

Denmark Elementary



**Winter
Break**

**No School
December 23rd
- Thru -
December 30th.**



December Events

Dec 1 ~ 3rd Grade Concert, 7pm
Dec 2 ~ Early Dismissal, 11:30am
Dec 5 -9 ~ Secret Santa Shoppe
Dec 15 ~ Breakfast with Santa, 7:15am
Dec 15 ~ 1st Grade Concert, 6pm
Dec 15 ~ 2nd Grade Concert, 7pm

Holiday Dress Up Days

Dec 19 ~ Pajama Day
Dec 20 ~ Christmas Colors
Dec 21 ~ Grinch Day (Wear Green)
Dec 22 ~ Ugly Sweater Day



From The Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It seems like the cold weather is finally upon us. I hope the playground gets covered with snow soon. It is always fun to see the snow forts that the students create together. We remind the students that the snow forts do not belong to any one student or even a group of students, they belong to everyone to add to and make even better. Once the snow arrives, stop by after school and see all the forts!

We do have a few rules once the winter weather arrives. We will review these rules at school, but if you could also remind your child of the rules it will help to reinforce them.

- All snow must stay on the ground. Snow in the hand is so tempting to throw. The students will roll big

snowballs to add to the forts, but for safety reasons all snowballs must stay on the ground.

- No sliding on ice. Unfortunately, we occasionally have some patches of ice. We will put cones around these areas so students know not to play there.
- All students need to wear boots, winter jackets, snow pants, hats and mittens to be able to play during recess. If you need any assistance with winter clothing for your student, please contact us.

In the month of December, we have quite a few exciting events happening. Please take a close look at the dates on page 1 of this newsletter so you don't miss anything. I'm looking forward to the concerts and Santa's visit. I hope to see you there!

This is the time of the year that I share with our younger students that Santa calls me to double check his naughty or nice list. Sometimes that reminder is all some of our students need to help them continue to make good choices.

If Santa has stopped at your home in the past, we do keep the spirit of Santa going here at school. When we have students from 1st grade to 5th grade, we will have students who may not celebrate Santa or may be asking questions about Santa. If you have a child that fits that description, please talk to your child. There are lots of secrets that Santa keeps, so at our house we talked to our kids about what each of us does to keep the secrets of Santa for as long as we possibly can.

We continue to focus on school rules of being respectful, responsible and safe, in short, be kind. Our students have been busy carrying out random acts of kindness. Students are helping friends when they drop something, need a friend to play with at recess, or encouraging each other to work hard and try their best because they have confidence in each other. In addition, many students have been writing positive notes to each other. Many of these notes are taped on the outside of a friend's locker. I have seen some notes taped on the outside or inside of lockers for months!

Students earn purple "Thumbs Up" tickets when an adult notices them making good choices and following our school rules. Ask your child about the last purple ticket he/she earned and what good choices he/she made.

Happy Holidays to you and your family from all of us at Denmark Elementary School!

Mrs. Hager

Reminders

Pets on School Property

Please leave all pets inside your vehicles when picking up or dropping off your student. As a reminder, here is our Pet Policy as noted in the 22-23 Handbook:

PET POLICY

To insure the safety of all students and staff, the items below need to be followed:

- The Principal needs to approve a visiting pet.
- After the Principal approves the pet visit, the parent must submit a copy of the pet's immunization records.
- The pet must be on a leash that is no longer than 5 feet long (no retractable leashes).
- The pet must be muzzled.
- Pets should not be on school grounds unless the above are followed. This includes during student pick-up/drop-off, non-school time and during special events.

Snow Pants & Boots Policy

Wisconsin Winter can bring us cold temperatures, snow, slush, ice, mud....and everything in between. Until further notice, we ask that all students bring snow pants & boots to school each day, regardless of snow accumulation on the ground. As the weather changes, we will notify the students prior to their recess what winter items are required to be worn.

Winter Weather Policy

Wisconsin winter is upon us, so we'd like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of our winter weather policies here at Denmark Elementary School.

