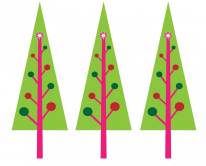


# Purdy Elementary School

## December 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  Day A	2  Day B	3  Day A	4 Purdy Pride Day Wear Red/Blue!  Day B	5  Santa Event 9:00 -11:11 A.M.
6	7  Day A	8  Day B	9  Day A	10  Day B	11  Day A	12
13	14  Day B	15 Winter Sing-Along Virtual Music Event 6:30 PM  Day A	16  Day B	17  Day A	18  Day B	19
20	21  Day A	22 Last Day of Classes Before Winter Break  Day B	23 No School Winter Break	24 No School Winter Break	25 No School Winter Break  Merry Christmas!	26
27	28 No School Winter Break	29 No School Winter Break	30 No School Winter Break	31 No School Winter Break	1/1/21  No School Winter Break Happy New Year!	1/2/21
1/3/21	1/4/21 Classes Resume  Day A				1-8-21 Purdy Pride Day 1-14-21 No School (Records Day) 1-25-21-Early Dismissal (1:30 PM)	



**PURDY PANTHERS**  
**PURDY ELEMENTARY - SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**  
**DECEMBER 2020**



**MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Late October and early November are very busy months for our school, especially this year as it seems that time just flies! We don't know about you, but in the craziness of a pandemic world, or days seem to be just moving faster and faster. In addition to our instruction preparations and packet preparations, our staff also squeezed in report cards, the dedication of Mr. Wally's Friendship Bench and our Veteran's Day celebration. All of this required extra hours of preparation, however, family connections are the most important to our staff! The time spent getting to know you and your child makes us all successful at servicing our students! So we say thank you to those who scheduled and participated in our virtual parent teacher conferences as well. They went really well in an all virtual setting and could be an option we'd like to be able to offer in the future....pandemic or not!

**Highlights Include:**

- **Thank You Veterans!**  
On Tuesday, November 11th, we held our first ever virtual **Veteran's Day Celebration** and it was truly a success! While we would love to honor our servicemen and women in person, we were able to recognize some of our very own U.S. Veterans and active military personnel that have a special connection to a Purdy student or staff member. Special thanks to Purdy's very own 4th and 5th grade students for helping to make this a special event for all of us and to Mrs. Rusch, music teacher and Ms. Daly, IMC Director for planning, organizing and putting together such a special presentation!
- On Tuesday, September 11th we also held the dedication of our special **Wally Melendenz's Friendship Bench**. Wally was a longtime crossing guard and beloved member of the community who lost his courageous battle with cancer over the summer. This virtual dedication was held in honor of Mr. Wally and we have placed a Friendship Bench at the corner of Park Street and Main Street where Wally dedicated many years of service. Thank you to all who helped in making this memorial possible! If you are out strolling with your family or walking the dog, feel free to take a break on Mr. Wally's

bench and remember a man that touched so many lives in such a positive way!

If you didn't get a chance to see them, you can still watch both of these events by visiting our [Purdy Elementary Facebook Page](#) or going to our [Purdy Web Page](#) and clicking on the "fall2020" tab. Scroll down to communications and look for posting from 11-10-20.

**Coming Up Next:**

- PTO is excited to host a safe, curbside **EVENT WITH SANTA on Saturday, December 5th from 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.** While we are unable to put together our traditional breakfast with the Jolly Man himself, we **WILL** be offering a curbside event in front of Purdy in the circle driveway. We will have some pre-packaged treats for you to have, a craft to do as a family **AND** you can drop your letter to Santa who will be there to say hello! Watch for information to come on how you can sign up for this **FREE** event! Special thanks to the Purdy PTO for sponsoring this event this year; with the focus of their work this year being on safe, engaging family time together! The Purdy Staff appreciates their PTO!
- Our **Purdy Winter Concert** will feature your favorite performer(s) - your child(ren) from the comfort of your own home! This virtual sing-along concert will premiere on **December 15th at 6:30**. Please see below for more information on the Holiday sing-along planned for below. We hope you can get dressed up and join along for this personalized concert at home!
- The holidays are a great time to teach about giving. Please consider the Fort Atkinson's Food Pantry when considering donating to a good cause. This year has been particularly difficult on so many and the food pantry is at the heart of supporting many in our community.

Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season!

