

Shooting Star Scoop

March 2024

The monthly newsletter for Nikiski North Star Elementary

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District



<http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/schools.aspx>



Important Dates


Principal Points



- Mar. 1st– Title 1 Committee meeting 4:30– 5:00 PM 
- Mar. 1st– Bingo for Books at NNS - 5:00-7:00 PM
- Mar. 2nd– Link Up Concert at KCHS at 3:00 PM
- Mar. 5th– Girl Scouts meeting at 3:45 PM
- Mar. 7th– EARLY RELEASE School dismissed at 1:55
- Mar. 8th– NO SCHOOL Inservice Day
- Mar. 10th– Daylight Savings– Spring forward 1 hour
- Mar. 11th thru 15th– SPRING BREAK! NO SCHOOL!! 
- Mar. 19th– Girl Scouts meeting at 3:45 PM
- Mar. 21st– NMHS/NNS Joint Site Council Meeting at NNS at 4:00 PM
- Mar. 26th– 3rd Grade basketball begins
- Mar. 29th– Snow day make up– EARLY RELEASE school dismissed at 1:55

Lifelong Love of Reading: Over the last month, NNS has engaged in a variety of events that celebrated “Love of Reading Month,” which included “Drop Everything and Read Fridays” from 9:00-9:15 each week, primary/intermediate grades reading books, specific to their wing, during the school day, at-home reading bingo page, Title 1 Book Fair voucher, and a culminating Bingo for Books event! Our families are encouraged to utilize our “Family Resource Center” in our main lobby area. It is simple to access! Parents/guardians write down what resources they borrow/check-out and enjoy them until they would like to borrow something new! We have games, books, and other activities available for a variety of ages!

AK STAR Test: Nikiski North Star students in grades 3-5 will participate in statewide testing starting the last week of March and into the first two weeks of April. The AK STAR tests students in both Math and English/Language Arts. Fifth graders are also tested in Science. Teachers will let parents know the specific testing times for your students’ grades once they are scheduled. We appreciate your support in making sure your students are well rested and prepared on testing days. For more information on Alaska’s assessment, check out: <https://education.alaska.gov/assessments/akstar>

School Safety: NNS, along with all schools in KPBSD, follows the ALICE protocol when pertaining to a safety closure, which is specific to when an intruder is identified on school grounds or in the school building. During the week of March 25, NNS will be completing our required Safety Closure drill for the second semester following the ALICE protocol. Later in the month, we will practice as a school, which will include partnering with local law enforcement and our fire department. If you have any questions regarding this brief drill, please go to our school’s website: <https://kpbsd.org/schools/nikiski-north-star/> under “Parent Portal” and “Emergency Guidelines for Parents and Guardians,” where you’ll find links to more information on our District’s school safety protocols. 

3rd-5th Grade Connectedness Survey: Hanover Research, on behalf of KPBSD, administers a survey to students in grades 3-5 to help us analyze results from a school climate survey to identify elements that promote a healthy school climate, identify areas of development, and establish an index for tracking progress on these items. This survey gives us great feedback, which supports our School Development Plan goals. In order for your child to participate in this survey, we are required to have a signed permission slip or verbal permission over the phone. Survey participation will begin in mid-March, only for students with positive parent permission.

5,350! That is the number of Pom Poms that have been recorded to date this school year. Each pom pom represents a positive action a student was caught exhibiting at NNS. That means there have been 5,300+ positive actions spotted and recorded this year, so far.

The concept behind being given a pom pom is to give a tangible item to accompany a verbal praise from an adult at our school. This takes the verbal praise even further because the student can hold an item that represents a recognition of a positive action. Staff, throughout our building, collect their student’s earned pom poms. Once the classroom Pom Pom Jar is full that jar is added to the whole school collection of pom poms (umbrella in the lobby). Classes then have a small, in-class celebration and once the school collection is complete, we have a school-wide event. Students have earned three school wide celebrations so far this year: an art/ creativity time, staff vs. student games, and the chance to watch our 4th and 5th grade basketball team play just for them at a special assembly. 5,350 is an impressive number and we are sure that there are many more positive actions taking place, daily at NNS. Be sure to ask your student(s) what they know about Pom Poms at NNS and all the good that has come with them. Here’s to a few more thousand positive actions before the end of the school year. The best to you and yours. -NNS PBIS Team

 **Parents/Guardians**– Please visit <https://kpbsd.org/communications/surveys/> to fill out a School, Teacher, and Administrator Survey. Your opinion matters and is always appreciated!



SEMESTER TWO TITLE I COMMITTEE MEETING

March 1
4:30 p.m.

NNS Lounge

- ✓ Parent & Family Engagement Overview and Action Plan
- ✓ District and School Policy
- ✓ Title I Programming Delivery



Nikiski North Star Elementary

Can you guess which NNS staff member will be our Official Bingo Caller?

Sponsored by Title I



**FRIDAY MARCH 1, 2024
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

Join us for a night of bingo AND books!

Light refreshments will be served



Nikiski North Star Elementary

March 7, 2024

Early Release

March 8, 2024

No School

March 29, 2024

Early Release



March 11th - March 15th

SPRING BREAK

No School!



Not receiving text messages from NNS?



