

Hello and Happy Saturday!

I hope you are enjoying your weekend after a rather wintery week. I apologize for the length of this email, but I do want to keep you informed of all that is happening here at Oakwood and in the district.

We are coming into a critical part in our school year, these five weeks before Spring Break. Please help ensure your child is at school every day, to complete their school and homework assignments to the best of their ability and to really focus and be present while in the classroom. All of these will help them to the best that they can be - which is what our staff here at Oakwood strive to help them to be as well. When we work together, anything is possible. Below is an update of happenings in the building, the district and the community.

Singing Falcons

Kudos to our Singing Falcons choir--they were amazing singers at the Oakwood Talent Show in January. Our next performance is on the 2 Fine Arts Nights: March 27 and 28. The Spring Rehearsals and Performances schedule can be found [here](#). The schedule also includes information about our annual opportunity to sing the National Anthem at a Whitecaps game.

APS "Beat the Blahs" Week 2023

This coming week, February 27 - March 3, all of APS students and staff will be taking part in "Beat the Blahs" week. This is a week where we will all take part in finding ways to help reduce stress, and also get out of a funk that we might be in with Michigan's long winter months. Please see the attached flyer for more information on the "Beat the Blahs" spirit week and ways your child is able to participate.

March is Reading Month (MiRM)

March is a great month for a number of reasons, and one of those is the fact that we celebrate **March is Reading Month** in all three elementary buildings. We are excited about all the additional opportunities this month to read and celebrate reading! Students will have even more chances to enjoy reading and win new books. Our MiRM team has put together a great calendar for the month which includes a number of fun theme days. You can find our calendar of events attached to this email.

APS Mental Health Committee Offering Parenting Workshop

On Thursday, March 16, the APS Mental Health Committee will be hosting a parenting workshop titled: ***Inquiring Minds: Understanding Your Student's Needs and Guiding Them To Success***. The evening will consist of a keynote speaker and several break-out sessions. It is open to all families in the district. It will be held here at Oakwood with dinner and childcare provided. See the flyer attached and watch for it to come home with your student this week as well.

PTO Sponsored Opportunities:

Glow Dance 2023

The PTO is excited to offer its annual Glow Dance 2023! It will be held on Saturday, March 11 at the Allendale High School Gym from 6-8pm. Attached is a flyer with more details about the evening.

- Parent volunteers are needed to make the evening a success. If you are interested in helping out before or the night of the Glow Dance, please click the link [here](#) to sign up.
- An Amazon wishlist for decorations for the dance has also been created by the PTO. If you are interested in making a donation, you can find the Amazon wish list [here](#).

Sweetheart Dance

Special thanks to everyone who attended the Sweetheart Dance on Saturday. There were over 750 in attendance. For anyone wishing to preview the pictures from the dance, you can find them by clicking the link here for the PTO Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/allendalepublicschoolspto>

PTO Meeting

The next PTO Parent Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 7 at 6 pm in the Evergreen Library.

African Library Project

Book Donations Wanted - You still have time!! APS is teaming up with the Allendale Rotary Club, OneMonroe, and The Ripple Effect to help promote the love of reading and literacy in underserved libraries in several African nations. Our goal is to collect 1,000+ new or gently used books that are suitable for young children in grades K-8. The last day to send in book donations is this Tuesday, February 28. Books can be brought to school and dropped off in the Oakwood Media Center.

Young 5's and Kindergarten Informational Night

If you have a child who is currently in preschool, or is at the age where they are ready to enter Young 5's or Kindergarten for the 2023-24 school year, please consider attending the AECC "Young 5's and Kindergarten Informational Night", which will take place on Tuesday, February 28th, at 6:00 pm in the AECC Cafeteria.

Allendale Mom-2-Mom Sale

Please see the attached flyer for more information on the "Allendale Mom-2-Mom Sale." The sale is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 4th, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm, in the Allendale High School gymnasium.

AMAZING Reading Bus Auction - Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Amazing Reading Bus auction. Almost \$1,900 was raised to continue the activities and opportunities that the Amazing Reading Bus offers in the summer. Watch for more ways you can support the ARB in the future. Thank you again!

Opportunities for Students:**Allendale Little League**

The Allendale Little League has begun their spring registration. If you are interested in learning more or want to sign your child up, please check on the link here: [Allendale Little League](#)

Allendale AYSO Soccer

Soccer registration for Allendale AYSO opens on April 30th, 2023, and closes on June 3rd, 2023 for the Fall 2023/Spring 2024 season. Please click the link at allendalesoccer.org for more information.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions. Stay warm!

Proud to be Your Child's Principal,
Gwen

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Gwen Luban
Principal, Oakwood Intermediate