Mrs. Leigh Ann Scheuerell  
Purdy Elementary Principal



## **NEWS FROM THE OFFICE**

### **SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS AND POSTPONEMENTS**

With snowy days and dangerous weather upon us, the District and School will continue to use Blackboard Connect to announce cancellations, delays, and postponements. We will continue to notify parents of important and emergency school programming announcements with phone calls or/and emails.

**Note:** Please keep us up to date on your telephone number changes. **We can not contact you without your most recent phone number.** Please do not call the school for school closings, rather, listen to the radio or watch TV. Below is a list of stations to listen to or watch for school closing information:

AM 940 WFAW/WSJY 107.3  
KOOL FM 106.5 WKCH  
WSLD 104.5  
WISC>-TV—Channel 3000 (Madison)  
WMTV-NBC 15 (Madison)  
WKOW 27 (Madison)  
94.5 WKTJ Country/620 WTMJ/  
Today's TMJ4 (Milw.)  
Weather watch 12 (Milw.)  
Fox 6 (Milw.)  
CBS 58 (Milw.)

### **DRESS FOR THE WEATHER!**

Winter weather is here. Mornings are quite cold, with some days near freezing or below. Be aware that when your student goes outside for exercise or fresh air frostbite can occur quickly. Please make sure your child wears a warm coat, snow pants, hat, gloves or mittens, and boots to protect him/her from the cold weather. There are girls winter coats as well as a few boys coats available at no cost if your child is in need. Please inquire in the office if this is something your family might need assistance with. 920.563.7822

### **ORCHESTRA "NOTES"**

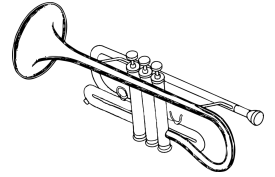
Orchestra students have been hard at work learning bow and left hand techniques and reading notes. Students are working on holiday themed songs throughout the month of December to help reinforce all these concepts. Ask them to share with you what they have been learning! Remember, keep practicing and playing daily! Time is more valuable than talent.

### **BAND "NOTES"**

Band students will be participating in the ***First Performance National Day of Celebration*** on ***December 3rd***

***at 6:30 pm!*** We are working hard at learning our first few notes so we can put on a virtual concert on what would have been their Holiday concert. So, put on your fancy clothes (or your comfy clothes because you can stay home!) and join us for an evening of musical fun! Keep encouraging practice time at home and returning those logs so I can hear how they are doing individually.

Remember to keep practicing! This is a busy time of year, be sure to make time for your child to play their instrument at home. Even on an especially busy family evening, even 5-10 minutes of daily practice is better than 0 minutes.



### **TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING....**

If any Purdy Elementary School family is interested in giving to charitable organizations in the area for this holiday season, the Fort Atkinson Food Pantry is one organization always in need of donations. Please deliver your food or monetary donations directly to the Food Pantry this year.

The Fort Atkinson Food Pantry is looking for almost everything, but specifically, they always need:

Peanut Butter and Jelly/Jam

Cream Soups—All

Boxed Potatoes

Canned Fruit

Chef Boyardee Canned Meals

Macaroni & Cheese  
Cereal, Pancake Mix & Syrup  
Toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)  
Cash Donation

### **“TALK, READ, PLAY”**

This is a new program you can use with your child everyday! Here is a link to the TalkReadPlay website at [www.TalkReadPlayWI.com](http://www.TalkReadPlayWI.com). This is part of an initiative that focuses on early learning, meeting parental needs and connecting families to resources. The webpage is incredibly resourceful but the best part is the free VROOM app. This app sends a daily idea to incorporate fun 'brain building' moments into everyday activities. This information will be available on the district & Purdy's website, Facebook page, Twitter, etc.



Hello Purdy Families,

I wanted to reach out to you to share some details about the upcoming Winter Sing Along that we're planning for everyone this year. Of course, we'd love to gather and perform our winter concerts in our best attire as we have done in the past, but we have decided to come up with a safer solution this year.

This year you get to have your very own, personal concert starring your child/children right in the comfort of your home! We will still dress up, sing, play instruments, dance, and much more during this special event. Get ready for a night full of music, fun, and also some surprises from your very own Fort Atkinson Elementary Principals! You won't want to miss it!