If the "real feel" (Wind Chill) temperature is at or above -5 degrees, the children will stay outside at bus arrival time in the morning and have outside recess as normal during their lunchtime break.

Teachers who wish to go outside at the grade level recesses may choose to go out for a short time if the "real feel" temperature is between -5 and -10 degrees.

When the "real feel" temperature is colder than -10 degrees, students will immediately come into the school at bus arrival in the morning. They will NOT be allowed to go outside for recess.



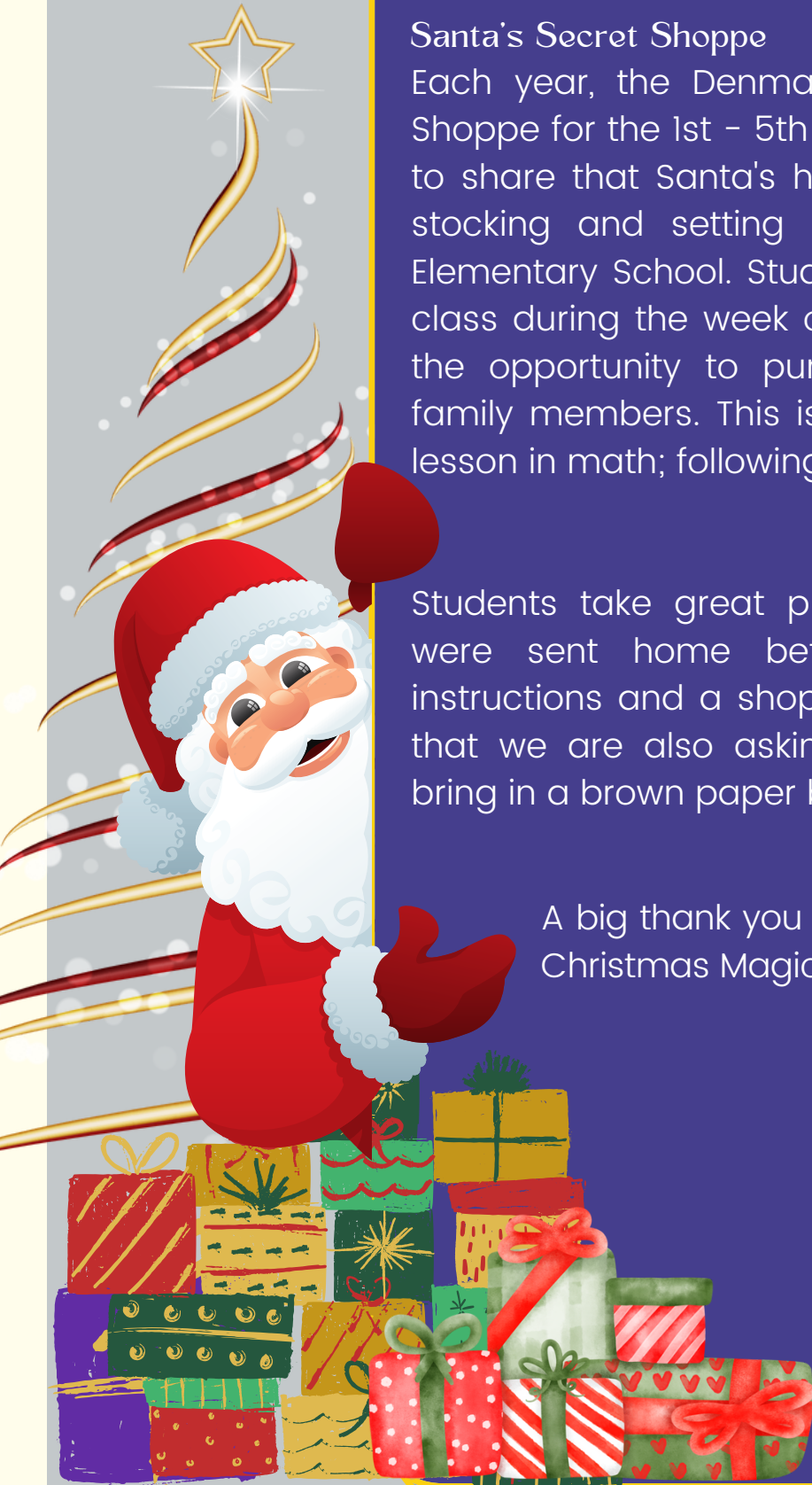
PTO News**Santa's Secret Shoppe**

