



# Tonasket Elementary

**Focused on Learning and Linking Learning to Life.**

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Dear TES Families,

It is hard to believe we are already at the end of February! I know students and staff alike are looking forward to the month of March with hopes of warmer weather just around the corner.

We have a variety of ways for families to get involved this month, beginning with **First Friday Coffee at 8:40 AM on March 6th**. I truly enjoy this time to visit with parents, and often walk away with great ideas for the betterment of our school.

Another event that you won't want to miss is the **Suessapalooza Winter Carnival!** Our PTO members have been hard at work planning for this fun, family friendly activity. It will take place the evening of March 6th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

The first full week in March will also be an opportunity for us to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and our collective love of reading. Each day that week we have a fun activity planned. Refer to the calendar below for details.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled on March 12th and 13th.** Make sure to stop in and sign up for your conferences. Sign up sheets will be posted through Wednesday, March 4th.

Finally, please make sure to mark your calendars for **Grandparent's/Friends Day, which is scheduled on April 3rd**. Students love when people they care about come to school to spend time with them and see all of the great things going on here at Tonasket Elementary!

As always, if you have questions, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to stop by and visit, call me at (509) 486-4933 or contact me by email at [lmartin@tonasket.wednet.edu](mailto:lmartin@tonasket.wednet.edu).

Warmly, Lilly Martin

**The Scholastic Book Fair is coming!!!** The book fair is scheduled for March March 30<sup>th</sup> -April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Hours are Monday through Friday 8am -4pm and Thursday night until 7pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the elementary office at 486-4933.

## ★★★★PTO NEWS★★★★

***The carnival is back!*** Mark your calendars for Friday March 6th, from 5:30 to 7:30. We have added exciting new games and activities. it's going to be a blast! The theme is Dr. Seuss and there is a prize for best costume so come dressed as your favorite character. We need more volunteers to make this a success so if you would like to help we would certainly appreciate it. There is a sign-up sheet in the elementary office.

Grandparents day is coming! Friday April 3rd. The PTO will be *selling flowers* once again so your little one can give their grandparents or special person a special gift. There will be more info on that coming very soon on our facebook page and in backpacks. Our meetings are always the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. love to see you there.

### **Migrant News**

The last Migrant meeting was a great success! We were all very excited to learn new ways to play games we already knew, like dominos and trompos. We were pleased to have Mr. Donald Bender as our guest exhibitor here in Tonasket during our Monthly Migrant Meeting. We were very happy to see all the families that made the decision to show their support to their children by joining us that wonderful night. We also want to thank the presence of families from other School Districts.

We are looking forward to another fantastic meeting on **March 18, 2020 at the Elementary School Commons at 5:30pm.** This is a meeting that nobody can miss out on. There are resources in our community that are very valuable. Sometimes because we are not aware of them, we do not access them. These resources could be of much benefit to some of our needs. **Come and find out about the resources that are available in our rural area.** The presenters will bring with them promotional items, those will be for you so please visit all the stations and take the information and those promotional items with you.

By the way, remember we will have a delicious dinner, prepared especially for you and your family. Hope to see you there!!!

### **Grandparents/Family and Friends Day**

Grandparents Day is coming up soon - **April 3rd.** If you don't have a grandparent close by, don't let that stop you from bringing a grand friend - someone special, to school with you. Watch for a schedule!



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**Footwear Reminder** as the weather warms up. Please ensure that your student does not wear flip flops/open toed strappy sandals to school. *These often slip off or break during play, sometimes causing injury to the student.* We often see sprained ankles, stubbed/bleeding toes, lacerations and sore heels from flip flops/open sandals. Wearing closed shoes will provide better protection for your child's feet. Flip flops and open shoes also have a tendency to break at school which will result in a phone call home to parents to bring in alternate footwear.



# March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Conference Sign Ups in the Entryway			PTO Mtg. 6pm	First Friday Coffee 8:40am  Seussapalooza Winter Carnival 5:30-7:30pm	
	Read Across America Week – See below for details for each day!					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Daylight Savings – Spring Forward	Classified Appreciation Week			No School – Parent Teacher Conferences 11:00am-6:15pm	No School – Parent Teacher Conferences 8:45am-3:15pm	
			Early Release 12:25pm			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	No School	St. Patrick's Day	Monthly Migrant Mtg. 5:30pm		GR4 Math Is Cool Competition	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Scripps Regional Spelling Bee	Early Release Day 12:25pm			
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
	Scholastic Book Fair 8:00am-4:00pm Monday-Wednesday, 8:00am-7:00pm Thursday					
					Grandparent's Day	

