Dear Ferndale Families,

During this month, we celebrate Reading with our upcoming Reading Party. It is a great reminder of the importance of reading to your child at home daily. The more students share book experiences, the better their oral language, listening comprehension and vocabulary will be! We encourage you to make reading together a family routine, including visiting the library. Our AWESOME reading team, Mrs. Slade, Mrs. May and Mrs. Miller strive to build a culture of literacy and have fun events planned during the rest of the school year. This month’s Reading party is Reading Rocks with Pete the Cat on March 23rd! Pete the Cat will also be making an appearance at our March Madness Math Family Night on March 20th. More information to come. We hope you can join us!

As you may have noticed, your child is becoming more independent! Children between 4-6 are beginning to develop their independence, form real friendships, and they are learning rules to more difficult games. Here are some tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics for growing independence in young children:

- Setting limits
- Creating and keeping routines, especially reading at bedtime
- Taking time to talk and listen
- Assigning responsibility
- Encouraging independence in bathing and dressing
- Teaching simple rules about safety with adults
- Helping your child become a good friend

If you are interested in reading the full article, you can access it through this link: https://healthychildren.org/english/ages-stages/preschool/pages/growing-independence-tips-for-parents-of-young-children.aspx

Just a few reminders to share. Our county has issued Chromebooks to all students. These Chromebooks will follow your child to their next school. If you have not yet picked up your child’s home device, please stop by the office. Yearbook sales continue; the price is $12. If you are interested in Spirit wear, the store link will be available through March 15th. https://www.selectspiritwear.com/v5store/pc/viewCategories.asp?idCategory=1680

Thank you for your continued support and partnership!

With gratitude,
Denise Faidley, Principal
**Fire Lanes**

Fire lanes and bus loops are **not** to be utilized by staff, visitors, or spectators. Any vehicle parked in a fire lane **MUST** be moved to an authorized parking space. **This includes if you are bringing your student in because they are late or if you are picking your student up for early dismissal.**

**ABSENCES & TARDIES**

If your child has been sick for more than 5 days a doctor’s note is required to excuse the absence. Any absence or tardy without a note will be considered “Unexcused/Unlawful.”

**The Importance of Good Attendance**

Children are in school to learn and to grow into responsible and productive young adults. Regular school attendance is the key to high school graduation and finding a good job.

Poor attendance in elementary school often leads to excessive absences in middle and high school and become disinterested and unmotivated in school and often drop out.

Unlawful absence, or truancy, has been identified as one of the early warning signs of students headed for potential delinquent activity, social problems, or failure in school. According to research, truancy frequently leads to dropping out of school, entering the juvenile court system and unemployment. Dropouts who work typically earn lower salaries. Truancy is a sign that a young person is losing his or her way and needs help. Pupil Personnel Workers and other school staff are available to help.

**POETRY CORNER**

I Am
An Awesome Brilliant Child
Determined Eternally
For Greatness.
Helpful, Intelligent, Joyful,
Kind & Loving
Mindful & Naturally
Outstanding, Phenomenal,
Questioning, Respectable, Smart &
Talented, Unique & Victorious,
Wise,
X-citing, Youthful & Zealous
And then Some.

**PBIS**

Dinky says, “Save the date!”

We invite all students and staff to participate in

**March’s School Spirit Day!**

Mark your calendar -

**Friday, March 17th**

Is

“**Wear GREEN** Day”

Join us in celebration of:
Hello!

The children are doing an awesome job by eating a healthy breakfast and eating a hot meal at lunch time.

We offer a cold grab and go lunch as well. They are choosing a lot from the fruits/veggies, cold salad bar which consists of:

- Broccoli, cauliflower, baby carrots, tomatoes, celery, bananas, baby oranges, mixed fruit cups, mandarin oranges, peaches, pears and fruit cocktail, apple slices, and flavored apples sauces!

Last month we featured oranges as the fruit of the month. This month, since we will be celebrating St. Patrick’s Day for green veggies that we serve.
- Steamed Green Beans, Steamed Broccoli as well as the veggies on the cold bar!

They are continuing to do a great job coming through the lunch line and making wonderful choices for their plates. Just a reminder... all breakfast is served each day for Free!
Smiles on their faces make us smile too!

