



Dear Luther Families,

The months of November and December bring a lot of energy to elementary schools with younger students. Many children get excited for the snow, holiday programs and the list goes on. The staff makes a concerted effort to keep a normal schedule and routine to maximize student learning. We will continue to focus on learning while having some fun along the way. I encourage all families to try to keep schedules as normal as possible during this exciting time.

Over the winter break I hope students and families have a chance to relax and take a break. The students at Luther have been working extremely hard in all academic areas. It will be nice for them to take some time away from school so they are ready to go for the second half of the year!

The Luther Staff greatly appreciates the support of the Luther Families and the Fort Atkinson Community. It takes all of us to help children grow into amazing human beings. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Geiger



### One Team, One District, One Community

Fort Atkinson High School | Fort Atkinson Middle School  
Barrie Elementary | Luther Elementary | Purdy Elementary | Rockwell Elementary



*The School District of Fort Atkinson Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes") in any of its student programs and activities*



### Upcoming School Events - December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Girls Group Lunch Buddies	2	3 Luther Loyalty Day Birthday Books	4
5	6	7 K-2 Holiday Concert	8	9 3-5 Holiday Concert	10	11
12	13 School Board Mtng 6:30	14 Lunch Buddies, PTO Mtng 6:30	15 Girls Group	16	17 Safety Patrol~Culvers	18
19	20	21	22 Classroom Parties	23 No School	24 No School Christmas Eve	25 No School Christmas Day
26	27 No School	28 No School	29 No School	30 No School	31 No School New Years Eve	





We are preparing our Winter Wonderland just for YOU! Please mark your calendars for Dec 7, if your child is in Kindergarten, 1st or 2nd grade and/or Dec 9, if your child is in 3rd, 4th or 5th grades. Your kids have been working hard on learning their songs and decorating our performance space. You won't want to miss it! There are 2 shows on each day. The first is at 2pm and will include the rest of the students watching their siblings. This will be a full show and not a rehearsal, so if 2pm works for you, please come! We'd love to have you there cheering them on. Then, on that same day, your kids will come home from school, eat a little dinner and come back at 5:40 for the 6:00 pm performance.

Students in K-2 will be issued a snowman bib and hat as well as a special snowman mask. Students in 3-5th need to bring their own mask and will need a POCKET or small crossbody PURSE or FANNY PACK to contain a special surprise for the end of the show. SECOND AND FIFTH GRADERS WILL NEED A PAIR OF GLOVES - not heavy snow gloves but lightweight ones if you have some. We'll try to have extra on hand for those that don't. We love it when our students dress in their best for both concerts and we'll be sure to allow time for your pictures before the show.

Have a wonderful holiday season!



### Holiday Parties

All classrooms will participate in a holiday party on Wednesday, December 22nd. The classroom teachers will communicate with families as to the details for the party.



### **Southern Lakes Anthology Project**

Mark your calendars!

All submissions are due to your school library by December 10!

### **What is the Southern Lakes Anthology Project?**

The Southern Lakes Anthology Project is sponsored by the Southern Lakes Advanced Learners Network. The purpose of the Anthology is to provide an opportunity for talented writers, artists, and cartoonists to publish their work. This quarter, librarians and teachers will present information on the anthology project (including this year's theme, "Unstoppable") to students in Grades 3 through 5.

### **Who can submit work?**

School District of Fort Atkinson students in Grades 3 through 8 may submit pieces for judging.

### **Why should students consider submitting their work?**

Southern Lakes Anthology provides an authentic audience for young writers and artists. The 24 top entries from Fort Atkinson are published in a local anthology and also sent to regional judging. If selected at the regional level, the pieces are published in a book along with works by other students in southeastern Wisconsin. Published students are invited to a recognition ceremony in May where they receive a free copy of the book.

### **How are the pieces chosen?**

Pieces must communicate a message based on the year's theme. Art, cartoons, and illustrations (in illustrated writing) are also judged on originality, neatness, space, and composition. Artwork should have strong black and white contrast—black pen or marker carefully used over very light pencil works great! Stories and poetry are judged on relevance to the theme, clarity of ideas, organization, sentence fluency, word choice, conventions, and voice.

