jar with 30 stickers. They have earned a leopard gecko to care for in the classroom. We will be brainstorming ideas for our next goal. Students will research about the leopard gecko and write an informational booklet about how to care for this reptile.



"Being Kind Beats Bullying"

Last week, fourth grader, Owen Wilson-Coon worked hard to create a bulletin board with an anti-bullying message. This bulletin board is located outside the lunchroom. The board is colorful and quite abstract. The project became an awesome learning lesson and something that they whole school can enjoy! Owen's bulletin board definitely catches your eye and makes you think about kindness. Here at the Alburgh School, we continuously strive to be respectful, responsible, safe and have a bully-free zone!

Middle School ELA

8th Grade ELA Students have been working on a poetry unit. They have been analyzing different types of poems and learning about poetic devices. Currently, our mini project is focused on using lyrics as poetry and finding deeper meaning in this type of expression, and students have been able to choose a song that is meaningful to them personally! They will also have a chance to share with their classmates.

7th Grade has just finished their novel "A Long Walk to Water." During this novel unit we have explored the water crisis and learned a lot about the Sudan Civil War. Students will also be learning about how the water crisis can affect Americans as well and will be writing a thematic piece dealing with the author's message(s) from the story!

6th grade is currently reading the second installment of "Harry Potter" and embarking on a word study adventure, where we are learning new vocabulary words and dissecting them in order to have a more detailed knowledge on prefixes, suffixes, and root words. They are enjoying being able to expand their vocabulary by obtaining this knowledge of word parts!

Middle School Social Studies:

6th Grade:

In sixth grade we just concluded a unit on the American Revolution and are beginning a new unit of study on the US Constitution. This will be a complex unit that will require focus. There will be a significant amount of homework.

7th Grade:

In this class we recently completed a unit on the Civil War, and are now commencing a study titled, "Immigration, Industrialization, and Westward Movement." It is a unit that encompasses the time period from 1860-1910 when America was drastically changing and emerging as a world power yet struggling with its own identity.

8th Grade:

After completing a lengthy study of WWII, we are beginning a unit on the darkest side of that war, the Holocaust. This will be a 7- 9 week in depth look into the horrors Hitler and the Nazis wreaked on over 11 million people and the impact it had upon the world.

Middle School Science

The 6th grade is working on Earth's Plates. We are examining the features of major earthquakes across the globe.

The 7th grade is learning about atmosphere and weather. We are examining some of the factors that cause weather patterns in the United States, including humidity, temperature, and air masses.

The 8th grade just wrapped up a unit on basic chemistry. We have started natural selection and evolution. We have been examining animal adaptations and mutations.

Middle School Math Happenings

Students in the 6th grade over the past few weeks have been learning about multiplying and dividing fractions, improper fractions, and mixed numbers. Once familiar, we transitioned into converting fractions into decimals in order to add, subtract, multiply, and divide. Students are specifically looking for denominators easily converted into 10's and 100's to make the conversion between the two easier without using calculators. When denominators of 3,6,7,9, etc.. are given, students are being taught to use calculators to add,

subtract, multiply, and divide repeating and non-terminating fractions. We have 5 lessons left in Module 2 before we move on to rational numbers in Module 3. Stay tuned! In 7th grade math, students have been learning the "many" rules for adding positive and negative numbers. On a daily basis, whether we realize it or not, we use these rules to tell the difference between the highs and lows in temperature and how our bank accounts became negative and what we need to do to get them in the positive again. We are also learning about the outcomes of multiplying positive and negative numbers and the rules behind them. Stay tuned for more on rational numbers, equations, and "if and then" statements.

8th grade math students are "constantly" working towards graphing linear equations. Students will use skills from prior years and expand on them to graph "proportional relationships related to average and constant speed." Currently, we are solving equations to find "X". They should be able to explain the difference, after solving, between "unique, infinitely, or no solution" equations. Stay tuned for future lessons on slope and more graphing.

All middle school students should continually check Jupiter Grades and Google Classroom for HW assignments, class information, and updated grades. If there are any concerns, please contact me at sruch@gisu.org or on Jupiter.

