
Albrecht Elementary News & Views

Learning Today For A
Better Tomorrow

November 2017

Follow us or LIKE us @ the following
social media sites:



@albrecht_elementary

#aesccards



@albrechtelementaryschool

What Are Albrecht Students Doing With Their Cardinal Cards?

Albrecht Students are able to earn Cardinal Cards for showing they are respectful, responsible, and safe in all school settings. Students earn Cardinal Cards through our PBIS Program, which promotes making positive decisions and solving problems using words, not actions.

The following students earned enough Cardinal Cards to do the following:



Connor sat in Mr. Novy's chair for the whole day.



Ellie helped Mr. Novy do morning announcements.



Anna helped Mr. Novy with the morning announcements.



Hayden worked with Mrs. Novy in the elementary LMC.



Stella chose to read to Ms Boeke's 4K class.

A Note From Mrs. Hipenbecker-School Counselor

During the month of November we will be focusing on teaching our students empathy. Empathy is the ability to understand how someone else is feeling or to understand the situation they are in. Empathy is sharing an emotion with another and putting yourself "in someone else's shoes."

Empathy helps us to effectively communicate with others. It allows us to predict what others may be thinking and feeling, and then react to those feelings appropriately. Empathy is a skill that children learn and research has shown children with empathy are better students, friends and leaders.

As caregivers you can help your child develop empathy by teaching your child about emotions. To be able to understand how another person feels in a

situation, we must first have an understanding of our own feelings. For example, a child who has an understanding of when they are frustrated will be more likely to recognize that same emotion in others. As caregivers it's important for us to teach our children words for what they are feeling and to help them recognize that this is completely natural. For example, you may say something like, "I can tell you are disappointed that your toy broke". This gives children a name for their feeling, as well as validates what they are feeling. As our children age we can begin introducing more complex feelings as situations arise.

We can also help our children develop empathy by modeling empathetic behavior. We can show our children how

to be kind in everyday situations. Teach your children that it is okay to have different feelings and perspectives from others. When conflicts do arise in everyday life or in books and TV shows, encourage children to think about how others may be feeling. Encourage children to look at another's body language and guess how they might be feeling given a situation.

Empathy is a skill that is developed over time. We can help our children develop empathy by teaching about emotions, modeling empathy and encouraging them to think about what others may be experiencing. Taking small steps now will likely have an impact throughout your child's life.

Veterans Day Program-November 9th

Albrecht Elementary School will be having its annual Veterans Day program again this year. The event will be held on Thursday, November 9th at 9:15 A.M. If you are a veteran, or know someone who has served our country, please spread the word. If you would like to participate in the program, please call David Novy, the elementary principal, at 897-2146.

A new thing that will be added to our program this year is a "Jeans for Troops" fund raiser. All teachers and students will be wearing jeans for \$5. We encourage all guests to wear jeans as well and donate \$5 to the cause. Funds for the event provide assistance to all military veterans, with a focus on veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan, by helping them find employment, access housing, and securing their educational and health benefits.

We are also bringing in a new display to Albrecht called Wisconsin Remembers: A Face For Every Name. It's a traveling display loaned out from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. The display is similar to the Vietnam Veterans Wall in Washington D.C., but is portable for ease of transporting. The wall is a tribute to all Wisconsin soldiers that lost their lives fighting in the Vietnam War. All Wisconsin soldiers appearing on the wall in Washington D.C. are on this wall as well. Each soldier is displayed with a picture and the Wisconsin county they were from. It looks like an amazing display and we are proud to have it as part of this year's program.

The traveling display will be at Albrecht Elementary School from Monday, November 6th until Friday, November 19th. If you wish to come and see it, please check in at the elemen-

tary office and you may come in at any time of the day.



Apple Crunch!

In celebration of National Farm to school month, Albrecht Elementary participated in the Great Lakes Apple Crunch. On Thursday, October 12th, our entire student body took part in taking a "crunch" from an apple on the command from Mr. Novy. This is done in recognition of local and regionally grown apples, as

well as a healthy snack for all kids. We will be one of countless schools in the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. The goal each year is to have at least 1 million students to participate on this day. When Mr. Novy gave the announcement to "crunch," all classroom teachers, cooks,

maintenance staff, specialist, office staff, aides, and Mr. Lueck took a bite from their apple.