All work must be a student's original work. Parents/teachers may provide editing assistance. Specific rules and guidelines regarding page limits, font size, and margin widths, as well as templates for art/illustration pieces, will be available in the school library.



### What's happening in our library classes?

**Kindergarten:** Introduced Chromebooks, Read *Froggy Builds a Treehouse* and build treehouses out of marshmallows and toothpicks.

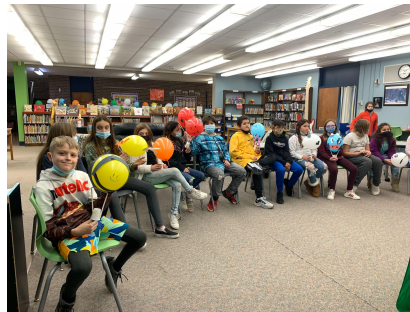
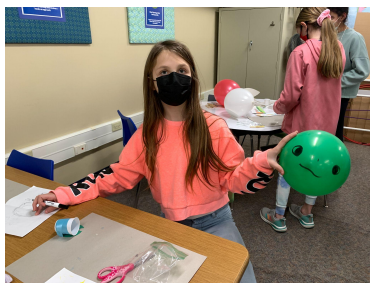
**1st Grade:** Introduced researching online with Pebble Go, Read *Leaves Fall Down* and created leaf prints with crayons.

**2nd Grade:** Read *Thankful* and *Thank You, Omu*. Discussed what we are thankful for. Created a Turkey and wrote on the feathers things we are thankful for.

**3rd Grade:** Introduced Google slides. Collaborated with classroom teachers to publish animal reports using Google slides. Introduced Book Series, *Weird School* and *Weirder School*

**4th Grade:** Finished collaborating on the Presidential report. Linked student chromebooks to print, Introduced book series , *Diary of the Wimpy Kids*. Read: *Turkey Trouble* then planned, designed and created disguises for a turkey.

**5th:** Introduced authors, James Patterson and Stewart Gibbs. Read *Balloons Over Broadway* and designed, planned and built floats made out of balloons then video green screened them into the Macy's Day Parade.





### School Updates & Reminders



#### Orchestra news:

Time is more valuable than talent. Continue to practice at home and turn in the practice cards weekly. Practice sessions should contain three items: something you know well, something you need to work on, and time to explore and be creative on the instrument.

Our next performance is our Holiday Band & Orchestra Concert on Thursday, December 2nd at 6:00 pm at the HIGH SCHOOL Auditorium. Orchestra students arrive between 5:30 and 5:45 and meet in the orchestra room. Mark your Calendars!!



#### 5th Grade Band Students

Please remember to fill out and return practice logs weekly. It is so important to be practicing at home and showing accountability for that time as we learn how to play each instrument.

THANK YOU parents for attending Band Parent Night last month, and to those families that attended the Pancake Breakfast. We raised over \$4000 for our band program!

Our next performance is our Holiday Band & Orchestra Concert on Thursday, December 2nd at 6:00 pm at the HIGH SCHOOL Auditorium. Mark your Calendars!!



## PBIS

### PBIS Items

The staff does their best to recognize ALL children for respectful behavior and good, hard working attitudes. We follow the 4 B's of Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe and Be Ready to Learn. When kids are doing this they can earn a purple slip for good behavior which gives them an opportunity to earn a lunch with Mr. Geiger and some friends. Students can also earn gold coins for their class. At the end of each week we total up the classroom coins and once all 12 classes reach the set goal they earn a reward. Some of the recent rewards that students have earned include hat day and a buddy class activity.



### Rollerblading Night

On Monday, November 22nd we had a lot of students and their families attend the rollerblading night. Thank you to the PTO for selling pizza and having a movie playing in the cafe. The children had a great time. Enjoy some pictures below!!





### Counselor Corner

Kindergarteners, 1st, and 2nd graders just finished up lessons on gratitude - stretching our thoughts past thankfulness and thinking about being happy with what we have in the moment instead of always wishing for more or complaining about what we don't have.