Each year, the Denmark PTO holds a Santa's Secret Shoppe for the 1st - 5th grade students. We are excited to share that Santa's helpers have already been busy stocking and setting up this year's shoppe at the Elementary School. Students will be shopping with their class during the week of December 5th, allowing them the opportunity to purchase a holiday gift for their family members. This is also a great opportunity for a lesson in math; following a budget.

Students take great pride in their purchases. Letters were sent home before Thanksgiving break with instructions and a shopping list to fill out. Please note that we are also asking each student that shops to bring in a brown paper bag with handles.

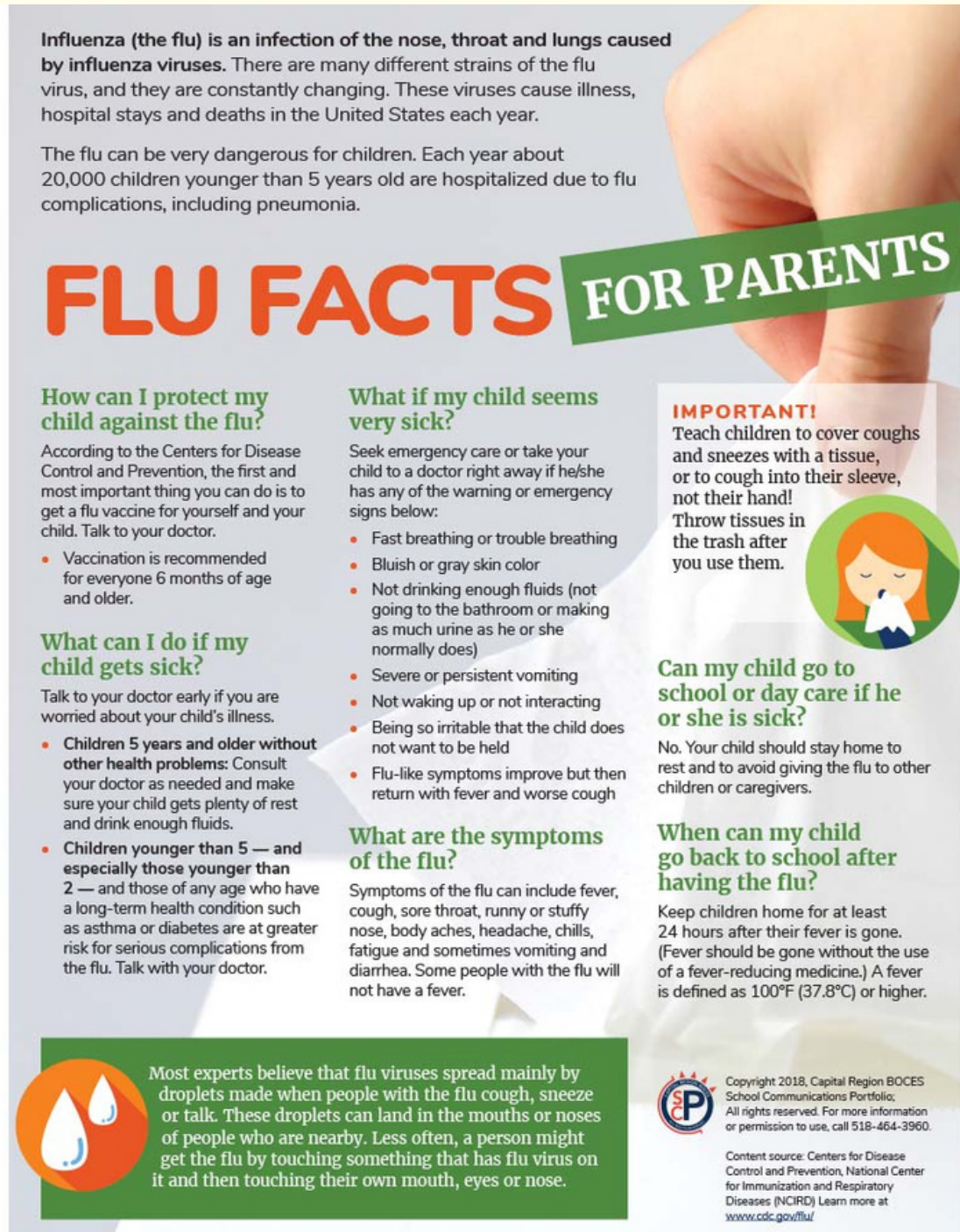
A big thank you to all those that help bring some Christmas Magic to our building!