We would also like to give a huge thank you to Ten Eyck for donating the apples for this crunch!

Please support local businesses!



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences are coming up on Thursday, November 9th from 4:00-8:00 and Friday, November 10th from 8:30 until noon. These conferences are held immediately after the first quarter to provide time for teachers and parents to sit down and discuss progress made at this stage of the year. Even though time slots are only 15 minutes per

conference, it is a great time to talk to teachers and discuss how your child is doing in school. Also, remember that teachers are available at any time during the year to discuss how your child is doing. Simply call the school and set up an appointment, our doors are always open.



Albrecht Elementary White Gift Food Drive

During the week of November 27th-December 1st, Albrecht Elementary TOTAL Team will be sponsoring a food drive. All of the donations will go to White Gift here in Brodhead. White Gift will distribute these items to local families in need. This is a good way for students to recognize qualities of unselfish giving. There is no better way to understand the true feelings associated with being generous than to experience it.

Thank you in advance for your donations!



Suggestion List

- Peanut Butter/Jelly
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Hamburger Helper
- Tuna Fish
- Pancake Mix/Syrup
- Cereal
- Flour/Sugar/Brown Sugar
- Ketchup
- BBQ Sauce
- Pasta/Pasta Sauce
- Baked Beans
- Crackers, Granola Bars
- Juice
- Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Applesauce
- Paper Towels
- Soaps
- Dish Soaps
- Toothpaste
- Laundry Detergent
- Shampoo

Music-1st & 2nd Gr./Band/Chorus Upcoming Events

On Thursday, December 7th, The first and second grade classes will be presenting our annual holiday program. The first grade performance will begin at 6:30 p.m, and the second grade performance will begin at 7:15. We are looking forward to performing for you.

The fifth grade chorus and band will present their holiday concert on Friday, December 22nd at 9:00 a.m. The concert will take place in the multipurpose room at the elementary school. Both groups will perform a variety of music for the holiday season.



Turkey Grams

Do you know someone that deserves a special thank you??

TOTAL will be selling TURKEY GRAMS for your little TURKEY. Just fill out the tag(s) included in this newsletter and attach \$1.00 to each tag. **Return it to school by Friday, November 17th.**

TURKEY GRAMS will be delivered on Tuesday, November 21st before Thanksgiving Break.



Fire Poster Winners

The Brodhead Fire District would like to announce the winners of the 2017 Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest.

5th Gr.-Rebekah Coldiron

4th Gr. -Karli Krumwiede

3rd Gr.-Tyler Coleman

2nd Gr.-Sawyer Phillips

1st Gr.-Kinsley Krumwiede

Kdg.-Ayva Perez

These six winners received a prize bag along with a ride to school in a Brodhead fire truck.

The Brodhead Fire Department would like to thank all the students, along with Mrs. Shelton-Art Teacher, for

participating in the poster contest this year. Remember "Every Second Counts, Plan 2 Ways Out!"



Make A Difference Day

Make a Difference Day was held on Saturday, October 14th. Many students from the high school, middle school and the elementary school gathered along with adult volunteers to help in various ways across the community. Groups collected donations for the White Gift Food Pantry, played BINGO at Wood's Crossing, cleaned up brush at the arboretum, tied fleece blankets for Family Promise of Green County, crafted fall projects for area residents, and made cards for California firefighters.



Pictured are Mrs. Drasch, Desiree Collins, Serena Santiago, Lily Santiago and Raya Santiago.



Elementary & Middle School Book Fair Nov. 9th & 10th

On November 9th and 10th the Scholastic Book Fair will be coming to Albrecht Elementary School! There will be many interesting books for ages PK -8th grade. The elementary school kids will be getting a sneak peak at the book fair the week of conferences.

