



BENTLEY PRIDE

DECEMBER 2023



Office Staff

Jennifer Kennedy - Nurse
Nicole Barry-Secretary
Cindy Torto -Secretary

Mary Zastro - Principal

Lindsay Johnson - Asst. Principal

Office Information

Hours 6:40am-3:15pm

Phone 815-485-4451

Fax 815-485-7599

NOTE FROM MS. ZASTRO

Happy December, Bentley families!

Thank you to our families for taking the time to participate in parent/teacher conferences. Your support means the world to us.



We are excited to be challenging our learners again this year during the winter break to continue to work on their IXL skills. This friendly competition will start on December 22 and conclude on January 9. Please encourage your child to participate in this challenge as these skills are directly tied to our upcoming local assessment. More information about this challenge will be sent home soon.

Have you heard the great news? Bentley School received an exemplary summative designation on the Illinois State Report Card! An exemplary designation acknowledges the top performing 10% of schools in the state. I am so incredibly proud of our staff and students! What an honor!

What a busy month we have ahead of us. I hope everyone takes some time to recognize all that we have to be grateful for. I know I'm grateful for our students, staff and families. Thank you for sharing your learners with us. They help to make Bentley School the best place to work and learn. Enjoy your time with your family this season and best wishes for a happy, healthy new year!

Mary Zastro,
Principal



NOTES FROM OUR SOCIAL WORKER



As the holidays approach, it is easy to get overwhelmed with all of the extra activities and to do lists, and forget about our self-care. As parents, we often feel the pressure of taking care of everyone and that can put added pressure on us. Our children learn from us and we have an opportunity to set a good example of self-care in front of them and model for them. I am including a link of [self-care ideas](#) to help you get started. Even if you only choose one or two, you will feel better equipped for all of the upcoming holiday events.

Wishing all families a happy and healthy holiday season!



Mrs. Adams, Social Worker



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Parents,

December is the month for two safety videos; How do predators get to your children (7) and Drugs & the Dark Net (8). Attached is the parent login information for Be Sure Consulting for Cyber Safe Schools. If you would like to watch the student videos with your child, please see the following login information. We will not be showing the student videos at school.

Parent login:

URL: vimeo.com/showcase/nlsp

Password: NLSP623!

Student login:

URL: vimeo.com/showcase/nlss

Password: NLSS876!



ATTENDANCE

Please call our Bentley office at 815-485-4451 if your student is going to be absent by 8:00 am.

If you are leaving a message give your student's name, reason for absence, homeroom and your name. If we do not receive a call from a parent or guardian we will have our New Lenox Police Department make a wellness check.



PHOTO ID FOR VISITORS

District policy requires us to ask for ID's whenever we have visitors. Please be prepared to show a photo ID or Driver's license, when coming into the building to pick up a student. Your cooperation in this matter is beneficial to the safety of all staff and students.



LUNCH TIMES

4th Gr. Lunch 10:35-10:50 am Recess 10:50-11:05am

5th Gr. Lunch 11:10-11:25 am Recess 11:25-11:40pm

6th Gr. Lunch 11:45-12:00 pm Recess 12:00-12:15pm

Lunches are now \$4.00 each-they are not free unless a student qualifies for free lunch. Lunch orders will be sent to parents by email or can be ordered on the NLSD122 website under Parents & Students, Lunch program. Orders will be for a 2-week period. Milk can be purchased for .35 each day during lunchtime. Payments can be made through your NLSD122 PowerSchool account.

We are selling ice cream in the lunchroom on Wednesdays for \$1.00.



WINTER ATTIRE

We believe that children benefit from the fresh air and exercise that our recess affords them and that, in fact, their exercise break can help them to be more attentive in the afternoon learning sessions. As cold weather sets in, however, please encourage your child to dress appropriately with hats, scarves, gloves and boots. If the outside temperature and/or wind chill is 15 degrees or less (according to weather.com), children will be kept indoors for recess.

COPS CARE COAT DRIVE

Thank you to all of our families who donated coats to the coat drive. Mrs. Kraatz's class collected the most coats and will be given a pizza lunch from the New Lenox Police Department.



NOTES FROM MUSIC

Mrs. Grill is so glad to be back in the classroom with the kids!

This month 6th grade is doing a project combining Pokémon and Composers and are completing their learning of all the solfege in the major scale. They will also study Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. 4th and 5th graders are learning a new super high solfege syllable. 4th will study The Beautiful Blue Danube Waltz by Johann Strauss II, and 5th will hear Hoedown from Copland's *Rodeo*.

Save the Date:
April 17
4th Grade Music Program

Mrs. Grill
mgrill@nlsd122.org



BENTLEY YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

Congratulations to the following students who won the Bentley Yearbook Cover Contest. Thank you to all of the students who turned in some great entries.

Front Cover

Laney H.
Ellie H.

Back Cover

Joel S.
William P.
Grace M.