Kristin Olsen
PTO President



The Nurses Station

Flu season is upon us. Please take a moment to read about symptoms and what to do if you think your child might be sick. We ask that students with fevers of 100.4 or greater be fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school.



Influenza (the flu) is an infection of the nose, throat and lungs caused by influenza viruses. There are many different strains of the flu virus, and they are constantly changing. These viruses cause illness, hospital stays and deaths in the United States each year.

The flu can be very dangerous for children. Each year about 20,000 children younger than 5 years old are hospitalized due to flu complications, including pneumonia.

FLU FACTS FOR PARENTS

How can I protect my child against the flu?

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the first and most important thing you can do is to get a flu vaccine for yourself and your child. Talk to your doctor.

- Vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older.

What can I do if my child gets sick?

Talk to your doctor early if you are worried about your child's illness.

- **Children 5 years and older without other health problems:** Consult your doctor as needed and make sure your child gets plenty of rest and drink enough fluids.
- **Children younger than 5 — and especially those younger than 2 — and those of any age who have a long-term health condition such as asthma or diabetes are at greater risk for serious complications from the flu.** Talk with your doctor.

What if my child seems very sick?

Seek emergency care or take your child to a doctor right away if he/she has any of the warning or emergency signs below:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish or gray skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids (not going to the bathroom or making as much urine as he or she normally does)
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough

What are the symptoms of the flu?

Symptoms of the flu can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea. Some people with the flu will not have a fever.

IMPORTANT!

Teach children to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, or to cough into their sleeve, not their hand! Throw tissues in the trash after you use them.



Can my child go to school or day care if he or she is sick?

No. Your child should stay home to rest and to avoid giving the flu to other children or caregivers.

When can my child go back to school after having the flu?

Keep children home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone. (Fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.) A fever is defined as 100°F (37.8°C) or higher.

Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with the flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might get the flu by touching something that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes or nose.



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Content source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD). Learn more at www.cdc.gov/flu/



If you have questions, please contact:
 Amber Kapinos, RN
kapinosa@denmark.k12.wi.us
 920-863-4032

What's So Special About Specials?



Music

Christmas is in full swing in the music room! The room is buzzing with recorders in 4th and 5th grade. It is always a busy time of the year, but also so rewarding to see students working hard and making memories!

1st, 2nd and 3rd graders are busy preparing for their upcoming concerts. 1st graders are dabbling with mallet playing, and 2nd graders are putting together their first musical together which will be on Thursday, December 15th. 3rd graders are busy learning lyrics to all their songs and are excited for their show on December 1st.

4th and 5th graders are realizing that playing the recorder is challenging, but at the same time can be very fun and enriching. We will be showcasing our abilities soon on Seesaw to show parents our progress.