## Dates to Remember

Feb. 26-March 4 Sign up for Conferences  
 March 2-6th Read Across America Week  
 March 5th PTO Meeting 6pm  
 March 6th First Friday Coffee 8:40am  
 March 6th Seussapalooza Winter Carnival 5:30-7:30pm  
 March 8th Daylight Savings – Spring Forward  
 March 9th-13th Classified Appreciation Week  
 March 11th Early Release 12:25pm  
 March 12-13th No School Parent Teacher Conferences  
 March 16th No School  
 March 18th Monthly Migrant Meeting 5:30pm  
 March 25th Early Release 12:25pm  
 March 30th-April 3rd Scholastic Book Fair 8-4pm  
 April 3rd Grandparents Day  
 April 6th-10th Spring Break- No School

## Anoten en sus Calendarios

18-25 de Febrero sign up with martha  
 2-6 de Marzo Leer Toda la Semana de Estados Unidos  
 5 de Marzo Junta de PTO 6pm  
 6 de Marzo Primer Viernes Café 8:40am  
 6 de Marzo Carnaval de Invierno 5:30-7:30pm  
 8 de Marzo Cambio de tiempo  
 9-13 de Marzo Semana de Apreciacion clasificada  
 11 de Marzo Salida Temprana 12:25pm  
 12-13 de Marzo No escuela – los conferencias  
 16 de Marzo No escuela  
 18 de Marzo Reunión Mensual Para Padres 5:30pm  
 25 de Marzo Salida Temprana 12:25pm  
 30 de Marzo a 3 de April Feria Escolar de Libros 8am-4pm  
 4 de Abril Día de los Abuelos  
 6-10 de Abril Vacaciones de Primavera



# Read Across America Spirit Week

In honor of one of our favorite authors, we are going to have a Dr. Seuss Spirit week to celebrate reading! Each day will coordinate with one of our favorite Dr. Seuss books.

- Monday**    ~~~    Cat in the Hat    ~~~    Dress in Red, White, & Black
- Tuesday**    ~~~    Fox in Sox    ~~~    Wear your wacky socks today!
- Wednesday**    ~~~    Green Eggs & Ham    ~~~    Dress in Green
- Thursday**    ~~~    One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish    ~~~    Dress in red and blue
- Friday**    ~~~    Horton Hears a Who    ~~~    Cozy up with a good book and wear your P.J.s

## Notes from Our School Psychologist

So anyway.....

What an amazing weekend....huh. Little sunshine, got to go for a run, some yard work, spring is right around the corner. OK, fine...it snowed. But not so much. Either way, warmer weather is near.

I want, rather need to take a moment and address a burning issue. This month I have probably been in a dozen (or more) meetings with parents where the question comes up; "What can we do at home?" or "Can you send home some more homework?"

On this issue, there are a couple of things I need to address. First, what an amazing group of parents I have the privilege to work with. Like you folks don't have enough to do....really? Those of us on this side of the education equation really, really appreciate you and your willingness to support our efforts.

Couple other thoughts. We need to be mindful that by 3:15 when the school bus pulls out, your kids have had a long day. In addition to their regular classroom work, most of our struggling kids have had intervention time with a teacher specifically focused on that which is most difficult for them. That said, we as adults need to be open to the idea that perhaps they have had enough heavy thinking for one day. This of course changes as kids age. But particularly at the elementary level, there is a pretty solid point of "done".

Am I suggesting that you lock up the books before the kids get home; heavens no. I am suggesting that whatever academic tasks you decide to undertake at home are secondary to the fun you have doing them. Doing flashcards until tempers flare or someone is in tears: not worth it. Enjoying a couple of books before bed, always a good idea. PLAYING multiplication trivia or word search (notice the word "playing"), great. My point, you have so little time to just enjoy your children, spending even so much as a minute of it arguing over school work....is this really a battle we want to fight?

I also want to share that any work that kids are expected to do at home really needs to be at the independent level. If you have to reteach or explain for the third time how to do something, we have a disconnect somewhere. Is 20 minutes reading each evening reasonable? Depending on the age / grade, you bet. Is trying to do math that your child doesn't understand for an hour a good idea....NO.

My point, especially at the elementary level, educational activities at home really **should not** be major extension of the school day. It's long enough as it is. If you really want to do something along that line, just make sure everyone has a smile and enjoys doing it. Let's face it, the times when "homework" is a necessity will be here soon enough. Let's not rush it.

As always, give me a scream if I can be of service.

Jim Huckaby  
School Psychologist

# ***2020-21 Kindergarten Information***

## **Kindergarten English Information Night**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2020 Informational Meeting**

**6:00 pm in the Elementary School Library**

**Topics:**

**Meet and Greet School Staff**

**Kindergarten Readiness**

**Sign up for registration times**

**Question and Answer time with the Kindergarten Staff**

**Childcare will be provided**

## **Registration Day @ Tonasket School District office**

**Thursday, April 23, 2020 and Friday, April 24, 2020**

**9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Complete Online Registration**

**Meet with the Nurse**

If you miss these dates, please come in to the office during regular hours to register your child.

Office hours 8:00 to 4:00. Phone 509 486-4933

**Your child must be 5 years of age on or before August 31, 2020**