Hello Families and Caregivers,

It appears the winter weather has arrived. There are several students that come with light jackets or sweatshirts and it is pretty cold on our playground. If you are ever in doubt—warmer is better; kids can always take a layer off or have their coat unzipped.

Please review the pages that follow for other weather related info.

Morning Announcements
The Stoner Prairie Ambassadors under the leadership of Elizabeth Schlitz and with technical assistance from Karie Huttner have launched our school announcements to the web. Check out what is happening for our students on the front page of our building website by watching the playlist of announcements.

Sincerely,

Mike Pisani

Principal’s News

Upcoming Calendar Dates
Dec 10 PTO/PAC 6:30 p.m. LMC
Dec 19 Market Day Pickup 4:30-5:30 p.m. Multipurpose Room
Dec 20 12:20 Dismissal
Dec 23 through January 1 Winter Break--No School

SP Newsletter is Online!

We are going paperless! We have sent an email reminder for you to view the newsletter online at our website. A few paper copies will be available in the office for parent pickup if needed.

Visit the District Website at www.verona.k12.wi.us for many online forms, District Calendar Lunch Menus

Visit “Our Schools” Stoner Prairie Elementary for Electronic Copies of this Newsletter

Weather Delays and Cancellations are also posted on the District website
School Closings or Delays

The decision to close schools is made by our district officials after consultation with the bus company, Weather Central, and other districts in the path of the storm. Every effort is made to make a decision as early as possible to allow families to make plans. In the event of fast developing storms, however, sudden decisions are sometimes necessary. Local TV and radio stations will be notified by 6:30 a.m. or as soon as the decision is made to close or delay the start of school. Closings are also posted on the district website at www.verona.k12.wi.us

If it is necessary to close school during the school day, this information will be announced on the TV, radio and district website. School personnel are not responsible for contacting parents if school dismisses early. Teachers will refer to the emergency dismissal form parents filled out at the beginning of the school year. Families should not plan to reach children at school by phone as lines are often busy. Schools will try to allow a one-hour notice if school is dismissed during the day.

Additional Winter Recess Guidelines

1. Students should not bring any types of sleds to school. We will provide sleds when sledding is permitted.
2. Students should not share any winter clothes with their friends.
3. Students should not throw snow or ice at any time.
4. Students should have winter wear that they can put on and take off successfully by themselves or with minimal assistance from others.
5. Students who do not have a specific winter clothing item on a given day will need to stay on the blacktop area of the playground.

Think Pink Update

Thank you for your enthusiastic response to this year's Yoplait pink lid collection. Each pink lid brings in 10 cents for cancer research. As of October 31, we've gathered 104 and we're ready for more! Lids may be brought to the lunchroom.
Malcolm Stack Foundation

Students in the 4/5 PALs classrooms visited the Malcolm Stack Foundation in October. They learned about efforts to conserve land while hiking in a protected section of the Driftless Area, which is the southwestern section of Wisconsin not flattened by glaciers. The trip supported the social studies curriculum related to the geological history of our state.

The Malcolm Stack Foundation assisted with planning for the trip, provided extra adult chaperones and funded the bus for the trip. This is an example of a school and community partnership that enhanced student learning.

December Economics Bazaar

Dear Stoner Prairie Parents,

On Friday, December 13th, the 4/5 multiage, 4/5 combination, and fifth grade students will once again be holding an Economics Bazaar at Stoner Prairie. The bazaar serves two purposes, one of which is that it allows multiage and fifth grade students to apply some of the concepts they have been learning in our unit on economics. Secondly, it provides 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders with an opportunity to purchase inexpensive gifts for their families.

The items are all priced at or below $2.00. We would appreciate it if you would allow your child to bring money to school for the bazaar on the 13th, so he/she can participate in this exciting activity. If you wish, you may send the money ahead of time in an envelope marked “Bazaar” with your child’s teacher’s name on it. We ask that you help our fifth grade students in making change by sending bills in small denominations and/or quarters.

Thanks for your cooperation! Happy holidays!

Sue Cook
Frank Kufel
Susan Freiss
Paula Wick
Jenny Peterson
Related Arts Notes

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you might have regarding our classes.