This year the Scholastic Book Fair will be Sage Harper's senior project. As a Brodhead student I always looked forward to the annual book fairs put on at our schools. It was one of my favorite things growing up. As a person who enjoys reading I am excited to spread the love of reading to the elementary and middle school students. Scholastic does an excellent job of offering many different interests to readers of all ages, and I am eager to share this experience with you all.

Brodhead Has a Book Fair Website:

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/albrechtelementaryschool2>

There is also a link to this site on the elementary library homepage.

<http://www.brodhead.k12.wi.us/index.cfm/general/home/homeid/237>

Here, you can find some of the more

popular titles that may be at the upcoming event. Don't forget you are given the opportunity to create a student wish list online and bring it to the fair.

Online Shopping Is Available!

The online Scholastic site has books available to all reading levels. Anyone is able to order books from here, and browse around to find what interests you. The book selection online will have more options than at the fair, so go check it out at

<http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs>

! A computer will be available at/during the book fair to order books that may be out of stock. Follow the website's simple instructions to order the desired book(s). It also will show you books by reading level, reference, price, series, best sellers, grade, and other ways. This is a great resource for out-of-town relatives or friends to purchase books. Books that are ordered from here will be shipped to the school the child is at and then delivered straight to their classroom. Purchased books will contribute a percentage to our school to help our program- we receive a percentage of books free- in other words, the more

books we sell the more we get.

Book Fair Schedule: (Located at the Elementary school.)

November 9th at 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

November 10th at 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

This event at Brodhead Schools gives a great opportunity to promote learning while raising money to benefit our program by allowing us to purchase books to support student wide and classroom reading programs. For more information or questions please contact us at 897-2146.

Thank you for all your support!

Kirsten Novy - District Librarian

and Sage Harper - Senior Project

Save Those Pop Tabs!

The TOTAL Team will be holding the annual pop tab contest the week of January 8-12. Please start saving tabs from soda cans, energy drinks, soups, canned fruit, etc. The winning class per grade level will get to have a party! per grade level, will get to have a party!



The money raised will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House in Madison.

Thank you in advance for supporting the Ronald McDonald House!



10 Ways Parents Can Help Your Children Read ~ By Timothy Shanahan

Parents often ask how they can help their children learn to read; and it's no wonder that they're interested in this essential skill. Reading plays an important role in later school studies have even demonstrates that how well 7-year-olds read predicts their income 35 years later! Here is an article written by Timothy Shanahan that does a great job of explaining 10 practical recommendations for helping preschoolers and school-age students learn to read.

1. Teaching reading will only help.

Sometimes, parents are told early teaching is harmful, but it isn't true. You simply can't introduce literacy too early. I started reading to my own children on the days they were each born! The "dangers of early teaching" has been a topic of study for more than 100 years, and no one has ever found any convincing evidence of harm. Moreover, there are hundreds of studies showing the benefits of reading to your children when they are young.

2. Teaching literacy isn't different than teaching other skills.

You don't need a Ph.D. to raise a happy, healthy, smart child. Parents have been doing it for thousands of years. Mothers and fathers successfully teach their kids to eat with a spoon, use a potty, keep their fingers out of their noses, and say "please." These things can be taught pleasantly, or they can be made into a painful chore. Being unpleasant (e.g. yelling, punishing, pressuring) doesn't work, and it can be frustrating for everyone. This notion applies to teaching literacy, too. If you show your 18-month-old a book and she shows no interest, then put it away and come back to it later. If your child tries to write her name and

ends up with a backwards "D," no problem. No pressure. No hassle. You should enjoy the journey, and so should your child.

3. **Talk to your kids (a lot).** Last year, I spent lots of time with our brand new granddaughter, Emily. I drowned her in language. Although "just a baby," I talked — and sang — to her about everything. I talked about her eyes, nose, ears, mouth, and fingers. I told her all about her family — her mom, dad, and older brother. I talked to her about whatever she did (yawning, sleeping, eating, burping). I talked to her so much that her parents thought I was nuts; she couldn't possibly understand me yet. But reading is a language activity, and if you want to learn language, you'd better hear it, and eventually, speak it. Too many moms and dads feel a bit dopey talking to a baby or young child, but studies have shown that exposing your child to a variety of words helps in her development of literacy skills.