The four elementary music teachers are meeting online regularly to prepare music for this event. We have been and will continue to teach fun and familiar

winter songs in class in order to prepare your children to sing along with their music teachers on **Tuesday, December 15th at 6:30 pm**. We will have a Youtube Premier Live video link posted for you to tune into at this time. You will see all four music teachers and some special appearances from the principals on the Youtube live video along with all of the sing along lyrics for you to sing along with. It will be similar to a "watch party" in that all Fort Atkinson School District elementary students and families will be watching at the same time. However, instead of watching, your child or children will be performing for YOU. Feel free to "zoom-invite" other family members to see your child's performance at that time as well!

You are also welcome to join in on the fun and sing along! We may or may not have started encouraging students to get you involved as well, so don't get too comfy! We promise a very entertaining event for you all and we look forward to sharing the night with you in a new and exciting way.

Please mark this day and time on your calendar and we look forward to spending some musical time with you then!

Please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns. I will make sure to keep you up to date on where and when the Youtube link will be posted as we get closer to December 15th as well.

Thank you,  
Jadyn Rusch, Purdy Elementary Music Teacher



### **PURDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND THE FORT ATKINSON AREA SCIENCE FAIR**

Families should begin talking about the upcoming Science Fair. It is best to spend a few weeks tossing around ideas to study and answer. Doing this helps students arrive at an interesting question that they want to answer. A variety of helpful planning books are available at our school library as

well as at the Dwight Foster Public Library. **Note:** All students are encouraged to enter the Fort Atkinson Area Science Fair. It is a great opportunity for extra learning.

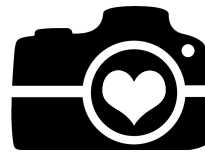
There are a number of changes this year. Please read carefully as this year's Fort Atkinson Area Science Fair is going electronic **and** virtual. Please look for information online at [FAScienceFair.org](http://FAScienceFair.org) or email [cynthia.ficenec@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.ficenec@gmail.com).

Please note the dates and times below:

- Starting in January, you will be able to register online at [FAScienceFair.org](http://FAScienceFair.org). Register by January 27 and submit your completed project online between February 6 and February 10 to receive a science fair t-shirt.
- All entries are due by 8:00 PM Wednesday, February 10, 2021.
- Viewing of digital slideshows and videos of projects on Saturday, February 13th.
- Watch a live streamed Awards Ceremony on Sunday, February 14, 2021

## SPONSORSHIP

If you've been to our beautiful high school, you may have noticed several different sponsorship rooms around the building, promoting our generous community business leaders such as Blackhawk Stadium sponsored by Jones Dairy Farm. Sponsorship does not have to stop at the high school. If you and/or your business would like to consider a sponsorship at Purdy Elementary, please contact Leigh Ann Scheuerell or check out the website link on the district page under the "district" tab and then click on "sponsorships". You can also just search "sponsorship" in the search field as well. Thanks for considering!



## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ORDER YOUR SCHOOL PORTRAITS!

Just follow these simple steps:

1. Go to [vipis.com](http://vipis.com)
2. Type in the name of your school
3. Click on "School Portraits 3K-12 Choose Yearbook Pose & Order"
4. Everyone should have received an email indicating their pictures are ready to view with a link. If you did not get one, you can search with your child's name. Your image will appear and an order can be placed. If you need further assistance, please contact Visual Image Photography at 262.375.4457.

## HEALTHY SNACKS FOR CLASSROOMS

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that healthy snacks are the best snacks. Fresh fruit, vegetables and dips, cheese trays, and trail mixes are all great choices for feeding your child's brain! Kids love these healthy snacks! By supporting and promoting proper dietary habits you will contribute to your child/children's health and academic performance

## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON 2020-2021 ANTHOLOGY

This year, the School District of Fort Atkinson will publish its own anthology of student writing and artwork. The purpose of this project is to provide an opportunity for talented writers, artists, and cartoonists in grades K-12 to publish their original work based on the common theme of *Perseverance: We can. We will. We must.*



For more information, including submission guidelines, visit:

<https://sites.google.com/fortschools.org/anthology/home>

Please send questions to: [athology@fortschools.org](mailto:athology@fortschools.org).