SCHOOL PICTURES

Picture Day was on September 29th. All photos will be posted online for you to view and order. After picture day, look for an email sent to you by "Visual Image Photography" or go to vipis.com. (A student ID number may be required.) All orders are delivered directly home. For assistance email support@vipis.com



- 4 Boys Basketball Game @ Crossing 4:00pm (Away)
 - 6 Boys Basketball Game vs Troy 4:00pm (Home)
 - 7 5th Grade Band & Orchestra Concert @ Martino 6:30pm
 - 11 Boys Basketball Game @ Hilda Walker 4:00pm (Away)
 - 13 Boys Basketball Game @ Ridge 4:00pm (Away)
 - 15 **Winter Spirit Week begins-Holiday Color Day 4th-White, 5th-Green, 6th Red**
 - 18 **Wear your favorite PJs**
Boys Basketball Game @ Hickory Creek 4:00pm (Away)
 - 19 NLSD 122 Board Meeting at 6:00pm
Mr. Grinch-Dress as your favorite Whoville character or wear green
 - 20 Boys Basketball Game vs Manhattan 4:00pm (Home)
Wear cozy Winter wear hats, fuzzy socks, scarves
 - 21 10:35 am Dismissal SIP
Wear your favorite ugly sweater or red/green
- December 22-January 8 NO SCHOOL-HOLIDAY BREAK
January 9-Return to School



NOTES FROM STUDENT COUNCIL

Thank you to all the families from Bentley and Tyler School who donated left-over or unwanted Halloween Candy. We were able to pack over 250 bags of candy for our local Veterans Home in Manteno and with the help of Random Acts of Kindness we donated the rest to the Daybreak shelter in Joliet.

For the month of November, Student Council and Random Acts of Kindness Club teamed up to make 150 Thanksgiving cards for Alden Estates in Shorewood.



The graphic is a festive announcement for Winter Spirit Week. It features a large, stylized title 'Winter Spirit Week' in red with a white outline, centered at the top. The title is flanked by two green wreaths with red bows and yellow ornaments. Below the title are five speech bubble-shaped boxes, each containing a date and a theme. The boxes are arranged in two rows: three in the top row and two in the bottom row. The themes include 'Holiday Color Day', ''Twas the Week before Winter Break', 'You're a mean one.. Mr. Grinch', 'Cozy Winter Wear', and 'Deck the Halls'. The graphic is decorated with snowflakes, a green elf character, and a green and yellow cake.

Winter Spirit Week

FRI, DEC. 15TH
Holiday Color Day
4th - White
5th - Green
6th - Red

MON, DEC. 18TH
'Twas the Week
before Winter Break
Wear your favorite
Holiday PJs

TUES, DEC. 19TH
You're a mean one..
Mr. Grinch
Come dressed as your
favorite Whoville
character or wear green

WED. DEC. 20TH
Cozy Winter Wear
Wear your favorite winter
hats, fuzzy socks, scarves,
etc.

THURS. DEC. 21ST
Deck the Halls
Wear your favorite Ugly
Sweater or red/green!
Don't forget your holiday
headwear

NOTES FROM OUR NURSE



With colder temperatures and less hours of daylight; cold and flu season has arrived. Below are some tips to stay healthy during the winter months.

- **Maintain sleep routine:** Keep sleep and mealtime patterns consistent. Sleep is essential for a healthy immune system. Sleep allows the body to heal and repair itself.
- **Eat immune boosting foods:** Our bodies require extra nutrients to fight viruses and infections should they strike. Some immune boosting food includes fruits, vegetables, yogurt, lean meats and fish, oats, and eggs.
- **Get outside:** Take advantage of sunny days, bundle up and go outside! The sun will provide natural vitamin D which is an immune boosting nutrient. Being outdoors is also good for exercise, stimulating the mind, and reducing fatigue.
- **Wash your hands:** Handwashing is the single most effective way to protect from getting or spreading viruses and infections. Be sure to scrub underneath your fingernails and thoroughly dry your hands.
- **Humidify and hydrate:** Water provides nutrients and flushes toxins out of your body. It is recommended to drink half of your weight in ounces of water (50 lbs = 25 oz). Humidifying the air at home can reduce chances of infection, make the air feel warmer inside, and replace moisture in the skin.

Jennifer Kennedy RN, BSN, PEL-CSN
jkennedy@nlsd122.org



Keeping Fit in P.E. with Mr. B



TURKEY BALL

What's Happening in PE...

This past month we started incorporating the use of Heart Rate monitors into our Fitness Lessons, started our Basketball Unit, and completed our fall PACER test. A big CONGRATULATIONS goes out to Fiona G. for breaking the Girls School Record on the PACER test with a score of 74! Fiona's new school record was short-lived because Ava Z. beat Fiona's new record with a score of 82! Congrats to both girls on such an amazing accomplishment!

