Dear Ferndale Families,

Our team here at Ferndale is excited for the New Year. As we return to school after a long Christmas/Winter break, this is a great time to reset goals and routines. Being prepared for school is a great habit to help teach your child each year.

Good attendance is another positive work habit that leads to success in school and life. Thank you for all of our families for making sure that your children attend school regularly and on time. Arriving at school late can be disruptive and upsetting for a student as they experience missed instruction. Of course, we certainly understand that our students get sick occasionally, and we appreciate when you keep your child home if they are experiencing illness or showing symptoms. Please remember to send a note promptly to the teacher when your child is absent so the office can update your child’s records.

I am happy to announce our attendance raffle winner of the tricycle and helmet was Jerry-Al O., in Mrs. Christopher’s class. Appreciation to the other remaining 86 students who strived for 9 or 90% attendance! We will be having another bike raffle in the spring. Next month’s attendance incentive is a Chick-fil-a gift card for all who are at 90% attendance/striving for 9!

The end of the semester brings several 2-hour early dismissal days and school closings. Winter weather can impact when these days occur with unexpected disruptions, so please visit our county’s website [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org) for updates regarding delays, closures and the potential announcement of a Virtual Instruction Day. Please visit [www.aacps.org/studentschedules](http://www.aacps.org/studentschedules) to see the virtual schedules. We will follow the start, end, morning break and lunch times as noted. Teachers will arrange the remaining blocks, including cultural arts. Please be prepared: pick up your child’s Chromebook (if you have not already done so), charge it, and practice logging on. Finally, please review with your child, your family’s dismissal plan for any unscheduled early dismissals. If you need to update your contact information, please do so. Remind anyone who picks up your child to bring and have their photo id. It is so important we can reach you in the event of any emergency.

With gratitude,

Denise Faidley, Principal
PBIS

Dinky says, “Save the date!”

We invite all students and staff to participate in

January’s School Spirit Day!

Mark your calendar

Thursday, January 19th is bring your

“Stuffed Animal Day!”

Show your school spirit by Bringing your favorite stuffed animal!

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 late or picking your student up for early dismissal.

SECURITY DRILL

Each month the staff and students practice various security drills. In December, our school initiated a lock down drill during a lunch shift. We were able to clear all hallways, practice locking our classroom doors or evacuating. The staff and students did a wonderful job this month!

“Unity”

I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot:

But

Together we can do great things.

Author Unknown
Cafeteria News

Hello Ferndale Families!

The children continue to eat well, with breakfast and lunches each day. All children receive a free breakfast, which includes food items such as: A juice or milk and fruit, if they choose. They love eating in their classroom with their friends!

For lunch, we offer hot entree or cold grab-and-go, which comes with veggies, fruit, and a milk. They love our lunches. We have some new entrees that are coming soon! The costs for lunches are $2.75 and milk is 55 cents. Family members who may join their child for Student of the Month lunch are welcome to purchase a lunch too. The cost is $5.50, and it is cash only.

We love our job here in the cafeteria! If you are looking for an awesome part time job, we would love to have you work for our team. For information, please call 410-222-5900 and ask for Andrea Gilbert.

We wish all of you a very happy and safe holiday.

Thank you!
Nancy Tyler, Manager and Geri Shepard, Assistant.
Your Childs Contact Info

Please take the time to update your home and cell phone numbers as well as your current addresses. This information is very important for the school to have on file in case of Emergencies.

If you would like to ADD or REMOVE a contact from your student’s emergency contact form, please call the office at (410) 590-4790 and we will send the card home to be amended.

Thank you!

News from the Health Room

Healthy Eating for Kids

Healthy eating is important at every age. Offer kids a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, protein foods, and dairy or fortified soy alternatives. When deciding on foods and beverages, choose options that are full of nutrients and limited in added sugars, saturated fat, and sodium. Start with these tips:

Offer variety
Include choices from each food group—fruits, vegetables, grains, protein foods, and dairy or fortified soy alternatives—in meals and snacks during each day.

Connect at mealtime
Eat meals together whenever possible. Turn off the TV and put away phones and tablets, so you can “unplug” and focus on healthy foods and each other.

Make good nutrition easy
Designate a shelf or a drawer in your fridge for your kids. Stock it with cut-up fruits and vegetables, yogurt, nut butters, and whole-wheat mini bagels and crackers.