Art

Students of all ages are invited to participate in the 5th Annual Swanton Arts Council Art Show. Work is due by March 12 and should be brought into Ms. Aubin. Any size and medium are accepted but it should have been made within the past year. This exhibit is held at the Swanton Municipal Office and dates are as follows:

March 21st: 5-8:30 PM (Opening Reception)

March 22nd & 23rd: 10 am -3 pm (Saturday/ Sunday)

March 23rd -27th will follow the Swanton Municipal Office Hours: 7:30AM-4PM

March 28th: 10 am 3pm (Last day of exhibit- Saturday)

In **physical education** we are preparing for The Kids Heart Challenge formerly known as Jump Rope for Heart. We have been jumping rope, practicing hula hooping, and learning about heart healthy habits to get ready! Students will get to show off their skills in PE class February 12th, 13th, and 14th and have the option of fund raising for the American Heart Association until then. As part of the Kids Heart Challenge, middle school and intermediate students have the chance to participate in the annual hula hooping contest taking place on February 13th. This is a fun challenge where students attempt to hula hoop as long as possible without dropping their hoop.

Greetings school community!

Songs are alive throughout all grade levels out in the music cottage. Our middle school band students are finishing up their "Play it by ear" projects this week and next. This involves each student learning to play a song of their choice straight from the recording. Middle school choir is working up the beautiful harmonies on "Over the Rainbow" and "Photograph". Thanks all for your support, **Mike Bjella, Music Teacher**

Library:

We've been thinking about storytelling elements in library class and putting our learning into practice by reading (or rereading) fairytales. We've enjoyed exploring "fractured" fairytales, old stories told from a new point of view (that evil wolf wasn't huffing and puffing, he just had a cold!). Older grades have been shuffling around classic tales and making their own new versions.

We've also embarked on some basic typing lessons for intermediate grades. Learning to touch type is hard work but it's one of the most useful skills you can have! Students are making great progress.

A reminder, please take a look of bookshelves and under beds for overdue library books - nothing makes me happier than when a long overdue title finally makes its way back.

Alburgh School



February 2020 Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
February 3rd Baked Potato with Ham, Steamed Broccoli, Sour Cream, Cheese & Roll OR Ham Sandwich	4th Baked Chicken with Garlic Noodles OR Ham Sandwich	5th Pizza & Caesar Salad OR Ham Sandwich	6th Goulash with Corn Bread & Steamed Vegetables OR Ham Sandwich	7th Open Faced Hot Turkey Sandwich with Gravy OR Ham Sandwich
10th Meatball Sub with Oven Baked Fries OR Turkey Wrap & Goldfish	11th Baked BBQ Chicken & Rice OR Turkey Wrap & Goldfish	12th Pizza & Caesar Salad OR Turkey Wrap & Goldfish	13th Spaghetti with Meat Sauce & Corn OR Turkey Wrap & Goldfish	14th Grilled Cheese with Tomato Soup OR Turkey Wrap & Goldfish
17th Creamy Macaroni & Cheese with Rainbow Pepper Sticks OR Bagel with Cream Cheese or Sunbutter	18th Chicken & Biscuits with Mixed Vegetables & Gravy OR Bagel with Cream Cheese or Sunbutter	19th Pizza & Caesar Salad OR Bagel with Cream Cheese or Sunbutter	20th Roasted Turkey with Sweet Potatoes & Roll OR Bagel with Cream Cheese or Sunbutter	21st Chicken Nuggets and Oven Baked Fries OR Bagel with Cream Cheese or Sunbutter
24th NO SCHOOL	25th NO SCHOOL	26th NO SCHOOL	27th NO SCHOOL	28th NO SCHOOL

Salad Bar Includes: Tossed salad with Choices of: Fruits and/or Vegetables. Any Variety of: Eggs, Yogurt, Beans, Cheese and sometimes diced ham or turkey. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
 1%, Skim or Chocolate milk Served Daily. Menu Subject to change depending on availability or without notice