After the programs are over, I really focus on the composer Pyotr Tchaikovsky, a Russian composer who wrote the ballet, The Nutcracker. We learn about the different pieces in the ballet and have fun with movement to all the songs.

Mrs. Carley
ES/ECC Music
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Save The Date!

Upcoming Music Concerts

December 1st ~ 3rd grade Concert

7pm at the High School Performing Arts Center

December 15th ~ 1st & 2nd Grade Concerts

1st Grade @ 6pm

2nd Grade @ 7pm

Both performances held at the HS Performing Arts Center

February 21st ~ 5th grade

March 23rd ~ 4th grade

April 27th ~ Treble Maker Choir



Art



Here is what's happening in Art Class this month:

5th graders are working on their String Art. This has so many connections to math – geometric shapes, angles, patterns, symmetry, and concentric circles! Students have learned about the history of string art, they've looked at some contemporary artists' work, and practiced creating different patterns on paper: radiating lines, rotating squares, spectrum, and their own pattern. They've painted their cardboard circles using Kwik Stix, glued the spokes and poked the holes to prep the surface for weaving. Students will spend a few days weaving their chosen pattern and then embellish their cardboard with Posca pens to create a symmetrical design. These are going to look amazing in the hallway! Ask your student which pattern they are weaving for their String Art.

4th graders are working on their Sugar Skull relief sculptures, inspired by a Mexican holiday, Day of the Dead. The first step was to design their sugar skull using mirror symmetry and symbolism. We looked at different designs and common symbols such as marigolds, gemstones, and hearts. We are currently working with clay – forming the slab base and will be practicing different sculpting techniques soon. Once these are fired, students will add color using a unique oil pastel and tempera paint wash that will really bring out the texture. I'm looking forward to seeing the creative ideas when we start sculpting! Ask your student to tell you something about Day of the Dead.

3rd graders are finishing up their Jellyfish Blooms! These were inspired by the jellyfish exhibit at aquarium in the Mall of America. Students learned how to paint their water using analogous colors, tint and shade, and splatter painted little bubbles on top. Next, they learned how to draw a jellyfish bloom using curvy, organic lines and shapes. We blended chalk pastels from dark to light to clear to show the jellies' form and make them appear translucent. We talked about how to create the illusion of space by drawing the largest jellyfish at the bottom and the smallest at the top, and further emphasized the space by overlapping our seaweed. Our school is going to look like an aquarium soon! Ask your student how they painted the water.

Art Continued....



2nd graders are working on their Creative Color Wheels. They first learned how to mix primary colors to create secondary colors, and then arranged the 6 colors to form a color wheel on top of their tinted backgrounds. They are now being challenged to transform their color wheel into something else...a hot air balloon?...a turtle?...a flower? We've looked at a lot of ideas to get them thinking about possibilities, and I must say I've noticed a lot of creative thinkers! Once they have an idea they will cut and glue their extra parts to their picture, color with markers, and added pattern and details. Ask your student what their idea is for their color wheel.

1st graders just completed their leaf prints! I brought in a bunch of maple leaves from around my neighborhood. Students learned how to paint their leaf on the bumpy side, and then print it at different angles to show movement. They sponge painted the background with a variety of colors. The contrast between the white leaves and colorful background is really beautiful! I'm looking forward to hanging these up in the hallways! Students will be uploading a few of their pieces to Artsonia and starting on a special holiday lesson next. Ask your student how they printed their leaf.

Mrs. Hagen
ES/ECC Art
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Spanish

hola!

Students 1st through 5th grade should have similar vocabulary in regards to colors, greetings and feelings. This way students, friends, and siblings across grade levels can share similar concepts to reinforce the learning in class. While the students share common vocabulary each grade level cluster has been focusing on separate concepts. 1st and 2nd graders have been continuing to master their color vocabulary.

3rd graders have been working on mastering feelings. While 4th and 5th grade have been working numbers up to 59. Students grades 1st grade and up know how to count pretty well in Spanish. Ask your student to count as high as they can in Spanish. They might surprise you.

