



Niobrara Public School

February 2017

Winter weather has arrived and ensuring students are safe regardless of the situation is important. If you have a student that drives to school, please help them ensure they are prepared for any of the winter weather pitfalls that could happen. Do they have a blanket or other items that will help them stay warm until help arrives if they would break down? Is there a supply of items they can use to dig out or get better grip on their tires if they would happen upon ice or snow drifts? These are just a few important conversations to have with your children prior to sending them to school in a vehicle.

Winter attire is another reminder. When students are traveling in the winter months, keeping them safe from unfortunate bus or vehicle breakdowns by dressing and preparing for the worst is necessary. Students should have coats, gloves, hats and boots when possible. It is cold and if a vehicle breaks down, it gets cold inside the vehicle very fast. Be prepared!

Parents' Night

On Tuesday, February 7th, we will be honoring cheerleaders, drill team members, wrestlers, basketball players, student managers, coaches/sponsors, and parents at the basketball game vs. West Holt. Please come support our Cougars and honor the parents of these fine young men and women!

Dates to Note

Jan 28 - Feb 4 NVC BB

1 - JH BB vs. Wausa @ Niobrara

2 - NVC Wrestling @ Neligh/Oakdale

3 - Wrestling @ Pender

4 - Speech Invite @ West Holt; NVC BB Consolations & Finals @ Niobrara

7 - JV/V G/B BB vs. West Holt @ Niobrara; Parents' Night

8 - NVC Industrial Technology Contest

9 - Parent Teacher Conferences; No School Students

10 - G/B JH/JV/V BB vs. Boyd Co. @ Spencer; District Wrestling ; Speech Invite Wakefield

11 - Speech Invite @ Wausa

13 - Girls BB Sub-districts @ O'Neill

15 - Local Spelling Bee

16-18 - State Wrestling @ Omaha

17th - 8th Grade Career Day; JV/V Boys BB vs. Neligh/Oakdale @ Niobrara

18 - Speech Invite @ Crofton; Winter Formal @ Niobrara

20 - Boys BB Sub-districts

22 - Knox Co. Spelling Bee

23 - Lifetouch Pictures

25 - NECC Career Day 6th grade

24 - Girls BB District Finals; NO SCHOOL

25 - Speech Invite @ Pope John

27 - NVC Speech @ Ewing

Attendance and Tardiness are the responsibilities of both the student and the parent. Research proves that good attendance at school is a success signal for adult life. Share with your child the importance of being in school and doing your best. Please ensure your child has plenty of rest and is keeping up on their school work. Together the school and family connection will make a difference in their future.

Pie in the Face for the March of Dimes

Who would you like to see get a pie in the face – Mr. Bos, Mr. Parks, Mrs. Hanzlik, or Mrs. DeKay? Vote by placing your spare change in the jars by the office. The person that has the most money in their jar will get a pie in their face on February 14th. All proceeds go to the March of Dimes. This activity is being sponsored by the FBLA.

Facts about the March of Dimes:

The March of Dimes is the leading nonprofit organization for pregnancy and baby health.

The March of Dimes was founded in 1938 by Franklin D. Roosevelt, but was originally known as the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The March of Dimes mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality.

Each day, babies are born fighting for their lives and every day, the March of Dimes help them win.

More than half a million babies are born prematurely in the United States each year. With 1 in 8 babies born too soon, our country lags behind many other developed nations.

Premature birth is the No. 1 cause of death during the first month of life. Even babies born just a few weeks too soon can face serious health challenges and are at risk for lifelong disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, lung problems, and vision and hearing loss.

Most premature babies are born between 34 and 36 weeks of pregnancy. Survival is possible for babies born as early as 23 to 26 weeks.

Mom's health is the best indicator of her baby's health. Early and regular prenatal care is very important to monitor mom and baby to identify problems before they become serious.