On November 29th and 30th, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders participated in a restorative circle discussion, by classroom, reflecting on some of the data from the school climate survey, learning about and reflecting on the concept of the invisible backpack, and creating a visual of calming strategies for the classroom.

#### Upcoming in December...

Kindergarten - E.L.F. Esteem! This lesson teaches about self-esteem using a fun acronym for Empowered (believing in yourself), Like myself, and Focus on my strengths!

1st Grade - We will read and discuss the book "The Great Compromise" and utilize a "Mirror Me" activity to practice problem solving and cooperation.

2nd Grade - We will be playing board games in small groups to practice working together, flexibility, problem solving, and compromise.

3rd Grade - Students will participate in a lesson on Understanding Others' Perspectives and a Dual Drawing activity to practice problem solving and working together.

4th Grade - Students will begin learning about Executive Functioning Skills (organization, planning, focusing attention, time management, task initiation, working memory, self-control, flexibility, and perseverance) and completing a flipbook. Students will continue learning the skills and completing their flipbooks with their classroom teachers during community time. They will also be doing a dual writing activity to practice problem solving and working together.





5th Grade - Executive Functioning Skills (organization, planning, focusing attention, time management, task initiation, working memory, self-control, flexibility, and perseverance) will be the focus of both lessons this month.

Why board games, mirror me, and dual writing and drawing activities?! For more information about how student connectivity has been impacted with the pandemic and why these activities are useful, check out this [article from Edutopia!](#)

For more school counseling information, visit my website here:  
<https://sites.google.com/fortschools.org/richellerottmann>

Please feel free to contact me anytime at [rottmannr@fortschools.org](mailto:rottmannr@fortschools.org) or 920-563-7828

Have a healthy and happy December!  
Richelle Rottmann  
School Counselor

### Handle with Care

If your family is experiencing difficulty at home, I would like to provide additional support at school. I understand that you are not always able to share details and that's okay!

If your child is coming to school after a difficult night, morning, or weekend, please email me, "Handle with Care." Nothing else will be said or asked. This will let me know that your child may need extra time, patience, or help during the day.

### Contact info:

[rottmannr@fortschools.org](mailto:rottmannr@fortschools.org)



### Holiday Concerts Front Row Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the families that won front row seats! Tickets were able to be purchased during the November Book Fair at the cash register.

The Families that won in the primary grades (K-2):

Bouvier Family  
Wollin Family  
Howard Family  
McGlynn Family

The Families that won in the intermediate grades (3-5):

Liesch Family  
Naber Family  
McGlynn Family  
Geiger Family



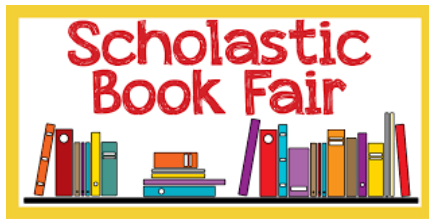
### School Updates & Reminders



#### Veterans Day Program

The students in grades 3-5 attended a Veterans Day Program at Luther School on November 11th. We were able to recognize local Veterans that are connected to Luther through family, friendship, the community, etc. Mrs. Berg's Honor Choir did a wonderful job of leading the group in patriotic songs.





### Book Fair and Family Conferences

It was great to have family members back in the school during the Book Fair and Conferences. Thank you for attending conferences. If you were unable to meet with your child's teacher please try to reach out to them so you can hear about all of the great things that are happening at school.

Also, thank you to the many volunteers that made the Book Fair a successful event.

Stacey Fehly

Terri Kostroski

Marilyn Smith

Josie Kincaid

Tari Poeppel

Maribel Reu

Adrea McGlynn

Amanda Wollin

Kaylee Kidd

Sabra Jacobson

Allen and Hannah Hesselbacher

Diana Banaszynski

Jill Marie Henze



### Front Parking Lot

Thank you for helping make the drop off and pick up times as safe as possible for our students. Again, the front lot on Park St is not meant to be used for this purpose. If you want to use the front then please park on Park St or Grove St. If you have any questions please let me know.



