



## December Newsletter 2019 Bowman Woods

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope you all had a lovely Thanksgiving break. There is much for which to be grateful and we are especially grateful for all of you and for our amazing students.

The next three weeks will pass quickly. I know this month will be a busy one for many families and we thank you for keeping routines consistent when possible. There will be various activities at school such as our winter parties, but we will also strive to maintain typical schedules throughout the month.

Our giving tree is up in the main office and we are grateful for your help with this annual project. Mrs. Wiley has a note outlining the details on page 2 of the newsletter.

Parents, thank you for returning the permission slips for the *Parents Night Out* event this Friday evening. It is a small thank you for all that you do throughout the year.

Thank you for your tremendous help with our Bright Bytes survey. Bowman Woods is one of two schools that reached statistical significance thanks to your participation. We will share information when it becomes available.

Please welcome our new building secretary, Kristina Messenger. You may recognize Kristina as she has been at Bowman Woods for the past couple of years. Mrs. Messenger brings a wealth of office experience to this position. She is looking forward to being in the main office and helping our students, staff, and families.

As always, our PTO meetings also serve as our parent advisory group. Our next meeting is next Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Day care is provided in the cafeteria.

Have a wonderful month!

Sincerely,

Tina March, principal



# THANK YOU BOWMAN WOODS VOLUNTEERS!

December 2019

Thanks to the following volunteers who donated time and talent this month to help Bowman Woods:

**5<sup>TH</sup> Grade Pow Wow** – Jennifer Brunzman, Amy Sickels, Sherlyn Lindeman, Donna Bean, Angie Krueger, Katie Petersen, Dawn Ovel, Mary Lou Althoff, Christine Lehman-Engledow, Melinda Crow, Elizabeth Strimple, Janet Masters.

**Volunteer Workshop** - Angie Krueger, Alissa Philipp, Ruth Schroeder, Elizabeth Strimple, Anna Walker, Mary Lou Althoff, and our coordinators, Ro Delaney and Kari Ross.

**Box Tops/HyVee Receipts** – Ruth Schroeder, Erin Wittkowski,

**PTO Soup Dinner** – Shantelle Franzen – Organizer, Abby Smith, Amanda Jewell, Angie Krueger, Anna Walker, Becky Bolsinger, Carla Kelley, Courtney Dayton, Dawn Ovel, Donna Smrha, Janet Masters, Kari Ross, Kristal Long, Lindsay Sullivan, Melinda Crow, Nathan Franzen, Sarah Dye, Sravanthi Baddam, Tara Erickson, Tracey Chesmore.

**Hearing Screening Volunteers** - Ro Delaney, Kari Ross

**Invention Convention Judges** - Kevin Delaney, Brittany Grindeland, Karen McDonnell, Greg Holzwarth, Frank Morosky, Brianna Peterson, Sabeen Javeen, Jeff Crow, Tara Loeffler, Tammy Haynes, Sandy Schneekloth, Juergen Bruckner, Ro Delaney, Elizabeth Strimple.

**Clay Volunteers** – Roy Luo, Sherlyn Lindeman, Jennifer Brunzman, Tara Loeffler, Dawn Ovel Courtney Barrios, Andrea Vanourney, Melinda Crow, Colleen Luckey, Jennifer Irons, Elizabeth Strimple, Christine Lehman-Engledow, Angie Krueger, Stacy Shepley, Lindsay Sullivan, Donna Bean, Ashley Woodman, Mary Hutton, June Reeves, Cortney Zobel, Janet Masters, Shantelle Franzen, Sara Dye, John Sklarsky, Elizabeth Strimple, Ruth Schroeder, Justin Kensinger, Brianna Peterson, Kristal Long, Jill Groezinger, Diana Rodriguez.

## COUNSELOR'S UPDATE:



Happy December from Mrs. Wiley!



### Giving Tree Gift Drop Off

Thank you to those of you who took tags from our Giving Tree. Please make sure that you deliver your UNWRAPPED gift to the office no later than Dec. 13th. Thanks!

## **Inclement Weather**

If severe weather, including fog, forces a late arrival, early dismissal, or cancellation of school for the entire day, announcements will be made on:

- District website banner – [www.linnmar.k12.ia.us](http://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us)
- District Facebook page as status update (“like” Linn-Mar Community Schools on Facebook)
- Txtwire – click on LM Emergency Notifications at the bottom of the LM webpage to register
- TV Stations: KCRG, KFXA, KGAN, KWWL
- Radio Stations: KCKK, KHAK, KKRQ, KMRY, KZIA, WMT

**Unless you see an announcement, assume school is running as usual.**

**If we have late arrival: - Watch for our sign out front!**



- Students may start arriving at 10:00 a.m.
- School will start at 10:30 a.m.
- All before school activities are cancelled

**If we have an early dismissal:**

- Early dismissals are announced the same way that late arrivals/school closings are announced. We would encourage folks to sign up for the Txtwire alert.
- The school does **not** have the means to call parents to notify them that school is dismissing early, but we will send an all-school email if we have timely notice.
- Please make sure that the school knows where your child should go in case of an early dismissal. It’s important that your child also knows where he or she needs to go. Thank you for your help with this.
- All after school activities at Bowman are cancelled.