Mrs. Michel-Klug
ES/ECC Spanish
klugd@denmark.k12.wi.us

Physical Education



Now that the weather is changing, please make sure your child has appropriate gym shoes on their PE days.

- The 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students have had a busy November working on their football throwing and catching skills. After a little practice, we played “Rescue Me” and “Passing for Points”. They also had fun practicing their underhand rolling skills (bowling). The students really enjoyed the “Fitness Bowling Relay”.
- 1st and 2nd graders also worked on their underhand rolling skills along with learning about the different pathways that they can move through while playing games. “Gathering Coconuts” was a game we played that took us all over the gym, in a variety of pathways.
- All students ended the month learning about Speed (Sport) Stacking.
 - What are the benefits of cup stacking?
 - Kids don’t need to be convinced about the benefits of sport stacking. They just plain love it (even your “way too cool for it” kids).
 - **Hand-eye coordination, quickness and ambidexterity.** A university study by Dr. Brian Udermann, currently at the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse, confirms that stacking improves hand-eye coordination and reaction time by up to 30 percent.
 - Sport stacking helps students develop **bilateral proficiency** – equal performance on both sides of the body. By increasing bilateral proficiency, a student develops a greater percentage of the right side of the brain, which houses awareness, focus, creativity and rhythm. Stacking helps train the brain for sports and other activities where the use of both hands is important, such as playing a musical instrument or using the computer. Sequencing and patterning are also elements of sport stacking, which can help with reading and math skills.
 - Most importantly, sport stacking helps students develop **self esteem and self confidence!** (Comprehensive School Health, Faculty of Education/University of Ottawa)
- FYI – These would make a great Stacking Stuffer!! You can find various options of stacking Cup Games on Amazon.com

Mrs. Chester
ES/ECC Physical Education
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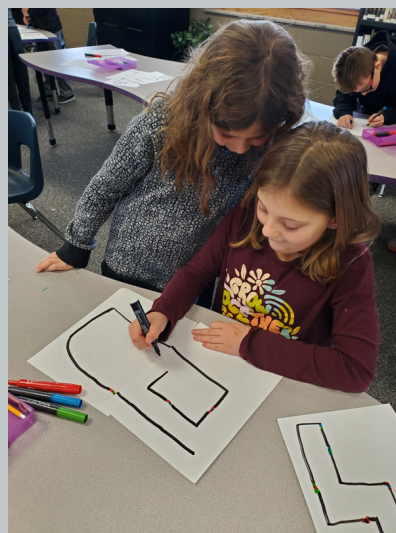
Mr. Wright
ES Physical Education
wrightt@denmark.k12.wi.us

Coding



Ozobots:

1st thru 5th grade students are finishing up a unit of coding with Ozobots. Students will have a chance to show their understanding of just right lines, symmetric and asymmetric codes- and input vs output when using an Ozobot. Watching their creativity come alive when drawing color codes and just right lines for their Ozobot has been fun to see!



Code.org

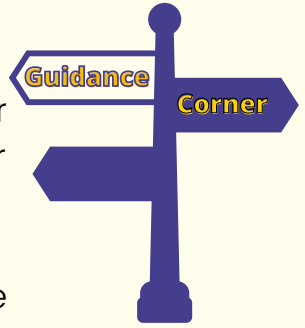
Debugging has been a big focus for grades 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Students are learning to have persistence when trying to solve the bugs in the code. I am proud of the skills they are developing to become great problem solvers!

4th and 5th grade students are learning the importance of reading and comprehending directions. These challenges are getting tough! Most of the time when a student is asking for help it goes back to them rereading and understanding what is being asked of them. It is a good experience for them to see that having good reading skills will help them across all curriculum areas.

Mrs. Swetlik
ES Coding
swetlikr@denmark.k12.wi.us

What are we learning in Guidance in November?

The topic for the month of December is **Gratitude**. Be on the lookout for the grade level newsletter that will be found sometime this month in their backpack.