### District Updates & Reminders

#### SDFA & Partners Now Hiring!

Looking to make a difference in the life of a child? The School District of Fort Atkinson and our partners offer a variety of employment opportunities and are actively seeking interested candidates. From transporting a team to an away game, working hand-on with students, to serving a healthy meal, there is a perfect spot for you on the 1Fort team!



To view an up-to-date list of our available vacancies, please bookmark the [School District of Fort Atkinson Careers Page](#). You can also contact [hr@fortschools.org](mailto:hr@fortschools.org) with any questions you may have.

#### Engagement Opportunities Ahead

Thank you for providing your feedback, and sharing our Community Survey in November! This survey asked questions regarding operational referendum costs, thoughts on building a new middle school, security enhancements, and urgent maintenance needs. The results of the survey will be shared at the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, December 16th.

The first step in the engagement process began in 2019 with a group of close to 30 community members conducting a full strategic facilities planning assessment and recommendation to the Board. The community survey was the second step in the engagement process. Through the Spring, the District will be holding a number of community engagement sessions to dive into these topics deeper. PTO meetings, community Q&A sessions, coffee with the crew, and more - you will want to be sure you can learn more about the next steps. Stay tuned!

View all [district-wide communications here!](#)

Questions regarding communicable disease protocols? [Click here.](#)



### Community Events & Reminders



#### Badgerland After School Enrichment (BASE) Registration



# BASE

#### Early Release Days - No School Days! Where do your kids go?

Badgerland After School Enrichment Program (BASE) offers critical after-school care during the hours of 3-6 pm, Monday through Friday at all four public elementary schools in Fort Atkinson. From visits from the FAHS Baseball Team, to STEAM activities, your child will have a great time! Reach out to BASE today!

General Inquiries, Donations & Events  
alicia@basefortatkinson.org

Membership, Programs & Operations  
melissa@basefortatkinson.org

**DiversiStyle**  
your wardrobe!

Opportunities, Inc.

Shop for **FREE!** By appointment only.

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
Main Entrance  
200 E. Cramer Street  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Call during business hours:  
1.800.314.4567 Ext. 4318

Email anytime:  
encloset@oppinc.com

**FREE!**

Take what you **NEED** to **SUCCEED!**

Opportunities, Inc.'s Connections Adult Day Program and its volunteers coordinate the OxCloset to help all those in need of clothing and accessories for employment activities, social events and just living life to its fullest potential! It offers people with diverse abilities an opportunity to give back to the community with style!

- Coats
- Winter hats
- Mittens
- T-shirts
- Long sleeve shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Hoodies
- Pants
- Socks

### JEFFERSON COUNTY CHRISTMAS NEIGHBORS



"Every child should know what Christmas is..." - Pop Wendt

The Toy & Clothing Giveaway (also known as the toy, food and clothing distribution), takes place mid-December in the Activity Center at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds (in Jefferson). [Click here to learn more!](#)

# Luther Elementary School Newsletter



December 2021



[Click here for the  
PDF in English](#)

Fort HealthCare is sharing some Backpack News for our families, which includes tips such as how to stay healthy as the winter weather approaches, tips for families, flu shots, and more!

## JCHD has COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5-11 Available NOW



- Available for kids ages 5-11
- COVID-19, especially the Delta variant, can have serious impact on your child's health
- Visit our parent/guardian resource page to learn more

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH SERVICES

YOU STOP. SPREAD

The Jefferson County Health Department has appointments available NOW, Monday through Friday. Call 920-674-7275 to schedule your child's vaccination.

Find a vaccine location near you:

- Search <http://vaccines.gov>
- Text your ZIP code to 438829
- Call 1-800-232-0233 or your local pharmacy

Hometown Pharmacy (previously Tuttle's) currently has pediatric COVID vaccines as well!

#3 | We are United in  
high-level local impact

United  
Way



United Way of Jefferson &  
North Walworth Counties

2021 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

United For All



Looking to make a positive difference in our community? Consider donating to our local [United Way](#). We appreciate their partnership in our [Family Connections Program](#)!