

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The 2024-25 school year is off and running! We are excited to have our students back for another excellent year of learning. Our SFA reading groups begin Wednesday, September 18, for our first through fifth grade students, and just like last year, our groups will meet first thing in the morning. Please make sure your students are on time to school every morning because this is critical learning time that we don't want any of our students to miss.

Please call me with any questions or concerns during the school year, and I look forward to another great year at Franklin!

Mr. Heller, Principal



If your child is absent, please contact the Franklin Attendance Line at (920) 663-9509 to report the absence. It is very important for all children to attend school every day. Much teaching is verbal or "hands on" in the classroom; thus, it is very important to make a sincere effort to minimize your child's absences. State law

requires the Manitowoc Public School District to enforce the regular attendance of students. Wisconsin Act 285 defines a "habitual truant" as "a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse for part or all of five school days during a semester." Each child is allotted 10 excused absences for any reason during the school year.

All first through fifth grade students will begin the day with a 90-minute Success for All (SFA) literacy block that will accelerate their reading ability and skills. It is very important that students be on time and ready to learn every day, because we do not want any of our students to miss minutes during this critical part of the day. Please make every effort to have your students at school by 8:10 a.m. and reach out to us if you are having issues with this during the year.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Arrival: (BREAKFAST: 7:45-8:05 a.m.) Students will enter the building at the gym doors in the circle drive in front of Franklin between 7:45 and 8:05 a.m. Students must arrive for breakfast by 8:05 a.m. and go outside to play on the playground and blacktop behind school as soon as they finish eating. Students not eating breakfast should be dropped off on 33rd Street behind Franklin, or on 35th Street near our staff parking lot. Please do not use the parking lot for drop off because there are cars entering and exiting the lot all morning, and it is not a safe area for our younger students. In the interest of student safety, we would like families to have students <u>arrive no earlier than 7:45 a.m.</u> The playground is closed before school and there is no supervision. Classes begin at 8:10 a.m.

Dismissal: Dismissal bells will ring at 3:10 p.m. Students will exit Franklin from the same doors they enter in the morning.

Drop-off/Pick-Up Locations: All students should be dropped off/picked up on 33rd Street or along 35th Street. <u>No parent vehicles should enter the school parking lot for drop-off or pick-up.</u> This is a zone only. If your child has mobility needs requiring accommodations for entering the building, please reach out to the school office to make arrangements. Parents will not be allowed in the building to meet their child(ren). Make plans to meet your child somewhere outside the building after school in a designated spot. Please cross the busy streets at the corners with a crossing guard.

COMMUNITY FLYERS UPDATE

As a service to the community, the Manitowoc Public School District posts flyers for upcoming events from nonprofit organizations on their homepage and Facebook page. Please visit the web site at www.manitowocpublicschools.org/for_families/community_flyers for additional information on the following flyers:

2024 4-H Family Fun Night Flyer (flyers are also in Spanish and Hmong) Missoula Children's Theatre Treasure Island casting call 24-25 School Year Boys/Girls Club of Manitowoc County Branch Membership 24-25 School Year Boys/Girls Club Calendar

RAPTOR VISITOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

To enhance the safety of Franklin School, we utilize our Raptor Visitor Management System to register our visitors. If visitors would like to enter the building during school hours for any reason, they will need to submit a valid state ID or driver's license. The office staff will then scan their information in the National Sex Offender Registry. If approved to enter our school, a nametag will be printed which must be worn on the outermost layer of clothing at all times. All visitors must return to the office to sign out prior to leaving the building.

SCHOOL DENTAL PROGRAM

The 2024-25 school year is upon us, and it is time to sign your child(ren) up for the school dental program provided by Lakeshore Community Health Care. The Lakeshore Community Health Care provides dental services such as exams, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride, sealants and fillings right here at Franklin School! A bright green dental sign-up form has been sent home



from school with your child(ren). These forms need to be returned to the school office as soon as possible. You will need to fill out one form for EACH child. If you do NOT want this service for your child, please indicate so on the form and return it to school. It is equally important that ALL forms be returned to the school as soon as possible. This helps the dental clinic with both planning and funding the program. If you have any questions, please call Lakeshore Community Health at (920) 973-9709, or e-mail <u>mtwcschoolsdental@lakeshorechc.org</u>.



GREETINGS FROM THE FRANKLIN LIBRARY!