**Before/After School Care will open at regular time and will begin immediately after school dismisses if any of the above occurs.**

## **Winter Weather Dress for the playground**

If there is snow on the ground, these are the guidelines we will be using at Bowman Woods for the playground:

1. Children without snow boots (boots that are not worn all day long) will be asked to play on the shoveled areas of the playground only.
2. Children with snow boots will be allowed to walk in the snowy areas.
3. Children with snow boots, snow pants/snow suits, and mittens/gloves will be allowed to play in the snow.

It is also a good idea to send hat/hood, ear band or earmuffs, and mittens/gloves as well. Since we all know the weather in Iowa changes quickly, it would be helpful if you could send these things with your child daily (a plastic grocery bag would be a great carryall bag). This way we all are sure to enjoy the snowy days on the playground without becoming wet and cold. Please label each item with your child’s name. Our health office is no longer loaning winter wear for students to use at recess. Thanks so much for your help!!!!

## Indoor/Outdoor Recess

In the event of rain, or when the temperature reaches zero or below, students will have indoor recess. The office staff will monitor the temperature according to KCRG TV 9.

**IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON HAVING LUNCH WITH YOUR STUDENT, OR IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL, PLEASE CALL MRS. MATTHEWS AT 447-3242. LUNCH ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY 9:00 AM.**



**Looking for ALL children turning "5" by September 15<sup>th</sup>**

**who reside in the Bowman Woods attendance area!**

Kindergarten Round-Up, Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

6:00 parent meeting

Please pre-register your student by contacting

the office at 447-3240.

**ALL VISITORS ARE  
REQUIRED TO SIGN-IN  
AND WEAR A VISITOR  
BADGE WHEN VISITING  
DURING SCHOOL HOURS**

### Lunch/Recess Schedule

**K – 10:50 to 11:20  
Recess 11:20 to 11:40**

**2nd – 11:15 to 11:40  
Recess 11:40 to 12:00**

**1st – 11:35 to 12:00  
Recess 12:00 to 12:20**

**3rd – 11:55 to 12:20  
Recess 12:20 to 12:40**

**4th – 12:20 to 12:40  
Recess 12:40 to 1:10**

**5th – 12:40 to 1:00  
Recess 1:00 to 1:30**

**For your child's safety please do not  
bring students for breakfast until  
8:00 and please do not drop off for  
school before 8:10. Gates open at 8:05.  
Thank you for your cooperation!**



### IMPORTANT UPDATE!

The 2019-20 Instruction Supply Fee of \$50.00 is due. Please call the office if you have questions.  
Thank you!

## From our Veteran's Day Assembly.....

Our Veteran's Day Assembly was powerful and compelling. Thanks to Mr. Makinster and Mrs. Dunnick for providing the inspirational music and program, the members of the American Legion Marion Post 298, and to our families for sending in the photos of their loved ones who have served or are currently serving our country. Thank you to those brave men and women.



Our Thanksgiving Turkey feathers were created by buddy classrooms and assembled by Mrs. Decious. The students wrote what each was thankful for on the feathers.







## December Library Lights



It is colder outside which means some of our little people are inside more often. It can be hard for children to find a balance between activity and device time. It is amazing how students often know when they have reached a limit of device use and need to take a break, but talking with them about what options they have when they reach that limit will help make a plan for action. Having a choice board or list of chores and fun things can help students turn off devices. If your child seems to gravitate towards device use in the winter months, then here is an article by Common Sense Media for families entitled “5 Strategies for Getting Kids Off Devices”.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/5-strategies-for-getting-kids-off-devices>

On the other hand, you may have a child that is very active in winter activities and needs some help slowing down to read. For children who find reading a challenge and are motivated by using a device to read, there are some free online libraries like Epic, which has audio, read alouds and ebooks. Your student’s teacher may have an account, or you can use the library code of EKS4308 to access it at home. All students also have Tumble Books, BookFlix and TrueFlix. To use these use the username: 3715bowm and password aea10. These can be found on the Bowman Woods Symbaloo:

<https://www.symbaloo.com/mix/bowmanhomepage>

Common Sense Media also has a great link for parents and educators that highlights “19 Apps for Kids Who Think Reading is Boring”.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/lists/19-apps-for-kids-who-think-reading-is-boring>

The weather outside can have an effect on whether your child struggles with finding a balance or finding more time to grow as a reader. It is important we talk about that balance or motivation and help support students in the direction we want them to go.

**Thanks to everyone who visited our Fall Follett Book Fair! New books for the library will be purchased with the percentage of earnings.**

# Notes from Music



## MUSIC and EARLY BIRDS EVENTS:



**2ND GRADE CONCERT** - The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade singers are excited to share a Snow Day concert on December 12<sup>th</sup> to get you (hopefully) excited for the winter ahead! Students are asked to wear nice clothing (like picture day) and are welcome to wear winter accessories such as scarves, hats, mittens, etc. There will be a performance at 6:30 p.m. for friends and family to attend.

