

Bent School Newsletter



SUPERSTAR GAZETTE

Bloomington Public Schools District 87

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Message from the Principal

Greetings Superstar Parents!

We are in the last stretch before Winter break. Here is to hoping for good health during the next few weeks and throughout the Holidays!

Please remember that we conduct DIBELS testing in December, and then NWEA MAP testing and ACCESS for ELLs testing in January and February. This testing allows us to look at the progress of our students so that we can make adjustments to our programs to better help our kids. Parents, please help your students to be prepared by making sure they get a good night's sleep, eat a healthy breakfast and are ready to do their best.

The new year is upon us! With the new year comes new goals, and goals help give our lives direction and meaning. Ask your student if they have set any goals for school this year. I think that it is important for students to set goals, and I am going to ask them to do just that! I found a quote from an unknown author that goes like this . . . "Climb high. Climb far. Your goal is the sky. Your aim is the stars."

If your e-mail address has changed, please log on to your Skyward Parent Access account at <https://skyward.district87.org> and provide us with your new e-mail address. At the top of the screen click on the "My Account" link, and then under Account Setting - in the "Email" box - type the new email address and click save. Changes such as phone numbers and addresses must be made by the school office.

It is sometimes necessary to close school due to winter weather conditions. When a decision to close school is made, the information will be available on the district's website (www.district87.org) and announced on the radio at WJBC AM 1230. Families will also receive a phone call through the automated School Reach system. Please make sure the office has your correct phone numbers.

If you have not done so already, please consider responding to the 5-Essentials Survey. Let us know how you feel about Bent. This information also has an impact on our School Report Card. You can access the survey through this address. <http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/>

Happy Winter!

Thank you for all you do!

Mr. G

Principal
Mr. Jeff Geringer

Address
Bent School
904 N. Roosevelt
Bloomington, IL 61704

Phone
309-828-4315

Fax
309-828-3587

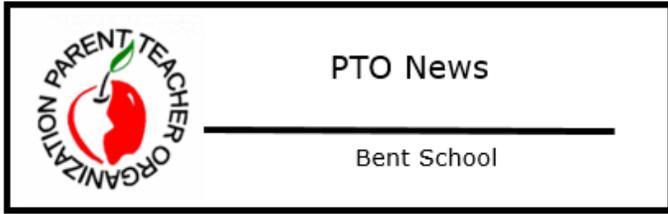
Bent Elementary School Pledge

I pledge to myself,
My school, and my community,

To be safe,
Be respectful,
And be responsible.

I am a Bent
Superstar!

PTO News



Thanks to the families who ordered pies from Bob Evans! They were delicious!

Our Box Tops Contest for Quarter 2 will end **December 14th**. Please use the baggie that was sent home to collect your Box Tops. The top 3 classes will get lollipops!

Our restaurant nights are planned for:

Tuesday, December 11th at **Potbelly** from 5-8 pm, and

Thursday, January 31st at **Portillos** from 4-8 pm.

The next **PTO meeting** has been rescheduled for **Tuesday, January 15th** at 6 pm. Please come out and hear how your school is always striving to improve! Childcare is provided and meetings are held in the cafeteria.

Happy Holidays!

Cafeteria News



Things to remember during this busy season...

1. Early wake-ups = Children to Love.
2. House to clean = Safe place to Live.
3. Laundry to do = Clothes to wear.
4. Dishes to wash = Food to eat.
5. Crumbs under the table = Family meals together.
6. Grocery shopping to do = \$\$ to provide for us.
7. Bathrooms to clean = Indoor plumbing.
8. Lots of noise = Kids having FUN!!
9. Endless questions about homework = Kids' brains growing.
10. Sore and tired at the end of the day = I'm ALIVE!

Nurse News



In the spirit of the holidays, I am asking for donations of new or gently used sweat pants in small, medium, and large.

New hats and gloves would also be appreciated for those students who are in need on these cold wintery days. Thank you so much for your consideration☺

Here are some healthy tips for over the Holiday break:

Encourage good dental care by getting in the habit of brushing and flossing at least twice a day.

(If your child is in need of dental supplies, the nurse's office has some.)

Encourage healthy eating over the Holidays. Let your child help you buy groceries and let them pick out any fruits and vegetables they would like to eat or help you fix over the Holidays.

I have noticed that Fresh Thyme and a couple of other grocery stores in the area have a free fruit section at the front of the store for your child to grab a healthy snack while you shop.

Get outside and be active! Build memories of hiking, sledding, ice-skating, and building snowmen. The fresh air and time away from screens will do them good. The up side of getting in the fresh air is it will be easier for your child to get a good night sleep and go to bed at their bed-time.

Wishing everyone a healthy happy Holiday Season!

Library News



Caldecott Award*, Sibert Award*, Fantasy, Nonfiction Ask a teacher for a recommendation

***students have learned about this award and these can be located by doing an online search within our LMC.**

Every student has a Reading Passport. When they accomplish one of their reading tasks the teacher stamps the passport! They need the passport to "travel" to the surprise party!

Reading Takes You Places Updates...

October Family Reading Challenge Winners Announced!

Congratulations to Denisse G. of Mrs. Wiggs' class for winning the Family Reading Challenge for October. Their family got a gift card for Wal-Mart! Remember to check the Superstar Gazette each month for a new challenge and send a picture in for our display!