Thank you,

Nancy Tyler, Cafeteria Manager
Geri Shepard, Cafeteria Assistant
Every month a student is chosen by each classroom teacher as the “Student of the Month.” This is a student who acts as a role model for other students, always displaying positive school behavior. Please stop by the lobby of the school each month to see the bulletin board that features the “Students of the Month.”

Congratulations go out to the following students who were “Students of the Month” for the month of:

**February 2023**

- Blake P.  
  Mrs. Escobedo’s Class
- Kamira A.  
  Mrs. Bullard’s Class
- Martin M.  
  Mrs. Myles’s Class
- Karleigh A.  
  Mrs. Christopher’s Class
- Kabir O.  
  Mrs. Cronin’s Class
- Neymar P.  
  Mrs. Runion’s Class
- Jidenna U.  
  Mrs. Murphy’s Class
- Angel H.  
  Mrs. Stallings/Davis’s Class

Please remind your child that any student can be the “Student of the Month”. Please encourage them to work towards positive school behavior every day!

**Counselor’s Message**

**Manners, Manners, Manners**

What a polite group of kids we have here at Ferndale! In February, we emphasized manners.

In our counseling lessons, each class discussed good manners. We reviewed manner words such as please, thank you, and excuse me. The students learned sign language signs for each word. Ask your child to tell you the polite words they know!

Our school then celebrated with a manner’s luncheon on Friday, February 17th. We reviewed our polite words as well as good table manners. It was fun to see the kids dressed up and practicing what they had learned.

Also in February, the PBIS committee challenged our students to continue with our “kindness campaign” at home. Thank you to everyone who sent in their pink kindness hearts.

Please feel free to contact me jmbillings@aacps.org or call me at 410-590-4795 if you have any questions or if I can help your family in any way.

Thank you,
Jennifer Billings
Academic Performance
Improves attention and memory

Brain Health
Reduces risk of depression

Muscular Fitness
Builds strong muscles and endurance

Heart and Lung Health
Improves blood pressure and aerobic fitness

Cardiometabolic Health
Helps maintain normal blood sugar levels

Long-term Health
Reduces risk of several chronic Diseases, including type 2 diabetes and obesity

Bone Strength
Strengthens bones

Healthy Weight
Helps regulate body weight and Reduse body fat
**Star Attendance**

**February 2023**

**Strive for 9 Attendance**

or 90% attended for the month!

We would like to recognize each month those students who are meeting or exceeding this goal!

**Congratulations!**

To the following students

### Mrs. Bullard’s Class
- Adriel C.
- Henrietta D.
- Danzel L.
- Tzuriel M.
- Autumn M.
- Zainulabideen M.
- Charli R.
- Maverick S.
- Odarline V.

### Mrs. Christopher’s Class
- Precious A.
- Matthew B.
- Katherine E.
- Mauro L.
- Halia N.
- Jason O.
- Jerry-Al O.
- Jayleen W.

### Mrs. Cronin’s Class
- Matteo A.
- Sienna B.
- Lathan C.
- Luciana O.
- Jurnee Q.
- Josiah W.

### Mrs. Stallings/Davis’ Class
- Kailyah B.
- Christopher E.
- Godson E.
- Asher-Daniel G.
- Jakhai P.
- Genesis R.
- Nicolas S.
- Riley W.

### Mrs. Myles’ Class
- Jayden A.
- Andrea F.
- Omare’ H.
- Beatrix H.
- Lyric J.
- Kaleb L.
- Skylar M.
- Martin M.
- Natalie M.
- Franklina O.
- Justin R.
- Tifeoluw S.
- Paisley S.
- Delauney S.
- Esmeralda

**Students this month will get to participate in an extra recess!**

### Mrs. Escobedo’s Class
- Iker A.
- Nathaniel B.
- Harriet D.
- Maximus D.
- Evelyn H.
- Peace O.
- Blake P.
- Odarlie V.
- Avery W.

### Mrs. Murphy’s Class
- Nasir B.
- Nyla B.
- Rashad H.
- ’amira J.
- John N.
- Faith P.
- Brayden P.
- Axel P.
- Karissa P.
- Kaleah S.
- Jidenna U.
- Zayden W.

### Ms. Runion’s Class
- Eden B.
- Bryson C.
- Carlie C.
- Kamden D.
- Victoria D.
- Dallas D.
- Ahzjae H.
- Eshal K.
- Neymar P.