

PURPLE TIGER TIMES



New Scotland Elementary School Newsletter

First Trimester Report 2023-24

A note from Principal Lesley Buff ...

It is difficult to believe that we have entered the month of December and we have already had our first snowfall! The first trimester has flown by, especially since we have had so many exciting things happening at New Scotland Elementary School.

Since I have implemented biweekly email blasts to keep families informed, I would like this newsletter to focus on "seeing" all of the events you have been reading about because I cannot include pictures in those emails. Therefore, it is my hope that this

newsletter gives you a glimpse inside our day. Please use the newsletter to ask your child about these events. I am sure they have many fun stories to share about them.

I hope you enjoy looking. I look forward to seeing everyone in the new year and as always, if you have any questions about information included in this newsletter, or in general, feel free to call me at (518) 475-6775 or email lbuff@albany.k12.ny.us.



Students designed robots in math enrichment with Ms. Fuller. Math enrichment is part of Math EAI — enrichment, acceleration and intervention, which ensures all students are appropriately challenged.

WINTRY WEATHER REMINDERS

When bad weather hits, New York school districts have the option to hold either a distance learning day or a traditional snow day.

For the 2023-24 school year, the City School District of Albany will consider distance learning days only after first using all three snow days. We will continue to evaluate these decisions on a case-by-case basis, including whether a two-hour delay may be an option.

The simplest way for families to find out about weather-related decisions is to sign up to receive a text message through our SchoolMessenger communication system. Just text "Y" or "yes" to 67587. Families also will receive a SchoolMessenger email if weather causes the district to close, delay or shift to distance learning.

The district also shares information about weather-related changes at albanyschools.org and on Facebook (@albanyschools), X (formerly Twitter, @albanyschools) and Instagram (@albany.schools).



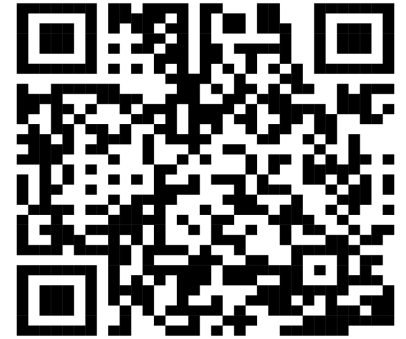
TAKE THE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

The City School District of Albany would like your input in our annual family engagement surveys.

Each school has a customized survey, which you can access from our website at albanyschools.org/familyengagement. You also can scan the QR code on the right and take the survey.

The survey only takes a few minutes to complete, and the feedback you provide will play a vital role in our school improvement efforts.

The survey will be open through Jan. 5. If you have any questions, please contact our Office of Curriculum and Instruction at (518) 475-6060.



Social Emotional Learning Night — Nov. 30



More than 65 of our families attended our first Social Emotional Learning Night. Families and students visited numerous stations that focused on taking care of ourselves and celebrating our uniqueness.



Craft Night — Dec. 6



What could be more fun than drinking hot chocolate, snacking on tasty treats and making crafts together?

Hat Day — Oct. 31



On Hat Day, New Scotland Elementary School students pay one dollar to wear their favorite silly hat to school. On our last Hat Day, we had some of the wackiest and fun hats yet. Best of all, we raised money for our holiday fund that supports families in need.



Harvest Fest — Nov. 17

Our Harvest Festival, sponsored by our amazing PTA, is always a fun way to celebrate fall.



SEEN AROUND SCHOOL: Scientists, mathematicians writers, artists and leaders!



Students in Ms. Moore's classroom completed a STEM project for Thanksgiving. Many of our lessons encourage students to be problem-solvers.



Veteran Andrew Joyce visited Ms. Axtmann's class for a lesson about Veterans Day. We love having members of our community come share their life experiences.



Students in Ms. Pratt's class worked on following directions to make reindeer donuts as part of their speech therapy lesson.



Ms. Smith's class recently completed this science lab. All classrooms have science labs built into their schedules, and fifth-graders take the state science test this year.



Students in Ms. Carter's classroom visit with Bowie the therapy dog. Everyone knows Bowie and Duke, two therapy dogs that spend a lot of time at our school.



Students in Ms. Knudsen's class work together on a math problem; collaboration is an essential part of our math program.



Students in Ms. McLoughlin's class thank our veterans. From a young age, we teach our students that giving back and giving thanks are qualities of a student leader.



Ms. Clancy's class recently learned about different traditions and holidays celebrated around the world. Learning about different cultures is part of our equity work.



These students in Ms. Knudsen's class are synthesizing their math work — a part of all math lessons.



Here is a sample of the work that Ms. Martin, our art teacher, and our students created for the Martin Luther King Jr. online exhibition in January. Each year, the State Education Department honors Dr. King's memory by having students submit art and essays. Our artwork displays steps of nonviolence.

Who's Who at New Scotland

Ms. Buff, principal
Ms. Rose, assistant principal
Mrs. Avery-McDonald, social worker
Ms. Stone, social worker
Mrs. Daley-Choudhri and **Mrs. John**, nurses
Mrs. Allen, office manager
Ms. Vicencio, office and attendance clerk

Need to reach us? Call (518) 475-6775.