February Birthdays



3	<i>Amaryah Block</i>
5	<i>Josue Rodriguez</i>
7	<i>Rowdy Nielsen</i>
8	<i>Melody Bonham</i>
9	<i>Danielle O'Bryan</i>
11	<i>Emily Parks</i>
12	<i>Christopher Camey</i>
16	<i>Jaxton Saul</i>
17	<i>Karissa Kurpgeweit</i>
20	<i>Morrison Klug</i>
22	<i>Brock Swanson; Audrey Niehm</i>
25	<i>Casey Freiburghouse</i>
26	<i>Taylen Stark</i>
27	<i>Camden Eisenhauer</i>
	<i>Abby & Brooke Swanson</i>
28	<i>Kobe Keo</i>

The **First Graders** have been so busy learning. We have finished our Life Science Unit and we learned about Living and Nonliving, Habitats, Plants and Animals, Life Cycles, and Food Chains. We are now starting our Earth Science Unit. In Math we have covered so much with our Saxon Math strategies like Adding and Subtracting 0, 1, 2, and Doubles, and Doubles plus one, even and odd numbers, counting by 2, 5, 10's, more and less, counting pennies and dimes, and so much more. In reading the students are learning so many words while learning phonetic skills to improve their fluency and comprehension. Keep up the reading and math at home also. Congratulations to Keely, our 100 AR book reader!

Mrs. Eisenhauer

News from the Superintendent

Standard Response Protocol

Recently the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), under the direction of Joleen Palmer, State Safety Director, has begun implementation of the statewide Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Part of the NDE plan is to have a Nebraska State Patrol Officer visit each school for a minimum of 6 hours to observe and take note of the various safety and security measures implemented in each school district. Once that information is collected NDE will offer districts with professional development to help in their areas of concern.

Niobrara Public School is committed to the safety and security of the students and staff who attend our school. Recently, the Niobrara Safety Committee met to discuss the roll out of our new signage and resources for a safe and secure facility. Doug Salmen, Police; Sharon Scott, EMT; Ron Atkins, EMT/Fire; Steve Hrbek, Fire; Dave Stout, Maintenance; Wanda DeKay, Teacher; Chelsey Chohon, School Nurse; Angie Guenther, Principal; Margaret Sandoz, Superintendent serve on the School Safety Committee. Members of the Safety Committee attended an introductory informational meeting the end of October and the information has been shared at recent school board meetings. During the second week of January the staff was presented the Standard Response Protocol and soon the students will become informed as well.

During a recent January 12, 2017 safety meeting the team discussed the rollout of the SRP across the State of Nebraska and the importance of all agencies involved in the community to provide support and services to understand the same language. As parents, community members and business people become familiar with the new signage and terminology, this will help everyone better understand the purpose and expectations of our facility during each of our possible responses. Take some time to look over the flyer in this month's newsletter and know that we are in the process of updating, educating, and informing all stakeholders about our new Standard Response Protocols.

Flu Season is here so I thought I would send out a reminder of our school sickness guidelines and some general information on Influenza.

Influenza A and B viruses both cause the illness we recognize as the flu with fever, headache, dry cough, fatigue, muscle aches, sore throat and a runny or stuffy nose. However, the illness caused by the influenza type A virus is usually more severe than that caused by influenza type B. The Flu Shot or Influenza Vaccine will help prevent Influenza but you can also still get it or it may be not as severe. Influenza symptoms can last up to 7 days.

Another virus is also very prominent this year called norovirus or the "winter vomiting disease". This usually lasts 24-48 and includes vomiting and diarrhea and is not related in Influenza. It is however very, very contagious and has caused some major outbreaks throughout the U.S. It is very hard to stop once it starts to spread and with both Norovirus and Influenza it is important to wash hands with hot soapy water and to remember to scrub under nails and in between fingers for at least 1 minute.

School Guidelines include:

A student is sent home with a fever 100.5 or higher, vomiting, or diarrhea, needs to stay home until they are fever free and free from vomiting and diarrhea for 24hours.

If your child has been sick at home, do not send to school until they have been fever free for 24hours without taking fever reducing medicines (Tylenol or Ibuprofen) and have not had vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours.

Please remember to keep the Office Staff updated on student illness so that we can track the number of kids out ill and tell us the symptoms they have or the diagnosis the Doctor gave them.

Any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call me or the school!!
Nurse Chelsey

Flowers for Valentines

The Honor Society is selling carnations for Valentine's Day. The carnations are \$2.25 each. They will be delivered on February 14th. Please order your carnations by February 8th. Contact an Honor Society member (Ashley Guenther, Nate Sandoz, Shania RedOwl, Bryce Stark, Brooklyn Denny, Genesis Saul, Jeanene Henry, Dakota Crosley, Abbigail Holz, Abby Swanson, Brooke Swanson) or their advisor (Tami Heiser) if you would like to place an order. The money will be used for an educational outing this spring. Thanks in advance for your support!