Welcome to another awesome school year! Throughout the school year, Franklin students will have the opportunity to visit our library once a week so they may check out books of their choice. Students in kindergarten, first and second grade will receive a plastic book bag to keep and use throughout the school year. Please, do not throw it away! Students are encouraged to be responsible for the care of the books they borrow from the library and

return them in a timely manner. I also suggest students keep their books in their backpack, preferably in the plastic book bag, when they are not reading them. This helps to keep books from being misplaced or damaged. If a library book is lost or damaged, please inform your child's teacher or myself as soon as possible. Please do not repair damaged books at home! If you have any questions or concerns, please free to contact me, Mrs. Zahn, at (920) 663-9496 or <u>zahnr@mpsd.school</u>.

"SPECIALS" NEWS

Do you have any old pairs of athletic shoes lying around? If so, feel free to donate them to the Franklin School gym classes. Just drop them off at the office, and they will make sure the gym teacher gets them. We also would like to ask if any of our families have rollerblade/inline skate helmets to donate. We only have 20 helmets that are available and safe to use. If we don't have enough for a full class size, we will not be able to have a rollerblading unit this year.



Want to know what your student is working on in the art room this year? Please follow along on **Ms**. **Stelzer's Art Room** Facebook page to see pictures of the artists at work!

"Save the date" of Tuesday, March 18, for our annual school-wide music concert! More information will come as the date gets closer.



Welcome back to school! Start the year off right with practicing these daily healthy habits:

- Handwashing: Always wash your hands with soap and water before eating, after playing outside, after going to the bathroom, and after coughing or sneezing.
- Teeth: Brush your teeth twice a day after breakfast and before bed.
- **Clothing:** Wear fresh clothes every day, even if your old clothes don't smell. Clean underwear is especially important.
- Exercise: Do some form of exercise every day, such as walking, running, bike riding, or playing sports.
- Diet: Eat nutritious meals and snacks daily. Include fruits, vegetables, whole grains, protein, and dairy products.
- Sleep: Go to bed at approximately the same time every night. Spend some time doing a quiet activity prior to going to bed; i.e., reading a book or listening to music.

PTA NOTES

We are so excited for the new school year! Our PTA is made up of parents, guardians and staff members who work together to make Franklin a fun place for students to learn and grow. We want to introduce this year's board members to you.

PTA President: Samantha Grunow - "Sam" has been a PTA member for five years, and this is her second year as president. Sam has a kindergartner, a second grader and a fifth grader.

PTA Treasurer: Andrew Johnson - This is Andrew's second year as the treasurer, and he has two children who attend Franklin - a second grader and a fifth grader.

PTA Secretary: Andrea Wanek - This is Andrea's second year as the secretary. Andrea has a fourth grader who attends Franklin School.

Our first PTA meeting is Wednesday, September 18, at 4:00 p.m. in the Franklin School library. The meetings last approximately one hour, and we would love to see you there! All Franklin parents/guardians and staff are invited to join the PTA. Membership fees are only \$5.25. By attending this meeting, you can learn more about the PTA, what we do, and what events we have planned or are planning for the school.

The PTA is also excited to announce that spirit sticks are back! Our first spirit stick sale will be held during lunch in the gym on Wednesday, September 18. All spirit sticks cost only \$1.00. Future spirit stick sales will be posted on Facebook and an IC message will be e-mailed and texted to parents/guardians. All kindergarten students and students new to Franklin have received a spirit stick ring to hang on their backpacks. If your child is new to Franklin School and doesn't have a spirit stick ring, please let the office staff know. In addition to the monthly spirit stick sales, we also have a Spirit Stick of the Month club. For only \$8.00, your child will receive a unique spirit stick every month that only members receive. The Spirit Stick of the Month club is limited to the first 100 students.



We are so excited to announce that our first fundraiser of the year is going to be "Uncle Mike's Kringles"! Anyone who is familiar with Kringles knows that Uncle Mike's Bake Shoppe is known all over North America as having the best Kringle. They were also awarded "Best Kringle in North America"! The fundraiser form will be sent home the week of September 16, and the fundraiser will run through September 30.

If you ever have any questions, comments or suggestions, please reach out to <u>franklinpta@mpsd.school</u> or contact Samantha Grunow at 920-334-0711.

SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 13 1st grade field trip to School Forest, 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- September 16-30 PTA fundraiser, "Uncle Mike's Kringles"
- September 18 Spirit stick sale, gym (during lunch only) PTA meeting, library, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- September 22 First day of autumn

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FUTURE

- October 3 2nd grade field trip to School Forest, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- October 4 Staff development day NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- October 11 School picture day, a.m.

