



# Bobcat Bulletin

February 1, 2020



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## School Attendance Is Important!

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. When you make school attendance a priority, you help your child get better grades, develop healthy life habits, avoid dangerous behavior and have a better chance of graduating from high school.

When students are absent for fewer days, their grades and reading skills often improve—even among those students who are struggling in school. Students who attend school regularly also feel more connected to their community, develop important social skills and friendships, and are significantly more likely to graduate from high school, setting them up for a strong future.

But when kids are absent for an average of just two days of school per month—even when the absences are excused— it can have a negative impact. These absences can affect kids as early as Pre-Kindergarten. For example, young elementary school students who miss an average of just two school days per month often have difficulty keeping up with their peers academically and tend to fall behind in reading. But when students can read on grade level by the end of third grade, which is when kids transition from learning to read to reading to learn, they are three to four times more likely to graduate high school and attend college, post-graduate, or professional development classes than their peers who struggle with reading.

Please know that our school is rated on our student attendance. The WCBOE’s attendance policy requires us to do the following to ensure that students attend school regularly as required by law.

- 3 days unexcused:** Letter sent to notify parents of absences and attendance policy
- 5 days unexcused:** Phone call to parents to schedule conference to complete intervention plan.  
Home visit conducted by Home School Liaison and Pupil Personnel Worker
- 10 days unexcused:** Formal referral made to Pupil Personnel Dept.  
Pre-truancy court conference scheduled by PPW
- 15 days unexcused:** Parents referred to Truancy Court

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## **Bobcats of the Month—January**

Congratulations to the following students who were chosen as Bobcats of the Month for January!

### **Pre-K**

Morton AM	Samuel Twilley
Morton PM	Love-lie Smith
Pedri AM	Zoe Schott
Pedri PM	Michael Hagaman

### **Kindergarten**

Adams	Stella Coleman
Chew	Lathan Stanley
Coleman	Kate Blackford
Hall	Ryder Yackel
Minor	Emma Faulkner
Mosier	Tileigh Parker
Scott	Emery Rittenhouse

### **Grade 1**

Beebe	Layla Duncan
Campbell	Karen Medina Torres
Cuffy	Aliyah Allen
Douglas	Carson Teter
Hurst	Mason Marine
Mason	Dakota Casselbury
Thornton	Brady Lankford

### **Grade 2**

Alexander	Landon Culbertson
Barlow	Roman Hayward
Littleton	Rosalee Esham
Mallory	Nithya Galigutte
McCain	Ella Desjardins
Schrlau	Katelyn Cannon
Wilkinson	Dominic McNeill

### **Grade 3**

Clark	Payten Hales
Hudson	Maria Santos
Malone	Cailin Milligan
Melvin	Robert Mitchell
Palmer	Madelyn Johnson
Short	Carly Morton
Stein	Lennox Moran

### **Grade 4**

Allen	Camdyn Hayes
Bowden	James Faulkner
Handley	Zeny Hatton
Sandlin	Jai Waters
Shiles	Madison Rose
Sowell	Kalei Travers
Throm	Aubrey Timmons

## **Schools Closed**

Schools will be closed for all students on February 17<sup>th</sup> in observance of President's Day.

## **Term 2 Honor Day**

We would love to see you at our February Honor Day ceremonies!!! The following dates listed below will be each respective grade levels Honor Day and start time. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the schools office.

### **February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

8:30 AM	Grade 4
9:30 AM	Kindergarten
1:30 PM	Grade 2

### **February 4<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 AM	Grade 3
9:30 AM	Grade 1
10:30 AM	Pre K (AM)
2:15 PM	Pre K (PM)

## School-wide PBIS Incentive

Our schoolwide Positive Behavior Quarterly incentive for the 2<sup>nd</sup> term was a movie treat. The kids had a great time watching The Big Trip.

Students are already working towards attending the 3<sup>rd</sup> term incentive, which will be a Game Day on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Each grade level will be playing different types of games chosen by the class and teacher. For student to participate, the criteria for term 3 is no office or bus referrals and no U's on their 3<sup>rd</sup> term report card.

We hope that by rewarding students exhibiting positive behaviors, other students will be challenged to adjust their behavior.

## Foundation for Delmar Education Gala

Please consider attending or support the Foundation for Delmar Education Gala on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. The gala is an annual event that is held to raise funds to support students at both Delmar Middle/High School and Delmar Elementary School. This year alone, the Foundation awarded over \$16,000 in grant funds to our teachers to support classroom instruction. Tickets can be purchased at the Delmar School District Office or RE/MAX Coast and Country in Delmar.





## Nurses Niche'

# **February is Heart Month!!! Please remember to eat healthy and exercise regularly to remain heart healthy!!!**

### **Sleep Patterns**

Did you know that a lack of sleep can affect your memory and that students don't do well in school because of a lack of sleep? Hence, a child who doesn't get the proper sleep, has a harder time remembering what they learned in school that day. Please be sure your child is getting at least 8 good hours of sleep a night. And, just an added tidbit, did you know that teens require more sleep than an infant????