Students are encouraged to bring in pictures of themselves (or of them and their family) being active outside of the school day for our bulletin board.

CONGRATS TO BEN K.!

Ben was our lucky winner of the "PE Teacher for a Class" drawing from Art & PE Night. Ben & Mr. B. came up with a fun game called "Turkey Ball", which combined the elements of some of our favorite games (see picture above). It was fun working with Ben!

Upcoming Clubs

4th Grade Basketball Club: T/TH January 23rd - February 20th

*Listen to morning announcements in January for more information

Volleyball Club: T/TH February 22nd - March 21st

* Volleyball Club information will be on the morning announcements come February

PE SHOES

Please remember to wear or pack your PE shoes on PE day.

WHILE QUITE FASHIONABLE, CROCS & SLIDES ARE NOT PE SHOES 😊

MR. BOERSMA/PE TEACHER jboersma@nlsd122.org

NOTES FROM OUR LRC

Library Lessons

This month during library classes, fourth graders will continue learning how to find books in the library using the Dewey Decimal System. Fifth and sixth graders will learn how to select appropriate websites for research and gather them together in a collection in our Destiny Discover program. I will also have a special holiday-related read-aloud and activity for all grades (different books and activity for each grade) the last week I am at Bentley before the break (December 11-15). And speaking of read-alouds, I have listed below some great books to read to/with your children over the break. There are also many chapter books that can be borrowed in audio form through Libby, the e-book app connected to the New LEnox Public Library. Here are some of my favorite read-alouds:

Holiday Related:

- *The Last Holiday Concert* by Andrew Clements (or any book by Andrew Clements!)
- *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and *The Best School Year Ever* by Barbara Robinson
- *The Christmas Pig* and *The Ickabog* by J.K. Rowling (for the Harry Potter fans)
- *The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street* by Karina Yan Glaser
- *The Family Under the Bridge* by Natalie Savage Carlson
- *A Boy Named Christmas* and *The Girl Who Saved Christmas* by Matt Haig
- *Winterfrost* by Michelle Houts
- *How I Saved Hanukkah* by Amy Goldman Koss
- *Pinky Bloom and the Case of the Magical Menorah* by Judy Press

Non-holiday Related but Fun to Read!

- *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl (perfect with the new Wonka movie coming out!)
- *The One and Only Ivan (...Bob, ...Ruby)* - Katherine Applegate
- *Flora & Ulysses* and *The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo
- *Amari and the Night Brothers* by B.B. Alston
- *The Magical Misfits* by Neil Patrick Harris
- *Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* by Chris Colfer
- *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Regan Barnhill
- *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech

Have a wonderful break! Kathy Drews





Bentley School - New Lenox

Lunch, December 2023



No Menu Available				No Menu Available		No Menu Available		No Menu Available		Fri 01 Personal Cheese Pizza Broccoli Apple Ranch Dressing Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	
Mon 04	Tue 05	Wed 06	Thu 07	Fri 08							
Cheeseburger Carrots Applesauce Low Sodium Ketchup Ranch Dressing Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Breaded Chicken Strips Corn Peaches Low Sodium Ketchup Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	All Beef Hot Dog Low Sodium Ketchup Garbanzo Beans Strawberry Craisins Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Mini Waffles Celery Sticks Banana Low Fat Strawberry Banana Yogurt Ranch Dressing Maple Syrup Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Bosco Sticks with Marinara Broccoli Apple Ranch Dressing Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk							
Mon 11	Tue 12	Wed 13	Thu 14	Fri 15							
Breaded Chicken Sandwich Carrots Pineapple Tidbits Barbecue Sauce Ranch Dressing Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Peas Apple Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Chicken Tacos Black Beans Mandarin Oranges Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Chicken Nuggets Low Sodium Ketchup Cucumbers Banana Ranch Dressing Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Cheesy Pull-Apart Marinara Sauce Broccoli Apple Slices Ranch Dressing Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk							
Mon 18	Tue 19	Wed 20	Thu 21	Fri 22							
Mini Pancakes Carrots Triple Cherry Yogurt Ranch Dressing Maple Syrup 100% Fruit Punch Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Chicken Corn Dog Garbanzo Beans Orange Wedges Low Sodium Ketchup Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Bosco Sticks with Marinara Corn Dried Cranberries Lowfat Milk Fat Free Chocolate Milk	Closed		Closed						
Mon 25	Tue 26	Wed 27	Thu 28	Fri 29							
Closed		Closed		Closed		Closed					

* Consuming raw or under cooked meat, poultry, seafood, shells or eggs may increase your risk of food borne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions. Menu is subjected to change, notice posted when available. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

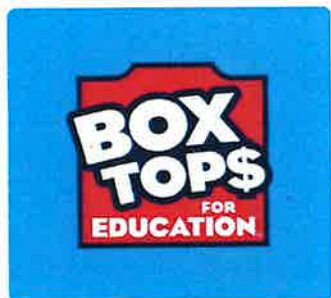
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