If you find yourself repeating "No!" more times than you'd like, it may be time for a Parenting Rewind. Parenting Rewind is a series of videos, scripts, and journals to help shift from reactive parenting to more mindful parenting. This is a shame-free, judgment-free way to begin showing up for your kids as the very best version of you!

For example, your child will not stop asking for dessert. Instead of saying no, try these three steps:

1. Connect to yourself
 - Take a deep breath. Focus on a long exhale. Say to yourself "My child is safe. I am safe. I can do this."
2. Connect to your kids:
 - "We're not having dessert today. That's on the menu for Friday."
 - "The choices today are chicken or pasta with fruit afterward."
 - "You wish it was dessert day. Waiting can be hard and I know you can do it."
 - "The kitchen is closed for now. I understand you're not happy about that."
3. Collaborate outside the moment:
 - "I can see why you are so eager to have your favorite treat and why it's so difficult to wait. Fueling our bodies properly is important for you to grow. Can you help me make a menu for next week that includes dessert on a couple nights?"

Instead of this	Try This
No, I cant' right now	I would be happy to help you after I finish this.
No, I'm tired.	Just let me rest for a few minutes and I will be ready to play with you.
No, we're not having pizza today!	We have chicken or pasta to choose from today.

You can also try a contingent framework. This is used by setting limits using When-Then, First-Then, or As Soon As sentence structures. For example:

- When lunch is finished, then you can play soccer.
- When the room is cleaned up, then we can go for a walk.
- First, your homework gets finished, then you can call your friends.

The last recommendation is to hold the limit and allow for a feeling. This should allow kids to navigate through their feelings. All feelings are okay and valid. Hold space for them. Add your own:

- I said we're done for the day. I see this is really hard for you.
- It can be hard to end the game. I understand.
- You wish you could play more and you can't wait for tomorrow.
- You're disappointed and I understand that. It's okay to feel the way you feel.

Mrs. Ehlert
ES Guidance Counselor
ehlertj@denmark.k12.wi.us

Girls On The Run Fall 2022 Season Ends

"Girls on the Run is so much fun!!!!", was heard from 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade girls on Denmark's playground after school this fall. The Girls on the Run program started its 2022 season the second week of school. It is the first year Denmark ran the program.

Girls on the Run is a 10 week program that encourages girls to find their inner strength and helps them discover what makes them unique. Trained coaches, Jocelyn Ehlert, Abby Giffin, and Heather Roberts, led the group in games, discussions, and activities. "We helped the students recognize the skills they already had for the real world while incorporating fitness and health. We made running fun for the girls and connected with them on another level." said Jocelyn Ehlert. "It was so much fun to watch them grow and develop. The girls connected with each other too, which was inspiring especially when they are at an age where they need those connections with their peers the most."

Girls face so many social pressures in society and there are many conflicting messages as to who they should be and how they should act, leading to self-doubt and lowering their confidence. This can lead to a decrease in academic achievement and an increase in anxiety and depression. We heard many staff saying how much they have seen a positive impact on the girls and their social skills. "It was nice to see them actually talking to one another", stated a source. "These girls are like a family to one another", said Heather Roberts.

At the end of the program, the girls did a community service activity. The girls took full responsibility with the project. The girls also participated in a 5k. The coaches helped get them emotionally and physically trained during practices. The 5k was a non-competitive celebration of all they have accomplished in the season while implementing goal setting. It was run with many other schools in the North East Wisconsin Area.

Sadly, this year's Girls on the Run season is over but we look forward to next year's season. Stay tuned for more information or go to <https://www.girlsontherunnew.org/>.



Message From Food Services:



Merry Christmas!

Thank You ALL for your participation in the School Meal Program.