### **Flu Season**

...is still very active. If your child has been ill in the middle of the night, ie vomited, spiked a fever, etc., please keep them home from school. Please keep them home:

- 1) Until they have been fever free for 24 hours (without Advil or Tylenol in them.)
- 2) Until they have not vomited or had diarrhea in a 24-hour period.

If your child is sent home with a fever, vomiting or diarrhea, you will be asked to keep them home until all of the conditions above exist.

Please remember that if you give your child Tylenol in the morning before school, as the Tylenol wears off at noon, they will spike here at school with a fever. Children are most contagious when they have a fever. For the health and well-being of **all** here at school, please keep your child home!

### **Chapstick, Cough Drops, and other over the counter agents...**

Please do not send Chapstick, cough drops and other over the counter agents to school if they have an 'active ingredient' in them. These items are violations of the school drug code. Anything with an active ingredient in it must be accompanied by a doctor's order. This is not my rule but a rule that is statewide among public schools. The best way to know whether the article in question should have a doctor's order or not is to look at the label and list of ingredients. If it has the word 'active' in front of the word ingredient, then it can be harmful to a child or an adult if not used according to the suggested directions. Did you know that cough drops have an active ingredient in them that can cause diarrhea if taken more frequently than suggested on the package?

### **Emergency Phone Number**

Please be sure we have updated phone numbers from you. If during the course of the year any of your numbers change, please be sure we have the new numbers. This is especially important when it comes to contacting you from the health room.

# Our Character Corner

## Kids and Courage: Courage in Everyday Life

Because your children may live safe and protected lives, you may think that they do not have the opportunity or the need to be courageous. But wait a minute! When you take a closer look at what courage is, you can see that it is an important aspect of each child's character development. Being brave in the face of fear and doing what needs to be done even when it is hard are both examples of courage.

### What is courage?

Children need courage when they:

- **try new things even if they are scared**, like learning to ride a bike or entering a new social situation
- **keep trying to master a new skill** even when they are frustrated, or other children laugh at their attempts.
- **do the 'right' thing in difficult situations**, like standing up for another child who is being bullied.
- **admit to mistakes**, like owning up to breaking a neighbor's window while playing ball and then apologizing and offering to help clean up and pay for the damage.

Having courage helps children to persevere against challenges, and in the process, it raises their self-esteem. When children feel good about themselves and see that they have the personal power to make courageous choices, they are more likely to lead personally satisfying and successful lives.

### How can parents help children to show courage?

Parents are their children's first and most important teachers and, as such, have a powerful influence on their development. You can:

- **Make sure your children understand what courage is.** Define it and point it out when you, they or someone else demonstrates it. Use news stories, television programs, movies, or books as learning tools.
- **Use everyday situations for your children to demonstrate courage.** Encourage them to:
  - stand up to peer pressure,
  - refuse to go along with the crowd when the crowd is doing something wrong or dangerous,
  - participate in a new class,

- master new skills and persist in the face of frustration.

- **Praise your children when they demonstrate courage.**

Highlight the positive!

- **Use mistakes as learning opportunities.**

Do not use them as a reason to punish. Create a positive atmosphere that will encourage them to face and admit their mistakes openly and honestly. Teach them what they can do differently and how they can make amends.

- **Be a source of support for your children.**

All people, and especially children, can better demonstrate courage when they know they are not alone and that someone "has their back."

- **Teach your children that sometimes asking for help takes courage.**

Let them know that they don't have to face all difficult situations by themselves and that it can be a sign of strength to ask for help.

*Source: Audrey Krisbergh,  
Certified Parenting Education*

## Grade Levels at A Glance

### Pre-Kindergarten

Our Pre-Kindergarten students are enjoying our theme, “How structures are built.” We will be learning about how structures and tools work and how to make or do things. In addition, we will continue to learn more sight words, letters of the alphabet, the sounds they make, and how to write them correctly.

Please continue to work with your child at home to reinforce letter recognition and letter sounds. For math, we will be working on numbers 0-10, creating sets for numbers 1-10, simple addition and subtraction, identifying 2D and 3D shapes. Also, we will be having a Valentine’s Day card exchange and culminating family event for Unit 3. More information on this will be coming home soon.

### Kindergarten

The Kindergarten Team is very proud of our students for working hard and completing another term. We are over halfway through the school year! Thank you for all of your support!

In reading, students will continue exploring stories about community helpers and fiction and non-fiction stories about animals. After reading with your child, ask them to recall details and events from the story. Students are working hard to master letter and sound recognition, rhyming words, and blending “short a” and “short i” words and writing simple sentences using sight words and sound spelling.

In math, students will begin to explore and describe measurable attributes of objects using terms such as heavier/lighter, longer/shorter, and taller/shorter. We will also continue to review 2D shapes which include circle, triangle, square, rectangle, hexagon, oval, trapezoid, rhombus, pentagon and octagon. Please continue to count daily with your child. The 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is almost here. Can your child count to 100?

