



Parkside Primary School



Home of the Eagles!

Important Dates

February 2021

- 2/3 - 100th Day of School
- 2/10 - Spring Picture Day
- 2/11 - Early Dismissal (12:00)
- 2/11 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 2/12 - NO SCHOOL (Planning Day)
- 2/15 - NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
- 2/25 - Board of Education Meeting



Principal's Note

Parkside Families,

It has been awesome to have our students back full time! Now that they are attending every day, it is very important that students are present whenever possible. If your child is required to be absent due to covid symptoms, please make contact with Nurse Kassie. With the district now conducting antigen testing, we are able to return students to classroom much sooner, in many cases, than we were in the beginning of the year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Aaron B. Kilpatrick, Principal

akilpatrick@bethalto.org

377-4100 ext. 16150

Attendance/Quarantine

Students who are experiencing symptoms, or have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, or has related symptoms, are not to attend school.

Please call our office at 377-4100 to speak to our nurse about your child's symptoms, or exposure, for guidance on how long they must be out of school, and their return date. There will be no academic penalty for students who must miss school because of Covid related symptoms or quarantine due to possible exposure.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Spring conferences are **not required for all students**, but your child's teacher may request one. Likewise, parents are welcome to request a conference. Either way, please be sure to let your child's teacher know if you are planning participating in a conference. Like in the fall, **all conferences will be held virtually, or by phone.**

Valentine's Day

Per our original Return to Learn Plan, we are asking parents **NOT** to send in Valentine's Day cards or treats. Classes will still have parties, on February 11th, but everything will be provided here. Classroom teachers may ask for a small donation to help cover the cost of some crafts. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Cold Weather/Snow Days

Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for winter weather. As long as the temperatures aren't extreme, and there is no precipitation, we will continue to go outside for recess.

In the event that school is cancelled due to inclement weather, we will conduct school remotely. This allows us to not use our emergency days at the end of our school calendar. School will still be called off, so families know not to send students in, but they will be expected to engage remotely. Classroom teachers will have information on Seesaw just like any other remote learning day.

School Messenger

Official communication from Mr. K will come via School Messenger, and may be in the form of a voice call, an email, a text message, or in some cases, all three. **To make sure you don't miss any important information, please make sure you have a valid phone number and email on file.** If your phone number or email address change, be sure to make us aware, so we can have the most current information in Power School. Most calls will come after regular school hours, however, sometimes it is necessary to send a call during school hours. If not answered, the message will go to your voicemail. **If you receive a call from 377-4100, but are not able to answer, please check your voicemail before calling our office.**

Character Education

The Character Education word for October is: **Caring**

Caring is about displaying kindness and concern for the well-being of others.

Here are some ways to reinforce our message about caring:

1. Find things to do, together, to make a difference in someone else's life.
2. Acknowledge your child when they do something kind or generous for another person.
3. Remember, you are a powerful role model for your child. If you are kind and helpful to others, this is what your child will learn from you!



Character Case

Each month, our students work together to earn a positive behavior reward. Covid-19 guidelines have drastically changed what these rewards look like, but we are still finding ways to reward our students for working together towards a common goal. To monitor our progress, we fill our "Character Case" with balloons. Students can earn balloons for many reasons, but typically they are for exhibiting the character word of the month, or doing things the "Eagle Way." When the balloons reach the required level, everyone earns the reward. Please have discussions with your child about how they can do their part to help earn balloons.

Mindfulness

Mindfulness is the ability to be fully present, aware of where we are and what we're doing, and not overly reactive or overwhelmed about what's going on around us. At Parkside, we are teaching our students some of the basic concepts of mindfulness. During our morning meeting, we "get ready for our day" by sitting comfortably, closing our eyes, clearing our minds, and focusing on our breathing. Students are encouraged to use this technique whenever they feel anxious or overwhelmed. Please ask your child about this important part of our day!

PARKSIDE IS A PLACE WHERE **EVERYONE** WORKS, LEARNS, AND SUCCEEDS TOGETHER!