## LET'S TALK ABOUT SCRIP CARDS

Bottom line-Scrip cards are the perfect gift every time!  
Here are some examples:

- ***Do you have family members who are difficult to buy for; a teenager or how about your Mother-in-law?*** What to do...You give them a gift card to a store or restaurant that they like to frequent and they will do the rest!
- ***Do you need to send a gift through the mail?*** How about sending an envelope instead of schlepping a big bulky box to the post office, also, think of the postage you would save! Maybe you could buy yourself a little something with your savings. The dollar tree has cute gift card holders-Bam your wrapped!
- ***Do you have kids away in college?*** They are always hungry or in need of household supplies or sitting with an empty gas tank. There are Scrip cards for those needs and there is no driving all around the town.  
No traffic. No sore feet. No aching back!
- ***Do you want to buy a little something for the mail carrier, newspaper carrier or the babysitter?*** Scrip gift cards are perfect, convenient and yes, there are plenty of \$5.00 options.

o returns, no gift receipts to keep track of, no bulky packages, no traffic, no long lines, what's not to like?

Let's break it down:

When you order a Scrip card and pay its face value, (for example: a \$25.00 gas card costs you \$25.00) Purdy will order and pay for it at a discounted rate...

1%, 3%, 10% off and more! The profit stays right here at Purdy to be used by the PTO to benefit your children, your school, your staff! If you would like more information, or to place an order, please contact the school office, 920.563.7822 for more information.



# PTO Meeting

Wednesday, November 18th, 6:30pm

**Present at Meeting:** Rachel Broadhead, Christina Vander Mause, Kaci Evenson, Leigh Ann Scheuerell, Sam Lamuro, Cassie Werner

**Treasurer's Report (Information from October 2020 meeting, will update in December):**

Savings balance-\$17,795.81      Scrip Checking-\$2,694.44    Checking-\$2,393.48    Scholastic Dollars-\$1,447.53    Money Bag at Purdy-\$50.00

**Officer Reports:**

President-Christina:

- New email coming for officers (will be fortschools.org address)
- Will reach out to other PTO about collaborating

Vice President-Rachel:

- Wally Bench is in
  - Rachel took the lead and made it spectacular
  - Wally's grandson made a donation
    - Extra money from Wally's bench will go to Safety Patrol
    - Purdy will partner up with Wally's grandson to support his troop when they go overseas
- Working on information to send out on with what PTO is working on
- Food from nutrition for staff was amazing
  - Christina picked up treats and water

Treasurer-Sherrie: Absent

- Thank you cards were ordered and were sent out last week

Secretary-Kaci: Nothing to report

**Committee Chair Reports:**

Staff Appreciation-Katelyn Fredrick: Unable to make it

- Rachel will touch base with Katelyn
- Possibly Hot Cocoa Bar

Scrip-Judy McDonald:

- Several emails have gone out

Box Tops-Kaci Evenson:

- Will get more info sent out again
- Did have actual paper BoxTops come back

Spirit Wear-Sam Lamuro:

- Waiting to find out profit

Book Fair-Sam Lamuro:

- Won't have a total until after bookfair

Breakfast with Santa-Cassie Werner :

- Paper Crafts
  - Cassie will try to get crafts together
- Santa available to wave
- Christmas tree, deer, decorations outside
- Take a cookie to decorate
  - Will reach out to kitchen

- Will purchase candy canes
- Reindeer food
- Moving thing/stations
- Sign up for parents to pick a time slot to come
  - LeighAnn and Christina will work on
- Will need a flier
- 200-250 estimate to come
- Will keep Saturday December 5th 9am-11
- Will reach out to Kwik Trip to see if they will help

5th Grade Breakfast-Amanda & Kaci:

- Maybe Amy too

Webmaster-Nick Sliginsky:

- No update

Rollerblading- Lindsey Zeisler:

- No update

Craft Night-Lindsey Zeisler:

- No update

Purdy Palooza-Sarah Jones:

- No update

Take Out Tuesdays-Open/Rotating:

- Will hold off until January

### **New Business (Open Floor)**

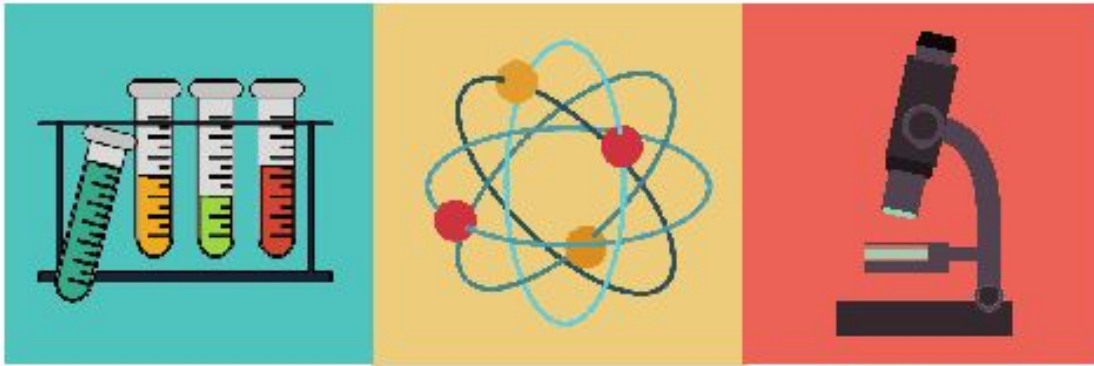
- Ideas on how to get more families involved with PTO
  - Email blasts of what PTO is working on
  - Changing PTO meeting day
  - What day is best to send information
- Silent Auction in Spring

### **Principal Spot Light:**

- Fun Winter Concert - Dec 15th
- Nominate a Staff Member
- Academic Recovery Plan to be shared next month at PTO meeting on December 16th at 6:30pm

**Our next meeting will be January 20th @ 6:30pm**





♥ SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021 ♥

# 2021 FORT ATKINSON REGIONAL *VIRTUAL* SCIENCE FAIR

MORE INFO AT: [FAScienceFair.org](http://FAScienceFair.org)

Financial Assistance is Available

Prizes Awarded in Grade Divisions K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12

Entries can be submitted digitally starting Saturday, **February 6.**

All entries due by 8:00 pm Wednesday, **February 10.**

View digital slideshows and videos of projects on **Sat., Feb. 13.**

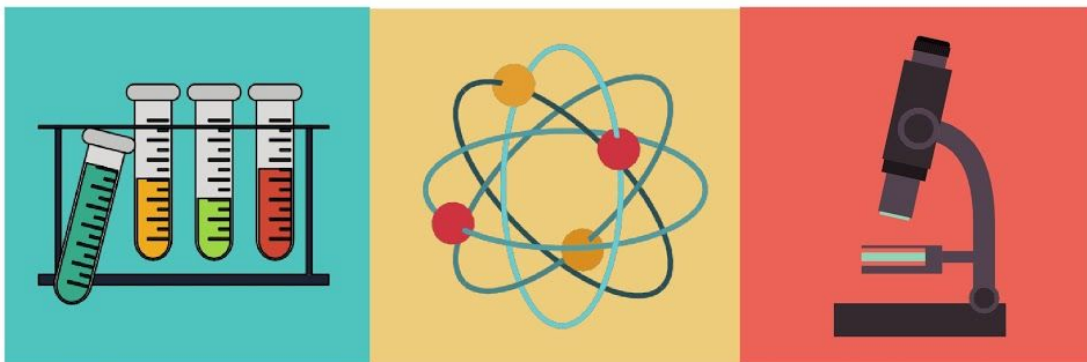
Watch a live-streamed Awards Ceremony on Sunday, **February 14.**

Prizes include a microscope, medals, t-shirts and money!

Fair Entry Deadline Wednesday, February 10.

Like Us at [www.facebook.com/FortAtkinsonRegionalScienceFair/](https://www.facebook.com/FortAtkinsonRegionalScienceFair/)





♥ DOMINGO, 14 de FEBRERO de 2021 ♥

# 2021 FERIA REGIONAL de CIENCIA *VIRTUAL* de FORT ATKINSON

MÁS INFORMACIÓN EN: [FAScienceFair.org](https://FAScienceFair.org)

La asistencia financiera está disponible

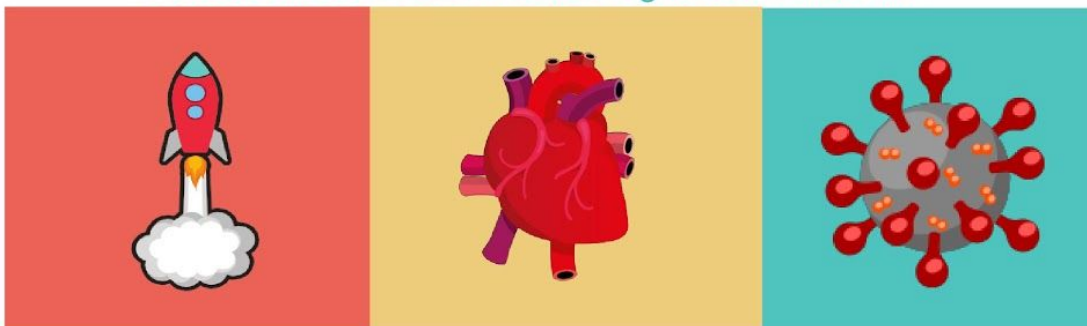
Premios entregados en divisiones del grado K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, y 9-12

