## Afton Elementary Newsletter

## Turkey Trot

Once again we will be having our virtual Turkey Trot. It will be on Nov. 21. It will be broadcast on Facebook and You Tube so parents can watch. Please make sure your students have good shoes to run in and a coat that day.


## Parent Teacher Conference

Parent Teacher Conference is coming up on Nov. 7-8. We are using PTCFast.com for parents to sign up and make an appointment. We are only accepting scheduled appointments. To sign up enter the following address into your browser window: https://ptcfast.com/schools/Afton elementary
If you do not have internet access, please contact us via phone at 307-885-8002.

## Learning Update

Kindergarten - Kindergarteners have been working hard learning how to write letters the correct way based on letter stroke progression. We will continue to practice correct letter formation this month. In kindergarten, we will continue to strengthen our phonemic awareness skills using Heggerty. Heggerty is a program that uses auditory-based word play to strengthen students' understanding of the spoken language. An example of this is: say "cat", now say "cat" and change /c/ to /b/. Students substitute the beginning sound to change the word "cat" to the word "bat". This understanding of the spoken language will help students become stronger readers and writers. Kindergarteners will continue working on becoming excellent storytellers as they practice being authors and illustrators. Kindergarteners will work on adding more details to their pictures, labeling parts of their pictures, and adding more sounds to their words. Kindergarten mathematicians are working on sorting objects into common categories. We will review numbers 6-10 and focus on number recognition, number writing, counting, comparing quantities, and playing various number games.

## Coming Events

Nov. 3.......No School

Nov. 7.......Parent Teacher Conference 4-7PM

Nov. 8........Parent Teacher Conference 4-7PM

Nov. 9........Veteran's Day Assembly 11:00

Nov. 10.......No School
Nov. 14.......PTO Meeting - 8 AM
Nov. 16.......Picture Retakes
Nov. 21.......Turkey Trot
Nov. 22.......Early Release 10:25 \& 10:35

Nov. 23.......Thanksgiving - No School

Nov. 24........No School

1st Grade - It is hard to believe that we are almost one-fourth of the way through the school year! In November the first grade students will continue to develop reading strategies to solve hard words. Students will be working to develop reading fluency as well as comprehension skills during reading mastery and reading workshop. In math students will be developing an understanding of subtraction and then honing their addition and subtraction skills by working on their math facts. For writing students will begin the "How To" writing unit in preparation for informational writing later in the year. We are looking forward to a great month of learning, and feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with our first grade students.

2nd Grade - We have been working hard on reading and writing over the past two months. Our efforts are paying off and we are reading more that ever! We just got REFLEX for our classes and we are excited to begin using it to practice our addition and subtraction facts both at home and at school! This month we will be helping some turkeys avoid being eaten for dinner by disguising them as something else. Look for some of these guys to come home in backpacks in the next week or so. Hopefully we won't know them when they return!
We will also focus on being grateful as a grade level. Maybe this would be a great topic to talk about around the dinner table each day. Happy November!

3rd Grade - Third graders have been working hard at memorizing their math facts this month. We have introduced division and are learning how multiplication and division are related. The students spent two weeks in science classes learning about forces, weather. and natural selection. We have spent time in fiction articles learning about central messages and practicing retelling a story. Now we are reading interesting articles about things like termite mounds and tardigrades as we build our nonfiction reading skills. We are learning and growing daily! Keep reading at home and practicing those math facts!


We are seeing an increased number of students with conjunctivitis or "pink eye" in the county and school district.
Pink eye is an inflammation of the inside of the eyelid (conjunctiva) and the white part of the eyeball. This inflammation makes blood vessels more visible and gives the eye a pink or reddish color.

Please watch your child for the following symptoms. If your child has the symptoms below, you should call your child's healthcare provider for guidance.

- Redness or swelling of the white of the eye or inside the eyelids
- An increased amount of tears
- Eye discharge which may be clear, yellow, white, or green
- Itchy, irritated, and/or burning eyes
- Gritty feeling in the eye
- Crusting of the eyelids or lashes
- Contact lenses that feel uncomfortable and/or do not stay in place on the eye

There are four main causes of pink eye. Sometimes it is hard to know the exact cause of pink eye because some signs and symptoms may be the same no matter the cause.

- Viruses (like the common cold).
- Bacteria
- Allergens (from pollen, pets, or dust mites)
- Irritants (like swimming pool chlorine)

Treatment depends on the reason for conjunctivitis (bacterial, viral or allergic). It is important to talk with your child's healthcare provider (doctor, physician's assistant, or nurse) so they can tell you if your child may need medicine or stay home from school.

Pink eye is spread from person to person in different ways. It is usually spread through:

- Contact from touching or shaking hands
- The air by coughing and sneezing
- Touching an object or surface with germs on it, then rubbing your eyes before washing your hands

Washing your hands, covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze, and not sharing food and drinks with others can help control the spread of pink eye.

Antibiotics do not help pink eye unless it is caused by bacteria. Whether or not your child needs medicine for pink eye is up to your doctor.