Lose your copy? Extras can be picked up by the front door display at school anytime.

We hope you will try the next one out!

Happy Reading!

QUARTER 2 GOAL IS DUE DECEMBER 20th!

QUARTER 2 PARTY = JANUARY 8

WHERE WILL WE GO?

Did You Know? Students in Grades 2-5 earn Reading Counts points by taking computer quizzes on books that they have read in their level? There are 10 questions and they need 7 or more correct to get points.

Grades K-1: students will work on completing 4 of the 6 tasks in school

1. Read a book with a character like: Elephant & Piggie, Scaredy Squirrel, Fancy Nancy, or Pete the Cat
2. Read a nonfiction book about an animal
3. Read a holiday book
4. Read a nonfiction book about a person
5. Read a book your teacher recommends to you
6. Read a picture book

Grade 2: 15 Reading Counts points and 2 genres

Grade 3: 20 Reading Counts points and 2 genres

Grade 4: 25 Reading Counts points and 2 genres

Grade 5: 30 Reading Counts points and 2 genres

Grades 2-5 GENRES:

Biography, Fairy Tale, Science Fiction Fable, Mystery, Nonfiction Sports Holiday Book, Graphic Novel, Poetry

The 5 Finger Rule for Choosing a Book

Choosing the Right Books

When reading with your child you want to find the "Goldilocks" of books. You want a book that's not too hard, not too easy but one that is just right. Use these tips to find a book that is just right for your child.

1. Open the book to any page.
2. Read the words on that page.
3. Count the number of words that you cannot read.
4. Use your fingers to help you decide if this is a good book to read.

One word: OK

Two words: Still OK

Three words: You may need help

Four words: Tough to read

Five words: Too hard

Bent December 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 8:00 –Before School Reading 3:15 -ISU Mentors	5	6 8:00 –Before School Reading	7 Bent Spirit Day 3:15-5:00 Girls in the Game	8
9	10	11 8:00 –Before School Reading 5:00-8:00 Potbelly PTO Fundraiser	12	13 8:00 –Before School Reading	14	15
16	17	18 11:30-2:30 Mrs. Sicinski to Challenger Learning Center	19 11:30-2:30 Mrs. Bucio to Challenger Learning Center	20 10:00-1:15 All school to Red Bird Arena for Women's b-ball game 11:30-2:30 Mrs. Cooper to Challenger Learning Center	21 End of 2 nd Grading Period	22
23	24 Winter Break	25 Winter Break	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break	28 Winter Break	29
30	31 Winter Break					

Bent January 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Winter Break	2 Winter Break	3 Winter Break	4 Winter Break	5
6	7 School Resumes	8	9	10	11 Bent Spirit Day	12
13	14	15 6:00-7:00 PTO Meeting	16	17	18	19
20	21 Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday No School	22 3:15 -ISU Mentors	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 3:15 -ISU Mentors	30	31 4:00-8:00 Portillos PTO Fundraiser		

Family Challenge #4 due January 30th

This will be a December/January combined challenge

We would like to encourage you to read more together as a family.

Complete 4 of the 6 activities below and return it back to school to enter to win a gift card.

Why? Fun! Read together! Win a prize! Be recognized in our Superstar Gazette monthly newsletter! Help support and encourage reading as a family!

If you have a picture of your family doing an activity or want to send in a picture of your child's work, email Ms. Riccio at ricciok@district87.org or send it through Class Dojo

<p>Explore context clues: If your child comes to a word he or she doesn't know, try out context clues. SEE TIP BELOW! Context clues: hints that an author gives to help define a difficult or unusual word. The clue may appear within the same sentence as the word to which it refers, or it may follow in a preceding sentence. Use the clues to see if you can figure out the word, or try substituting a different word if you can't figure it out.</p>	<p>Choose two different nonfiction books on the same main topic (such as 2 different animal books, 2 different planet books, 2 different state books, etc) and look for things that are similar and different in each one. Share ideas.</p>	<p>Read a Gingerbread or Winter Holiday book (Kwanzaa, Christmas, Hanukkah) How does it compare to a different book? Holiday book: Talk about traditions and how they are same/different from own. Gingerbread book: what was different in this version?</p>
<p>Help your child Try the 5 Finger Rule on a book (see next page in newsletter)</p>	<p>Give your child some paper and markers or crayons. Invite your child to write a story about a favorite activity, for example, playing at the park. First, talk with your child about what they did. "First you played baseball with your friends. Then we looked at trees and collected leaves." Then help put each activity into the story. Use words like <i>begin</i> and <i>end</i>. "How will you <i>begin</i> the story?" Number the pages and decorate cover.</p>	<p>Parent chooses a story to share with child. Share with your child why you chose the book!</p>

READING TIP: Be patient. When your child is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, let him have the time he needs to do it. Praise your child's efforts. Treat mistakes not as failure, but as an opportunity for improvement. For example, if s/he misreads *listen* as *list*, re-read the sentence together and ask him which word makes more sense. Point out the similarities between the two words and the importance of noticing the final syllable. Your patience can help him see mistakes as learning experiences, not reasons to give up.

Family Member Names: _____

Teacher: _____

RETURN THIS FORM TO SCHOOL BY JAN.30