Updates:

- ~Visit our Menu Web Site – denmark.nutrislice.com
- ~Breakfast is available every morning & requires ½ cup of fruit or vegetable per USDA
- ~Breakfast Price For This Year is \$1.80
- ~ Lunch Price For This Year is \$2.75
- ~Milk Break is offered daily, the cost for this is \$.55 per day
- ~If your Child brings a cold Lunch and wants a milk, that cost is also \$.55
- ~Free and Reduced Applications are available all year, please contact Kristi Buhr or click this link: [FREE & REDUCED LUNCH FORM](#)
- ~If you change your E-Mail address or move, please notify the school secretaries so updates can be made.
- ~PLEASE KEEP FAMILY ACCOUNT BALANCES IN THE POSITIVE.
- ~Please have any payments for the Food Service turned in by 8:30 a.m. daily so it can be credited for that day.
- ~PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE THRU THE PARENT PORTAL IN INFINITE CAMPUS
- ~Make checks payable to “DENMARK SCHOOL DISTRICT”
- ~PLEASE PUT PAYMENTS IN AN ENCLOSED ENVELOPE MARKED WITH THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD & STUDENT(S) NAME.
- ~Please contact Jody Behringer FSD, 863-4220 for any questions
- ~ Breakfast with Santa Dates:
ECC: December 8th ELEM: December 15th

Jody Behringer
Food Services Department
behringJ@denmark.k12.wi.us



Community Corner

The Green Bay Packers would like to invite your family to their annual Festival Of Lights event at Lambeau Field on Saturday, December 3rd. Similar to previous years, this is a free community event which features cookie decorating, holiday movies/cartoons, holiday card making, photo opportunities with Santa Claus, high school choirs performing holiday music, and our tree lighting program on Harlan Plaza. Additionally, volunteers will be on-site throughout the event to collect donations for Toys for Tots. Please see the attached link for more information:

Green Bay Packers Festival of Lights



Dance Unlimited is looking for dancers, ages 5-8 to join their Junior Company. If you would like more information, please see the attached link:



Dance Unlimited Junior Company

Kewaunee Grade School is happy to announce that they will once again be opening their doors to the community on Saturday, December 3rd for a Holiday Extravaganza. Families will be able to create crafts and ornaments, enjoy a sing-a-long, decorate Christmas cookies, or visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus! The Scholastic Book Fair will also be open during the event. Please see that attached link for more information:

Kewaunee Grade School Holiday Extravaganza



Our Denmark High School Sting Cancer group is collecting Christmas items during the month of December to create Chemo Bags. You can drop off donations inside ALL of the Denmark School main entrances during normal school hours. Please see the attached link for a list of items on their Wish-List:



Denmark Sting Cancer Wish-List

Denmark School District Preschool Screening Notice Children Age 3 (and turning 3)



In Accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Child Find Law, Denmark School District follows a procedure to locate, refer and identify, as early as possible young children who are in need of an Early Intervention Program or Early Childhood Services.

If you live in the Denmark School District and have a child who is age 3 or turning age 3 during the current school year, please notify the Denmark School District's Early Childhood Office at 920-863-4177.

Once you have contacted the school, you will be placed on a list to receive a questionnaire to complete called the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ). The ASQ is sent in early January of the current school year and helps the district Child Find Team determine if further screening is needed for your child.

If you have any immediate concerns about your child's age appropriate development, you can call Sheryl DeLarwelle at 920-863-4035 to inquire about the referral and evaluation process. You can also email her at delarwes@denmark.k12.wi.us.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the School District of Denmark that no person may be denied admission to any public school or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's gender, color, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, gender orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

English: If you need this information in your native language, please contact Deb Kralovetz at kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us or 920-863-4034.

Spanish: Si necesita esta información en su idioma materno, póngase en contacto con Deb Kralovetz en kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us o 920-863-4034.

Hmong: Yog tias koj xav tau cov ntaub ntawv no ua koj hom lus, thov hu Deb Kralovetz ntawm kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us los sis 920-863-4034.

Mandarin Chinese: 如果您需要使用母语提供的这些信息，请联系Deb Kralovetz，电子邮件地址为 kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us 或 920-863-4034。