ART - Jayne Baitinger-Peterson 608-845-4276  Jayne.Baitinger-Peterson@verona.k12.wi.us

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Jill Thronson  608-845-4248  Jill.Thronson@verona.k12.wi.us

MUSIC - Leanne Stucki 608-845-4279  Leanne.Stucki@verona.k12.wi.us

Thank you all very much for your donations of supplies!

ART NOTES from Ms. Baitinger-Peterson

Children receive art instruction in the ART room for 60 minutes once per week

Kindergarteners have continued learning about the primary and secondary colors. Chalk pastel was the medium used on their line paintings. They mixed red and yellow to make orange, yellow and blue to make green and blue and red to make violet. We have been inspired by the fall season and the book; “That Pup” by Lindsay Barrett George. It’s a fun story about a little pup who digs up all the acorns that the squirrel has buried. Kindergarteners used collage methods to create an acorn with tissue paper.

First graders were also inspired by the beautiful colors of fall with their birch tree landscape paintings. Cardboard strips dipped and stamped onto paper became tree trunks and warm colored leaves were dabbed with tempera paint. Learning new ways to apply paint was really fun!

Second graders have just completed their oil pastel leaves composition and are now working on a Native American shield lesson. The shields are made from brown grocery bags with symbols and designs added with tempera paint.

Third graders are learning about warm and cool colors on their fall leaves composition. Blending warm colors together using oil pastels give the leaves a very bright and beautiful appearance. Cool colors applied on the background offer a very vibrant contrast to the warm colored leaves.

Fourth and fifth graders are working on a watercolor painting using warm and cool colors. Trees are the subject matter. Geometric shapes are the focus. Color blending and mixing of the watercolor paints allow students to differentiate their trees to represent the season of their choice.

If you would like to donate brown grocery bags to the art room, please send them to school with your child or drop them off anytime by the art room door.
Thanks for your help!

MUSIC NOTES from Ms. Stucki

Children receive Music instruction in the Music room for 30 minutes twice per week, for a total of 60 min. per week

Kindergarten students continue to do a fantastic job learning names of each classroom instrument as they are introduced. After learning a song called The Teddy Bears’ Picnic, the students found a picnic basket filled with picnic supplies that made great rhythmic sounds to play with the song. Working on identifying high and low sounds the students have been playing xylophones.
First Grade students learned a song about visiting a pumpkin patch called *Vine Dance*. This country folk song had a section that was perfect for students to move around the room and dance with paper pumpkins.

Second Grade students sang *October, Rocktober* and after perfecting the chorus of the song added rhythm instruments. Students enjoyed dividing into two groups and singing the echo part of the song. Inflatable electric guitars were the icing on the cake.

Body percussion kept Third Grade students moving while they sang *The Sounds of the Night*. The repetitive rhythm pattern added fun sounds. A song called *Every Good Boy Does Fine* is helping students remember the names of the lines of the treble clef. Students created a melody on the SmartBoard using the notes E-G-B-D and F. They enjoyed hearing their compositions.

Grade 4 and 5 students worked on their rhythm skills in a song called *Hey Jack!* The rap style had a student perspective for Jack the pumpkin. Classes worked on identifying the melodies that composer Paul Dukas used in his program music called the *The Sorcerer’s Apprentice*. We watched the Fantasia version where Mickey Mouse is the apprentice and gets himself in trouble with brooms carrying water buckets.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION NOTES from Ms. Thronson**

*Children receive Physical Education instruction in the Gym for 30 minutes twice per week, for a total of 60 min. per week*

All students were able to experience the climbing wall the last week of October. The kids climbed both vertically and horizontally. The third through fifth grade students then began a volleyball unit while the kindergarten through second grade students practiced striking things with their hands or rackets. The last two weeks of November the third through fifth grade students will work on floor hockey skills. The kindergarten, first and second grade students will experience a variety of manipulative stations such as bean bags, hula hoops, scooters, tennis rackets, bowling and shooting baskets. Our Tumbling/Gymnastics unit will begin the first week of December.

Thank You Lunchroom Volunteers

Parents provide extra help to students and staff in so many ways during this very busy part of the school day. Whether it is wiping tables, opening milk cartons, monitoring a walkway or helping students to have everything they need, all of these activities need adult guidance and supervision and at this time of the year, zipper and “mittening” skills are invaluable! Please call the school office 845-4200 if you would like to volunteer in the lunchroom from 10:50-12:30 on any given day, alternating with another adult or on a consistent weekly basis. We would like to have at least 2 or 3 adults helping each day.