Think about their drinks
Make water and low-fat or fat-free dairy milk or fortified soy alternatives easy options to grab in your home. Have ready-to-go containers filled and in the fridge to take on outings.

Get kids involved
Depending on their age, kids can peel fruits, assemble salads, measure, scoop, and slice. Let them create and name their own side dish.

Have a shopping buddy
Let kids participate in grocery shopping online or in the store. Reward them by letting them choose their favorite fruit or maybe a new one.
Counselor’s Message

Our first counseling lesson this month was a review of Classroom Rules. We discussed the reasons we have rules in school; to keep us safe and help us learn. Students then reviewed our rules and illustrated their favorite. Please talk to your child about school rules to encourage continued good classroom behavior.

Our second lesson topic was Diversity. Classes discussed similarities and differences individuals have. Then, they listened to the book The Crayon Box that Talked, by Shane DeRolf and discussed how differences are beautiful.

If you have any questions about our lessons or want to discuss an individual concern, please call me at 410-590-4790.

Thank you,

Jennifer Billings
School Counselor

Counselor’s Corner
Student of the Month Program

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:

December 2022

John L.                  Mrs. Murphy
Conner C.                Mrs. Christopher
Sophia R.                Mrs. Davis
Heaven M.                Mrs. Cronin
Tifeoluwa S.             Mrs. Myles
Naomi I.                 Ms. Runion
Harriet D.               Mrs. Escobedo ECI
Jimmy G.                 Mrs. Bullard ECI

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!
January 2023 Brain Tip of the Month

Start your new year off right! Fast food and processed/sugary food harm the brain. They can cause you to feel tired and foggy.
Feed your brain the food it needs!

**Growing brains need:**
- Lean proteins (chicken, beans, & nuts)
- Vitamins & Minerals
- Fruits and Vegetables

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Inclement Weather

**Opening and Early Closing of Schools**

Changes to school schedules caused by inclement weather or other emergency conditions are announced through the Connect-ED automated telephone, email, and text message notification system; on major area radio and television stations, including AACPS-TV (Channel 96 on Comcast and Broadstripe, and Channel 36 on Verizon); and are posted on the school system’s website (www.aacps.org), Facebook page (www.facebook.com/aacps), Instagram page (www.instagram.com/aacountyschools), and Twitter page (@AACountySchools) as well as on all school-specific Twitter pages. Announcements are also made through AACPS’ mobile app (search “Anne Arundel County PS” in the app store) and recorded on the main switchboard voice mail (410-222-5000).

The school system’s website; Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages; individual school Twitter pages; and AACPS-TV remain the best places to check for accurate, up-to-date information.
Star Attendance

December 2022

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. Christopher’s Class:**
Precious A.
Elizabeth (Skye) A.
Matthew B.
Dennis C.
Katherine E.
Charlie C.
Cayden L.
Halia N.
Jason O.
Jerry-Al O.
Denia O.
Azarah J.

**Mrs. Murphy’s Class:**
Antonio C.
Nyla B.
John L.
A’mira J.
Dayana M.
John N.
Faith P.
Anyiah R.
Kaleah S.
Jidenna U.
Brayden P.
Axel P.
Zayden W.

**Mrs. Escobedo’s Class:**
Iker A.
Calvin D.
Harriet D.I.
Evelyn H.
David I.
Odarlie V.
Avery W.
Eli L.
Peace O.
Black P.

**Mrs. Cronin’s Class:**
Matteo A.
Youssef B.
Keith C.
Sienna B.
Madylyn C.
Jurnee Q.
Naomi G.
Camila H.
Tylan J.

**Mrs. Davis’s Class:**
Kailyah B.
Jakhai P.
Asher-Daniel G.
Jakhai P.
Royce S.
Piper S.
Nicolas S.
Austin S.
Riley W.

**Mrs. Bullard’s Class:**
Adriel C.
Henrietta D.
Zainulabideen M.
Tzuriel M.
Charli R.
Logan R.
Oderline V.
Sebastian W.

**Mrs. Myles’s Class:**
Gemma F.
Alia G.
Lyric J.
Kaleb L.
Skylar M.
Martin M.
Natalie M.
Franklina O.
Jeshri P.

**Ms. Runion’s Class:**
Jayden A.
Justin R.
Neev S.
Tifeoluwa S.
Delauney S.
Esmeralda S.
Eden B.
Carlie C.
Camille H.
Naomi I.
Eshal K.
Neymar P.
Theodore S.