

Good Afternoon Evergreen Families,

Here are some items for your attention:

PTO reAd Fundraising Results

We are so excited to share the news with our families that our Y5-5th grade students surpassed the fundraising goal that was set by our PTO this year. In total, our Allendale students raised a total of \$37,315 for the PTO and read almost 460,000 minutes! Congratulations to our students and thank you for a job well done!

PTO Happenings Newsletter - Spring Break Version

The PTO has several upcoming activities planned for our students and families, including a Skating Night on April 4. Take a minute to check out their calendar of events in the PTO Happenings Newsletter attached to this email.

Back to the Ballpark

Attached is a flyer from the Grand Valley State University Athletics Department that contains information about an opening-day event for their Baseball and Softball Teams. The event, called Back to the Ballpark, is on April 6th. GVSU players will be helping serve free ice cream and Jimmy Johns from 12-2.

Evergreen's Lost & Found

The Evergreen Lost and Found table and racks are overflowing. If it has been a while since you have seen a favorite sweatshirt, a pair of boots, or other pieces of clothing, you are encouraged to make a stop by the school to check out our lost and found. Shortly following break, all lost & found items will be donated to LOVE, INC.

APS Mental Health Committee Fall Newsletter

Please see the attached Winter 2024 Newsletter from our APS District Mental Health Committee.

Solar Eclipse - April 8, 2024

Our partners at the Ottawa Area Intermediate School Offices shared the following information with us today. I thought you might be interested too.

Total solar eclipses are actually pretty common; there is one about every 18 months. However, they are rarely visible in the same place repeatedly (about every 330 years), which makes this a special event. A solar eclipse is when the moon is situated between the sun and the Earth in space, so it appears that the moon is blocking the sun's rays from our point of view here on Earth. It gets dark, and strange things happen during a total solar eclipse too. Animal behavior often changes, and we can sometimes see planets and comets during the daytime. On April 8, we might be able to see Venus and Jupiter in the sky, as well as a passing comet called the Pons-Brooks Comet. The next total solar eclipse is not until 2044 in the Northern Hemisphere. Due to the timing of this solar eclipse, safety is key. A partial eclipse will begin at 1:55 pm, at 3:11 pm there will be 94% coverage of the sun, and then turn back into a partial eclipse until 4:24 pm.

Because the timing of the eclipse spans our dismissal time, and there is a risk of eye damage if looking directly at the eclipse/sun, we will share a safety reminder with our students before dismissal. Here are a few safety recommendations that the OAISD suggested to share with families:

- **DO NOT LOOK DIRECTLY AT THE SUN ANYTIME BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER THE EVENT WITHOUT PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR**

- *Ensure viewing glasses are certified for solar eclipse viewing*
- *Pinhole viewers are encouraged to view the eclipse in shadow form if glasses are unavailable*
- *Colanders can also be used to view the eclipse*

Reminder: Spring Break

A quick reminder that Allendale Public Schools will be on Spring Break beginning this Friday, March 29, and will be back in session on Monday, April 8. We hope your family has an enjoyable break and we look forward to seeing all of our students on the 8th!

Respectfully,

Doug Bol, Principal
Evergreen Elementary School