We appreciate any amount of parent volunteer help you can provide.
Notes from your School Nurse

Rest - the Best Medicine

We are always looking for new, better, active ways to prevent and treat common illness and injuries. But sometimes we forget that being inactive can be the best medicine. Getting proper rest is an important part of getting and staying healthy.

Our bodies need rest to heal - it is the natural way to recharge our batteries so we can tackle another day. Adults should get 7-8 hours of sleep per night. Children require even more. If a child has been is battling a cold or flu they need even more rest just to get better. If your child is ill, be sure they rest. Even simple activities can drain energy from the body, prolonging an illness.

When your child is not ill make sure they always get plenty of rest to remain healthy. A well rested body can fight off illness better than one that is exhausted.

Provide an environment conducive to rest. Eliminate common barriers to good sleep. Media is a known stimulant. Try to get TVs, computers and cell phones out of bedrooms. It’s too tempting for kids to stay up late watching TV or playing video games when they are available.

The effects of caffeine interfere with regular sleep too, especially when consumed after 3 p.m.

Social activities can interfere with regular sleep. Try to strategically plan parties or sleepovers on Friday nights to allow the rest of the weekend to get back on schedule. During school breaks and vacations try to keep your child on a similar sleep schedule.

Inadequate sleep can lead to poor school performance, inability to concentrate and moodiness. Adequate sleep promotes growth, health and happy attitudes.

Megan Marten, School Nurse
Stoner Prairie/Savanna Oaks/VAIS

Looking for Donations of Zippered Sandwich Bags

Sandwich bags are used daily as ice/warm packs for students in our Health Office. If you are able to donate sandwich bags please send them to the Stoner Prairie office.

Thank you!!!
Dressing for Winter Recess at Stoner Prairie

Winter Dress beginning December 2

All students who are healthy enough to attend school must participate in recess. Verona’s elementary schools follow recommendations by the National Weather Service: unless the temperature or wind chill is at or below -10 degrees Fahrenheit, recess is held outside.

Students are to wear outer clothing appropriate to the weather. During cold weather months, boots, hats, mittens, scarves, and water repellent snow pants/double pants are required for students in Grades K-3 (primary students). For students in Grades 4-5 (intermediate students) snow pants/double pants are optional, but highly encouraged as they keep students warm and dry. Students who do not have winter boots (these are boots that they are wearing out to recess only, and will not be worn indoors as well) must stay on the blacktop.

Please talk to your child/ren about dressing for the weather. We have students who bring their winter gear to school, but then choose not to wear it. Damage done to a student’s own clothing or health due to their own negligence (e.g., walking through puddles, not wearing a hat, etc.) is the responsibility of that student. Lastly, please encourage your children to check our Lost and Found locations if they have lost anything. Please call with any questions at 845-4200. Thank you!
### Whom Should I Contact?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions/Concerns</th>
<th>First Contact</th>
<th>Second Contact</th>
<th>Third Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Progress</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Counselor</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>School Office</td>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Behavioral or Emotional Issues</td>
<td>Counselor</td>
<td>School Psychologist</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Liz Schlitz, Counselor 4228</td>
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<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Busing (Routes &amp; Behavior Issues)</td>
<td>First Student</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Discipline in a particular class</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Financial Assistance</td>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Counselor</td>
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<td>Food Service</td>
<td>Child Nutrition Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifted/Talented Programming</td>
<td>Learning Resource Coordinator</td>
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<td>Health Concerns &amp; Medications</td>
<td>School Nurse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projects/Field Trips</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Involvement with Outside Agencies (Community, Mental Health, etc.)</td>
<td>Counselor</td>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Psychologist</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Policies/Procedures</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Summer School (Remedial)</td>
<td>Principal</td>
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### Staff List

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mike Pisani</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>845-4210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christie Burke</td>
<td>School Psychologist</td>
<td>845-4234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Schlitz</td>
<td>Guidance Counselor</td>
<td>845-4228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Garity</td>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>845-4250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Marten</td>
<td>School Nurse</td>
<td>845-4215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Farnan</td>
<td>Learning Resource Coordinator</td>
<td>845-4287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindra Magli</td>
<td>Child Nutrition Services</td>
<td>845-4139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Student Bus</td>
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<td>845-8516</td>
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