

### Help Us Be Prepared for Winter

Every winter we have problems that arise due to the cold weather and the storms that always come our way. Please help us to make sure that the winter months are enjoyable and safe for our students. Parents, you can help us out by remembering a few things as winter approaches:

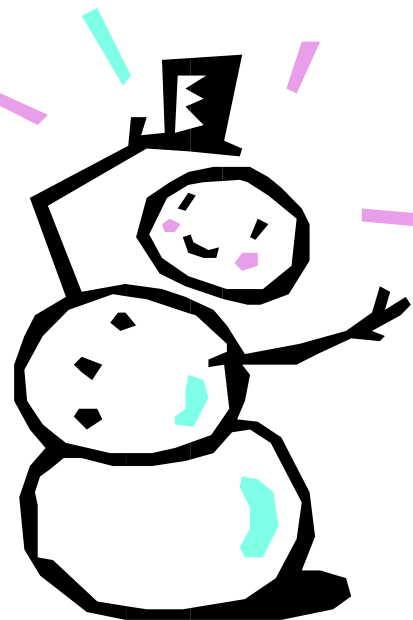
1. **Make sure your children are dressed warmly.** We have recess outside unless the wind-chill is below zero so make sure your child has a hat, mittens (the thin kind aren't warm enough), a warm coat, and boots. Boots and snow pants are required anytime there is snow or water on our play-

ground. A change of socks in the backpack is a great idea as the children's socks always seem to get wet. Also an extra set of mittens is good so they can wear a dry pair for their next recess.

2. **When school is dismissed early due to the weather make sure your children understand where they are to go.**

We always have a few students who don't know if it's grandma's house or the daycare service they need to go to so have a plan in place and make sure your child knows what it is.

There are no activities after school if we dismiss due to the weather. This means there are no youth basketball/volleyball practices if we have an early dismissal due to the weather. The best option to receive up to date information is to set up an account on the parent portal of Infinite Campus. It will send a text to your cell phone or an email to your computer whenever school is delayed or cancelled due to the weather. If you do not have a parent portal account simply call us at 737-4606 and we will help set one up for you.



### So Is There School Or Not?

You wake up and the weather is nasty and your children are demanding to know if school is canceled or delayed. What do you do so they'll leave you alone? Check the following sources:

1. Class Dojo for a school story making the weather related announcement.
2. Go to Closures and Delays on KTIV's website.
3. Watch TV: KTIV Channel 4.
4. Check your email or cell phone: That's right, you can be notified directly to your email or cell phone if you have a parent portal set up in Infinite Campus. If you do not have a parent portal account set up and you would like one simply call us at 737-4606 and we will help you get one set up.

### Winter Break

A reminder that Winter Break starts on Wednesday, December 22nd and students return on Tuesday, January 4th, 2022!



### ***Make your child responsible for learning spelling words***

Spelling words are as inevitable as taxes. So how can you help your child deal with this weekly task without feeling like it's *your* homework? Use the following process to make your children responsible for their learning:

- **Day One.** – For each word on the spelling list, your child says the word and spells it aloud while looking at it. Then he writes the word while looking at it.
- **Day Two.** – Your child repeats the steps for Day One.
- **Day Three.** – Your child looks at and says each word, but covers up words while writing them-testing his memory. He checks his spelling and writes each misspelled word correctly three times.
- **Day Four.** – You give your child a verbal practice test. He again checks his own work and writes misspelled words correctly three times.

On Day Five, your child has a great spelling test!

### ***Responsible children are more likely to succeed***

Kids who learn to be responsible do better in school. They get along better with teachers and peers. They make better decisions. They're more apt to try, follow through and succeed.

To teach your child responsibility, be sure to:

- **Practice what you preach.** For example, you can't expect your child not to use foul language if you do.
- **Help your child see** how his actions affect others. Develop a habit of reflection with questions like, "How do you think Jose felt when you said that?". "If someone hits you, how do you feel about him?"
- **Use discipline to teach**, not punish. Always talk about what your child might do differently next time.
- **Enforce consequences** regularly. In advance, be clear about what will happen when your child doesn't follow the rules. Then follow through.
- **Remind your child** of lessons learned in the past. "Remember when Eric pushed you? Remember how we talked about your walking away, then later telling him how you felt?"
- **Don't over-protect.** Let your child try new experiences as you watch out for his safety.
- **Help your child develop** understanding by asking *what* and *why* questions. "What happened first?"

### ***Stay calm when you encounter defiant behavior***

There are times when even the most mild-mannered child gets defiant. You don't have to wonder what she's going to do-she'll tell you. When a child acts defiant, it's easy for a parent to lose control. You're angry. You're confused. And of course, you're worried about the future.

Here's how to control your own reactions so you can stop your child's defiance:

1. **Stay calm.** You told her to study because she has a math test. It's important. Look her right in the eye. Put a hand on her shoulder if you need to. Then say again, in a calm voice, "It's time to study." The calmer you are the more forceful you'll be.
2. **Let her know** the consequences. Remember, these can be positive. "When you're done studying, we can watch your favorite video."
3. **Pick your battles.** It's okay to say, "You have made me think about what I said. Taking these clothes up to your room right now is not that important. But when it is, I expect you to do what I ask."

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Nov	29 Day 6	30 Day 1	1 Day 2  Mrs. Marra's Birthday	2 Day 3	3 Day 4  Early Dismissal 1:15 PM Mr. Puttmann's Birthday	4
5	6 Day 5	7 Day 6	8 Day 1	9 Day 2  Mrs. Puttmann's Birthday	10 Day 3  Early Dismissal 1:15 PM Mrs. Foughty's Birthday	11
12	13 Day 4	14 Day 5	15 Day 6	16 Day 1	17 Day 2  Early Dismissal 1:15 PM Mrs. Angie Boersma's Birthday	18
19	20 Day 3	21 Day 4	22  <div>**** No School—Christmas Break ****</div>	23	24	25
26  Mrs. Haverdink's Birthday	27  <div>***** No School—Christmas Break *****</div>	28	29	30	31	Classes Resume Tuesday, Jan 4, 2022