- Las entradas pueden ser enviadas digitalmente a partir del **6 de febrero**.
- Todas las entradas deben de ser enviadas antes de las 8:00 pm el **10 de febrero**.
- Vea la presentación de digitales de proyectos el sábado, **13 de febrero**.
- Vea la ceremonia de entrega de premios en vivo el domingo, **14 de febrero**.

¡Los premios incluyen un microscopio, medallas, camisetas y dinero!

Fecha límite de entrada a la feria es el miércoles 10 de febrero.

[Facebook.com/FortAtkinsonRegionalScienceFair/](https://Facebook.com/FortAtkinsonRegionalScienceFair/)







# BACKPACK NEWS KIDS

## Winter Exercise

Even though you may be spending a lot more time at home during the Coronavirus pandemic, it's still important to be getting 60 minutes of exercise every day for overall physical and mental health.

### Playing Outside

Winter is a great time for outdoor activities—just make sure to wear the right gear, such as warm socks, snow pants, hats, scarves, and waterproof gloves/mittens.

**Sledding**  
**Ice skating/hockey**  
**Building forts/snowmen**  
**Ice fishing**  
**Walking**  
**Hiking**

### Playing Inside

A little creativity is all you need for getting exercise in your home during the cold winter months. Don't be afraid to get the whole family involved with ideas and planning!

### Obstacle Course/Circuit

(Set up "stops" along your course, and put a sheet of paper with different activities on each)

**Dance Party**  
 (Dance, dance, dance!)

**Digital Classes**  
 (American Heart Association, Youtube, Facebook, Instagram)

**Family Exercise Challenges**  
 (Set up a chart for each family member—for each 5 or 10 minutes of exercise, you get a sticker. Another idea is to set up friendly competitions with games or number of repetitions of an exercise)

## In-Season Produce

Eating fruits and vegetables is important any time of the year, but it is especially important during the winter months to get all the important vitamins and minerals, and to help protect your immune system.

If your favorite fruits or veggies are not in season in winter, look for canned or frozen versions—just be careful of added sugar or salt.

### In-season produce in December:

Cabbage	Brussel Sprouts
Winter Squash	Potatoes
Onions	Beets Turnips
Oranges	Grapefruit Pomegranate
Tangerines	Mandarin Oranges

## Breathing Exercise

Stress and anxiety are at an all-time high for many individuals, and it's important to remember to take time daily to check in with your stress, and to work to keep it under control.

A simple and discreet way to bring your stress down is to do breathing exercises, and this exercise takes about 2 minutes to do:

1. Find a comfortable place to sit or lay (if able).
2. Close your eyes and rest your hands comfortably on your lap.
3. Take a few normal breaths.
4. When ready, do a 4-count inhale, hold your breath for 4, and do a 4 count exhale. Take a few normal breaths before going to the next set.
5. Repeat 3-5 different times.

## Connecting during the holiday

The pandemic has likely changed some of your family plans for gatherings during this holiday season. While it can be frustrating missing out on family time, there are ways you can connect while being physically distant. Here are a few ideas to get the whole family involved during this challenging time:

### Write holiday cards

Writing holiday cards to family members is a great way to connect, and to receive "happy mail"—don't forget to include pictures from the year!

\*If you're looking to go digital, send a "Virtual Holiday Card" with updates and pictures. \*

### Visit Virtually

Many different platforms, such as Zoom, Facebook, Skype and others allow you to connect via video with friends and family in real-time and are totally free!

### Phone calls

With texting and instant messaging, phone calls may seem a bit like they are from another time! Set a time to pick up the phone and call family/friends who you may be used to seeing for a little pick-me-up and to stay connected.

### Create new traditions

2020 will be remembered for years and years—but are there things you can add to your holiday traditions that may be kept? Maybe a new meal that is created by everyone, or a game or movie night, or even a family exercise session. Don't be afraid to branch out and try something new this year!