KENAI PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE OPT-IN



NEW! Our KPBSD district schools now utilize the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

To participate in this free service, you must opt-in. Make certain which mobile # is in your child's PowerSchool records, and send a text message anytime of Y or Yes to our school district short code number: 67587.



www.KPBSD.org

3RD GRADE- 3 ON 3

SEASON RUNS
MARCH THROUGH
APRIL

PRACTICES- TUESDAY,
WEDNESDAY AND
THURSDAY

GAMES ON SATURDAY

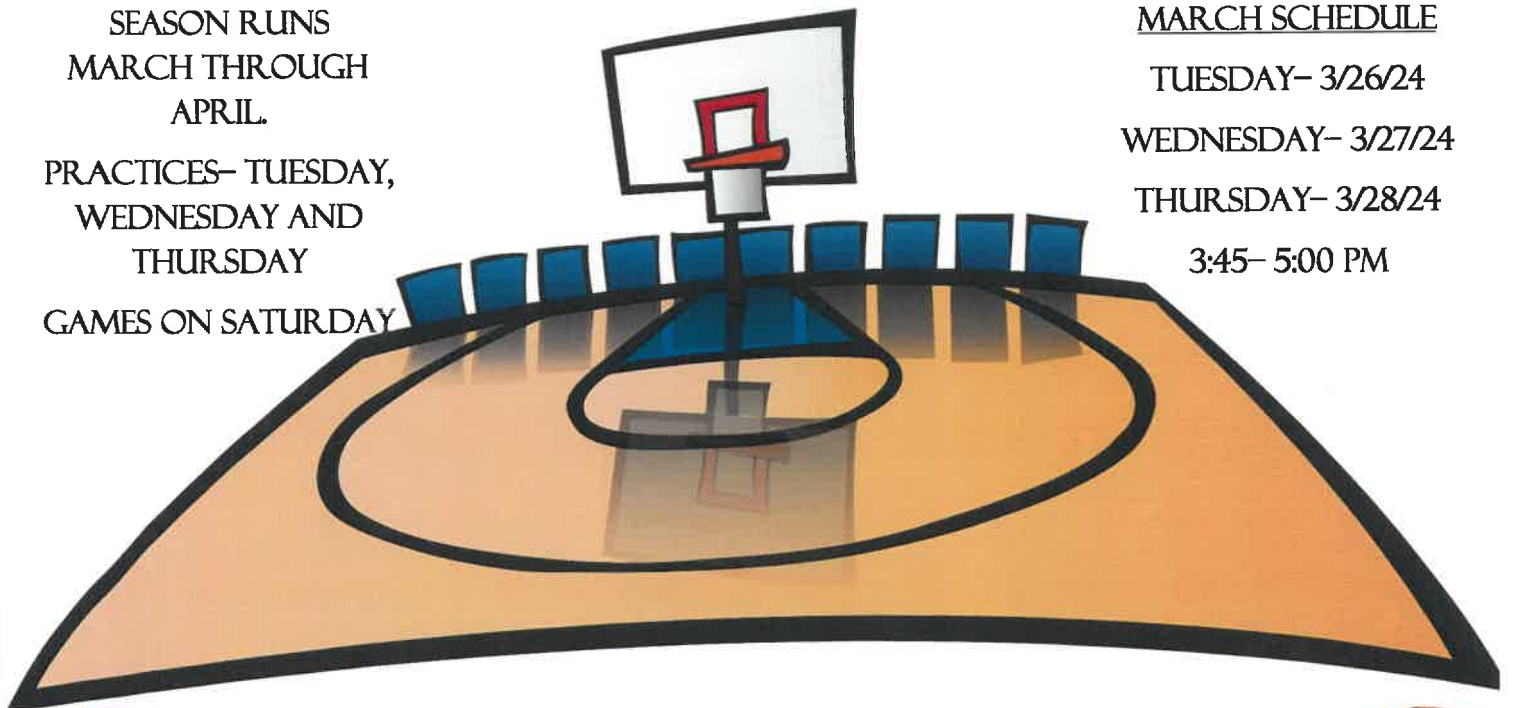
MARCH SCHEDULE

TUESDAY- 3/26/24

WEDNESDAY- 3/27/24

THURSDAY- 3/28/24

3:45- 5:00 PM



CO-ED BASKETBALL





Nikiski North Star Elementary

45600 Holt Lamplight
Nikiski, Alaska 99635
www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us

Jenna Fabian, Principal
Deni Pennison, School Nurse

Phone: (907) 776-2600
Fax: (907) 776-8423

2/29/2024

Dear Parents of Girl Fifth Graders,

On March 7th, your student will be covering the health curriculum about normal growth and development during puberty. This class will be taught by Deni Pennison, the nurse, and Julie Alcorn, the counselor. The girls will only see the video about girls' growth and development. No verbal questions are taken, all students write their questions down so we can ensure that only the appropriate information will be covered.

I will be available in the Nurses' office Monday through Friday 8:30-3:30 if you would like to preview the video or have any questions. My number is 907-776-2614.

If you decide your student should not participate, please let me or their teacher know in writing so that we can prepare for and provide her with alternate activities during that time.

Dear Parents of Boy Fifth Graders,

Normally, on March 7th, your child's class would be covering the health curriculum about normal growth and development during puberty. This year I do not have anyone to teach the boy's section. Instead, I will send home the information for you to talk with your student. This is the same information that I send home every year with the students after watching the video. To view the video at home, go to YouTube and search for Always Changing and Growing up- Boys Puberty Education or type in the address that follows. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2XF0awGRTWs>

I will be available in the Nurses' office Monday through Friday 8:30-3:30 if you have any questions. My number is 907-776-2614.

Sincerely,

Deni Pennison RN
Nikiski North Star School Nurse