### First Grade:

It’s hard to believe we are halfway through the school year! We are working hard to help students continue building more independence in order to prepare them for the expectations of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

In reading, first graders are working on going back into the text and finding evidence to support answers to questions. Please reinforce this skill when helping with homework and reviewing classwork papers that are sent home. We will also begin teaching students how to write about and support their opinions in our next writing unit. You can practice this at home by asking questions like:

- Would you rather have a dog or a rabbit as a pet? Give reasons why.
- Do you think that cloud is shaped like a horse or a whale? Why do you think that?
- You could also read two books with your child and ask him/her to explain which one is better.

In math, students are practicing strategies for solving problems, such as doubles, making a ten, or using a number grid or number line. In unit 5, we are focusing more on place value for comparing and adding two-digit numbers.

Please remember to check and sign your child's agenda each night. Your signature indicates to the teacher that you have assisted with and checked over the homework assignment. Thank you for your continued support!

### **Second Grade**

It is hard to believe that half of the school year is already behind us! Our second graders worked really hard during the first two terms as they were engaged in learning and applying new concepts. This month, our instruction brings many exciting and continued opportunities for growing and learning in all content areas.

In reading this month, we will continue to read and engage with interactive read-alouds. We will also begin our new opinion writing unit during writing workshop.

Please continue to support your child in reading at home with their monthly reading incentive. Students should be recording their minutes read each night on their monthly calendar.

In math, we will continue to work on our addition and subtraction strategies, fact fluency and word problems daily. In our new unit, we will be revisiting counting coins and will learn how to make change. Please allow your child the opportunity to practice counting coins at home.

Please check with your child to see if he or she needs to replenish their supplies that are needed on a daily basis. As always, any support that you give, in or out of school, is greatly appreciated and has a positive impact on the success of our classrooms.

### **Third Grade:**

It is so hard to believe we are already a month into 2020! Third grade students will be taking two field trips during the month of February. Our first trip will be to the **Rock and Roll Revival** on Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. Permission slips and money are due no later than February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The cost of the trip is \$3.00. Our second field trip will be to **Port Discovery** in Baltimore on Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be leaving school at 8:30 a.m. and returning at 5:30 p.m. We look forward to this phenomenal experience for our students as they will be able to participate in many hands-on activities. Permission slips and money are due no later than February 7<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$21.00 dollars. **Additionally, please remember that we will not return from this trip until around 5:30 p.m. Since our return will be after school hours, parents will need to plan accordingly to have transportation available for their child.**

Our third graders are working hard and continuing to grow each day. Remember that our students earn awards at our Honor Day assemblies for completing their reading incentive calendar! The reading goal for February is 280 minutes, and the completed chart is due on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>!

In math, we will be heading into unit 5: Fractions and Multiplication Strategies. In this unit, we will be building upon earlier experiences. Students will continue to partition shapes and recognize fractions as equal parts of a whole. Students will also be formally introduced to standard notation for fractions and explore the relationship between the numerator and the denominator. Students will continue to develop multiplication strategies and work with properties of multiplication. Additionally, please continue to practice multiplication fact triangles with your child to improve fact fluency. As well as have your child log on to ST MATH for at least 45 minutes every week.

## Fourth Grade

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through another year! Students have come so far already this year in their learning.

During this month, we will be continually working on multiplication facts, problem solving, fractions and angles. Fractions are one of the major focal points in 4th grade math. Math is all around us! As you are driving, walking, or "out and about", discuss math that can be solved with things you see in the environment.

In reading we will continue to focus on genre studies. Students will be reading biographies, historical fiction, and fantasy books. We will be working on persuasive writing unit this month. Students will get the chance to share their thoughts and opinions through their writing. Please continue to complete your reading incentive each month. Teachers have set the number of minutes that must be met to receive the Reading Incentive Award at Honor Day. An incentive to read this month is Hit the Books program. Turn in the bookmark by February 24th and receive 2 Shorebirds tickets to a game in the spring.



## Special Dates February

February 3,4	Honor's Day
February 7	Spelling Bee Finals, 8:30 AM
February 14	PTA Pastries with Parents, 6:30-7:15 AM
February 17	President's Day--Closed
February 26	Spirit Day—Crazy Hat/Hair Day

February Casual  
Days for students

Feb. 14, 28

**Delmar Bobcats PTA, Inc.**

Happy Valentine's Day Bobcat Families! Thank you to all who participated in the Joe Corbi's fundraiser in January. Items will be delivered for pick up the third week of February. Specific information regarding pick up of items will be coming soon. Pastries with parents will be held this year on February 14th from 6:15 to 7:15 am! There will be coffee, juice and pastries. This is a free event and will not interfere with student breakfast. During this time there will also be a brief report from the PTA President.

The nomination committee will be created this month and begin preparing a slate of officers to nominate in the April elections. If you are interested in serving as an officer, please let us know by **March 13th** and indicate what offices interest you. This year we will need to fill the positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary in order to remain a PTA. We also have a 1st and 2nd Vice President positions to fill. We sincerely hope that parents will step up and help to continue the work of the Delmar Bobcats PTA Inc.

Upcoming Events

2/14 - Pastries with Parents & PTA meeting

2/18-2/21 - Anticipated delivery of Joe Corbis (more details forthcoming)

Spring - Art to Remember Fundraiser

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