



January News! *2023*

Happy New Year!

The staff and students jumped right back in after getting some rest and are ready for the second half of the school year. This time from January through Spring Break is usually very productive. Keep up the good work at home- get the kids to school, read at night, and ensure they get a good night's sleep. This will help the growth skyrocket. See the newsletter for more information about good attendance at school.

Welcome Katie Blue! Ms. Blue is joining the Downsville community as the fifth grade teacher for the remainder of the year. She is working hard getting to know the kids and learning the curriculum. We are so glad to have Ms. Blue join our staff!

Students will be taking the STAR assessment this month. This is a computer assessment that they take three times a year and tracks achievement and growth in reading and math. We guide the students and talk to them about doing their very best to show how much they are learning and growing.

The ice skate bins have been brought in and many classes have fitted the students for skates. We hope the rink will be in good shape for some skating in the next few weeks. We are even hoping to have some special visitors later this month to skate with us. Watch for news on that.

Monday morning we reviewed the Downsville [Behavior Expectations](#) with all students. We have these expectations so we can have a positive and safe learning environment. Students are typically given a chance to fix their behavior, and often will be given a reteach if they do not.

Please see the message from Menomonie Transportation:

Menomonie Transportation is in urgent need of two school bus drivers. The schedule is about 6:30-8:30AM and 2:45-4:30PM on School Days only. Minimum compensation is \$36.08 for the AM route and \$36.08 for the PM route. Applicants able to cover only an AM or PM shift are also encouraged to apply. Menomonie Transportation will assist with training and licensure. Please contact Menomonie Transportation if you are at all interested in serving the children of the Menomonie School District and would like to learn more. 715-235-4995

Mrs. Drout



Important Dates:

- January 2 First Day back from Winter Break
January 6 Student Council Meeting - 8:15 a.m.
January 13 Outdoor Club - 8:15 a.m.
January 16 Professional Development Day
NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
January 16 PTC Meeting - 5:30 p.m.
January 20 Student Council Meeting - 8:15 a.m.

February

- February 3 Outdoor Club - 8:15 a.m.
February 3 End of 2nd Trimester
February 7 Parent Teacher Conferences
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.
February 9 Parent Teacher Conferences
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.



Please access the January Library newsletter:

Here is the link for the December newsletter:
<https://www.smores.com/s6k8j>

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Menu Update:

- Friday, January 6, 2023: Hot Dogs
Thursday, January 26, 2023: Hamburgers

Please note the change!



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

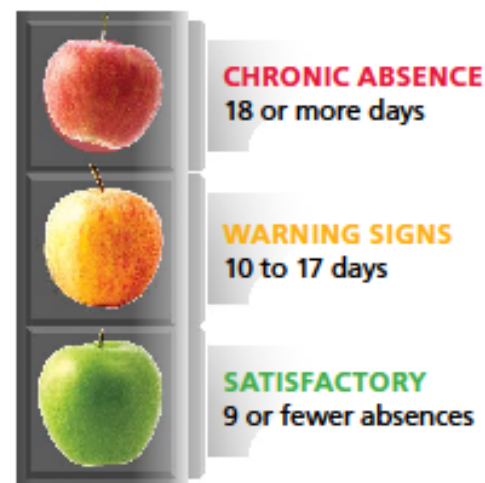
Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Revised October 2021

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!