4. **Read to your kids.** I know everyone says this, but it really is a good idea — at least with preschoolers. One of my colleagues refers to this advice as the "chicken soup" of reading education. We prescribe it for everything. (Does it help? It couldn't hurt.) If a parent or caregiver can't read or can't read English, there are alternatives, such as using audiobooks; but for those who can, reading a book or story to a child is a great, easy way to advance literacy skills. Research shows benefits for kids as young as 9-months-old, and it could be effective even earlier than that. Reading to kids exposes them to richer vocabulary than they usually hear from the adults who speak to them, and can have positive impacts on their lan-

guage, intelligence, and later literacy achievement. What should you read to them? There are so many wonderful children's books. Visit your local library, and you can get an armful of adventure. You can find recommendations from kids at the Children's Book Council Website as well as free books online at other websites like Search Lit or Unite for Literacy.

5. **Have them tell you a "story."** One great way to introduce kids to literacy is to take their dictation. Have them recount an experience or make up a story. We're not talking "Moby Dick" here. A typical first story may be something like, "I like fish. I like my sister. I like grandpa." Write it as it is being told, and then read it aloud. Point at the words when you read them, or point at them when your child is trying to read the story. Over time, with lots of rereading, don't be surprised if your child starts to recognize words such as "I" or "like." (As children learn some of the words, you can write them on cards and keep them in a "word bank" for your child, using them to review later.)

6. **Teach phonemic awareness.** Young children don't hear the sounds within words. Thus, they hear "dog," but not the "duh"- "aw"- "guh." To become readers, they have to learn to hear these sounds (or phonemes). Play language games with your child. For instance, say a word, perhaps her name, and then change it by one phoneme: Jen-Pen, Jen-Hen, Jen-Men. Or, just break a word apart: chair... ch-ch-ch-air.

7. **Teach phonics (letter names and their sounds).** You can't sound out words or write them without knowing the letter sounds. Most kindergar-

10 Ways Parents Can Help Your Children Read –Continued

tens teach the letters, and parents can teach them, too. I just checked a toy store website and found 282 products based on letter names and another 88 on letter sounds, including ABC books, charts, cards, blocks, magnet letters, floor mats, puzzles, lampshades, bed sheets, and programs for tablets and computers. You don't need all of that (a pencil and paper are sufficient), but there is lots of support out there for parents to help kids learn these skills. Keep the lessons brief and fun, no more than 5-10 minutes for young'uns. Understanding the different developmental stages of reading and writing skills will help to guide your lessons and expectations.

8. Listen to your child read. When your child starts bringing books home from school, have her read to you. If it doesn't sound good (mistakes, choppy reading), have her read it again. Or read it to her, and then have her try to read it herself. Studies show that this kind of repeated oral reading makes students better readers, even when it is done at home.

9. Ask questions. When your child reads, get her to retell the story or information. If it's a story, ask who it was about and what happened. If it's an informational text, have your child explain what it was about and how it worked, or what its parts were. Reading involves not just sounding out words, but thinking about and remembering ideas and events. Improving reading comprehension skills early will prepare her for subsequent success in more difficult texts.

10. Make reading a regular activity in your home. Make reading a part of your daily life, and kids will learn to love it. When I was nine years old, my mom made me stay in for a half-hour after lunch to read. She took me to the library to get books to kick off this new part of my life. It made me a lifelong reader. Set aside some time when everyone turns off the TV and the web and does nothing but read. Make it fun, too. When my children finished reading a book that had been made into a film, we'd make popcorn and watch the movie together. The point is to make reading a regular enjoyable part of your family routine.

Sources:

Ritchie, S.J., & Bates, T.C. (2013). Enduring links from childhood mathematics and reading achievement to adult socioeconomic status. *Psychological Science, 24*, 1301-1308.

Karass J., & Braungart-Rieker J. (2005). Effects of shared parent-infant reading on early language acquisition. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 26*,