



Baxter Elementary School - - We Build Foundations

**Baxter Bugle Trimester Two
School Year 2023-2024**

**From:
Dr. Stellmach**

Dear Baxter Families:

I hope this newsletter finds you well and filled with warmth as we near the midpoint of the school year! It has been an exciting growing journey so far. This newsletter is full of highlights and upcoming events. Grab a cup of coffee (or, in my case it would be cocoa) and let's dive into the happenings at Baxter Elementary School.

Warmly,
Dr. Tammy Stellmach

Family Fun Night

Our PTO is sponsoring **Winter Family Fun Night**. Here are the details. Come on over to Baxter School and enjoy the fun!

Thursday, January 18, 2024
4:45-6:45

Corey Jones: Presentations at 5:00 and again at 6:00
He is a motivational speaker and will be in gym #1 because he brings basketball into his presentation.

Cookie Decorating: In the cafeteria while supplies last.

Crafts: Winter Bookmarks and Snowman Joke Tellers in the Science room

Music Walk: Walk from square to square and if you are on the winning number when the music stops you get to choose a prize, in the First Grade Learning Commons

Story Time with Boys Varsity Basketball Players: BHS basketball players will be reading books at 5:00, 5:20, 5:40 & 6:00. Head to to the library to listen and you'll get a ticket to enter in a raffle drawing at the end of each book.

Baxter

Together We Grow

Growing Stronger Together

Trimester Two: December 4-February 29

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER

♥ We connected with Book Buddies from another grade in December. All classes will meet with book buddies on January 26, so pull out your blue Baxter Together We Grow Shirts for that day. Many groups also meet weekly to grow even stronger relationships and connections.

♥ February is I Love To Read Month and we have fun events planned to help students grow stronger in their reading.

♥ We continue to emphasize the Baxter 3Rs - Growing Stronger as a school, Growing Stronger as Classes, Growing Stronger as Students. Please consider having conversations at home to help support our efforts.

♥ Fitness Forest: Our PE staff have been helping students create a fitness forest by adding a sticky note to the wall as they increase a skill. They are also working on jump rope skills and students can work to earn different levels of being a Ninja Jumper!

Common Expectations

We repeat these often because consistency makes a difference.

Schoolwide we focus on common expectations and common language. This helps to make our school environment more successful.

We refer to The Baxter 3Rs, following the district behavior matrix. We also use a voice levels system so everyone has a common reference point.

**Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Build Relationships**



PTO

Our next PTO meeting is February 13, from 1:30-2:30 in the large conference room here at Baxter School. Please join us if the meeting fits into your schedule. Also, please note that our March PTO meeting is not the second Tuesday (that falls during spring break) but instead is the first Tuesday. So, that meeting will be March 5th.

Attendance

We encourage parents/guardians to report absences online, for both prior and future absences. Parents/guardians can access attendance reporting through Skyward via the website, or, through the Skyward mobile app. To learn more about how to enter absences online, click here: [Family Access Attendance](#) Once attendance information has been submitted, please click 'save'. After you click 'save', a confirmation message will be sent to the parent/guardian email.

If you are calling Trisia in the front office regarding attendance and do not get an answer, please leave a voicemail with your child's name and the attendance information. Her voicemail messages go right to her email, so she will readily get that information and then she will enter the absence into Skyward.

End of the Day Pick Up or Changes

End of the day pick up information can be sent via Class DoJo to your child's homeroom teacher. Other changes regarding end of the day plans, such as ride the bus instead of getting picked up, etc., should also be sent to the homeroom teacher via Class DoJo.

We ask all people who are picking up at the end of the day to wait in the pick up line and not walk up to the front entrance for pick up. Even with our high numbers of pick ups, we are done between 3:05 and 3:10 on most days. Remember, we do not begin loading students until after the school day ends at 2:45.

Occasionally, a student has an appointment at the end of the day. In those rare instances, the guardian should call Trisia in the front office to explain the situation and that a pick up for an appointment is needed near the end of the day. We ask that all other people remain in the pick up line. For safe and secure pick up procedures, we cannot have people just walking up to the front doors to ask to pick up at the end of the day, because with the number of families who pick up, this would create chaos.

Awards

Trimester Two Student of the Trimester Awards will be held Thursday, February 29 at 8:45. Staff members will select just one student this trimester for this honored award (three total for the year). Those families will receive an invitation in the mail around February 15th and will be invited to attend the awards celebration.

Dates to Remember

January 18: Family Fun Night

January 25: Fun Run Kick-off (PTO Fund Raising Event - The Big One!)

January 26: Book Buddy Meeting Day

January 26: Together We Grow Shirt Day

February 2: Fun Run

February 8: Author Visit: Kevin Lovegreen

February 13: PTO Meeting

February 29: Last Day of Trimester Two

February 29: Student of the Trimester Awards

March 1: In-service Day / No School

March 11-15: Spring Break

Volunteer

Fouth Grade is looking for volunteers.

Are you wanting to come into the school? Are you willing to share your passion with students? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you! Click the attachment and fill out the google form if you are interested. Some different hobbies we are looking for but not limited to are:

Knitting (finger), Wood Carving, Bee Keeping, Maple Sugaring, Archery, Yoga, Jewelry Making, Photography, Pottery, Glass blowing
Guitar/Music, Baking, Art, Gardening, Hiking, Fishing, Nails, Pizza making, Slacklining, Snowshoeing, ec.

We can't wait to have people from the community in our school!

All volunteers need to be on the preapproved volunteer list and the application and guidelines can be found on the District website under Community Education/Volunteering.

Lost and Found

A pile of items has built up on the Lost & Found rack. There are many sweatshirts, jackets, water bottles, and more.

Please stop in to look through the items if your child is missing something. These items will be donated to a local charity as they build up, so please stop in and take a look.

Dropping Off Items During the Day

If you need to drop off a forgotten lunch, snow boots, a classroom treat, or anything else during the school day, our process is that you bring it to the front office and leave it there for school staff to deliver. Unlike volunteering, which has you staying in the classroom for a planned event, dropping off items tends to be much more disruptive to the classroom and learning environment as teachers have to stop what they are doing to connect with whoever is showing up at the classroom and find out what is needed. For this reason, our process for dropping off items is that these get left in the office for school staff to deliver. We deliver these in a timely manner and with little to no disruption to the classroom.