**December 17<sup>th</sup>**- Winter Concert AND CAROLING! Early birds will be keeping our tradition this year of caroling immediately after their concert at 6:30 p.m. Families are asked to come with us as we carol around the neighborhoods and enjoy the holiday season. A reception of cookies (provided by 5<sup>th</sup> grade families) will conclude our caroling back in the BW cafeteria. All are welcome to join in the fun!

**Congratulations** to our fifth graders that were selected for Opus: Jessica Ribble, Benita Anyanwu, Reed McCabe, Sophia Minard.

## ***A Note from the Orchestra Director***

The Bowman Woods Orchestra students have been working very hard on new note reading exercises and warm-ups in preparation for the Holiday Concert on **Tuesday, December 17th**. We will be performing for students and Bowman Woods staff at the school assembly as well as at the evening performance. Orchestra students will meet to warm-up that evening at 5:45 p.m. The concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will also feature members of Early Birds!

Best wishes to all of our musicians!! Ms. Vieth





# December PTO NEWS

## Mark your calendars

### **Friday, December 6, 6 – 7:45: Parents' Night Out**

Drop off your BW student(s) for a movie and popcorn while you enjoy an evening to relax, reconnect or get holiday shopping done. We will be showing "Aladdin." Kids can wear PJs or comfy clothes. They can bring a blanket or fold up chair.

### **Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 – 7:30 PM: PTO Meeting**

Every BW parent is a member of the PTO. Attend the monthly meetings to stay informed of how fundraising dollars are spent, hear building/district updates from Mrs. March, brainstorm improvement ideas and voice questions/concerns. Meetings are held in the library. Free childcare is provided.

### **Thursday, December 12, 4 – 8 PM: Bowman Woods Spirit Night Noodles & Company 310 Collins Rd NE**

### **Tuesday, December 17, 4 – 8 PM: Bowman Woods Spirit Night Culver's - Hiawatha 1005 N Center Pt Rd**

Take a night off from cooking, hang out with school friends and raise funds for our students. Be sure to mention Bowman Woods when you order so that a portion of sales will be donated to PTO. Yum!

## PTO Spending Spotlight

Did you know that PTO funds wish list items for classrooms with money raised during the fall fundraiser? This year, the total budget for this classroom enrichment is \$6650. Essentials teachers will have up to \$300 to spend, and classroom teachers will get up to \$200.

Pictured here is our talented music teacher, Mrs. Dunnick, with kazoos, castanets and magnets that she chose for her classroom using PTO funds. First graders put the kazoos to GREAT use during their concert last month. Not only have the castanets enriched music class, but they have been loaned out to help early readers work on rhythm and pacing.

Thank you, families, for your financial support!!







## Bowman Redemption News

### Do you want to build a snowman?

Whichever grade turns in the most Hy-Vee receipts and Box Tops by **Wednesday, Dec 11th** will win an extra time slot and game time at the Winter Party!!

Both cut-out Box Tops and Box Tops submitted through the Box Tops app all count! So remember to save and submit all those Thanksgiving receipts!



### Do you have photo gift or holiday card shopping on your to-do list?

Do your shopping at Shutterfly.com, and Bowman Woods will get **8%** of your purchase!



It's easy - just go to:

<http://bowmanwoods.shutterflystorefront.com>

The 8% will be automatically tracked and credited to the Bowman Woods PTO account once you complete your purchase.

**This link is good year-round, and can be shared with family and friends!**



Remember to do your Amazon shopping through AmazonSmile to help support BW PTO!  
Just start at our direct link and select Bowman Woods as your charity of choice: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/42-1405340>





# DECEMBER

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 cycle day 8	3 Orch AM cycle day 1	4 Early Birds No LL cycle day 2	5 Band AM Orch. PM cycle day 3	6 Early Birds PTO Movie Night (Parent Night Out) 6 – 7:45 pm Popcorn/water provided cycle day 4
9 cycle day 5	10 Orch. AM Vol. Workshop 8:45-10:45 2 <sup>nd</sup> Gr FT PTO Mtg. 6:30 cycle day 6	11 Early Birds No LL cycle day 7	12 Band AM Orch. PM 2 <sup>nd</sup> Gr. Music Concert – 6:30 Spirit Night Noodle & Co. 4-8 pm. cycle day 8	13 Early Birds Winter Parties during specials 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade LEO poetry Giving Gifts Due cycle day 0
16 cycle day 1	17 Orch. AM Early Bird & Orchestra Concert – 6:30 pm Spirit Night Culver’s Hiawatha 4-8 pm cycle day 2	18 Christmas Carol – 4B No LL cycle day 3	19 Band AM cycle day 4	20 PRIDE DAY School Movie Sing-A-Long cycle day 0
23	24 WINTER	25 BREAK	26 2020	27 School Resumes on January 2, 2020

