

St. Francis Elementary

December 2021



3rd grade class working on Starry Night Van Gogh pictures



We had the privilege of hosting 25 veterans for a meal and short program on Veterans Day. We couldn't be more thankful for their bravery and service to our country!

A note from the Principal



Where does the time go? It's hard to believe that December is already here. Only a couple short weeks until we have another break. No doubt that students are starting December "Beginning with the End in Mind" --- as they anxiously await winter break.

As students wrap-up their first semester of learning, we continue to remind them to "Put First Things First," and be responsible for working hard and giving their best efforts.

Our annual PTO Christmas Tea will be held on Monday, December 20. It is always a fun time to see all the students and staff wearing their "Christmas best" for the occasion. Thank you PTO for hosting this time for fun and friendship.

I encourage you all to "Put First Things First." Spend quality time with your families by reading, talking, and simply connecting. I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2022!

~Miss Raile




Remind is the easiest way for families to receive up-to-date information from the school and teachers. Join today, if you haven't already!




SCAN ME





Q: Where does a snowman keep his money?

A: In a snowbank!



Q: What does an elf study in school?

A: The elfabet

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Occasionally, the weather dictates the school's schedule. In that event, many of the school's operations are affected causing logistical challenges for parents, students, and school staff. Over the years, the school has adopted the use of various media to inform parents and students of these changes.

If any change is made to the schedule of the school day or to events that had been scheduled for that day, the school will immediately publicize those changes. Parents will be officially notified through the following media.

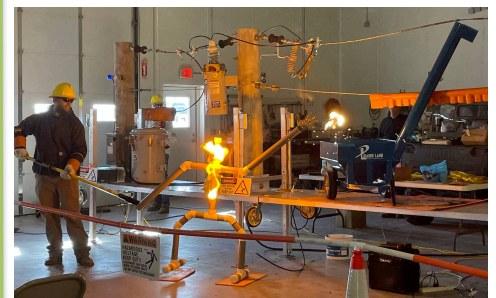
- REMIND
- Facebook
- Area TV and radio stations



The winter months are among us. Please be sure students are dressed appropriately. We will attempt to go outside for recess daily. This means your children need to wear warm coats, have hats and gloves, and if needed, snow boots. Please regularly check the weather and send your children dressed appropriately. Thank you!



Prairieland presented to all our students on electrical safety. We learned how electricity travels and, most importantly, learned how to be safe around electricity. Thank you Prairieland!



Due to allergies, please do not bring nuts/peanuts (or any foods that contain them) into the USD 297 schools.



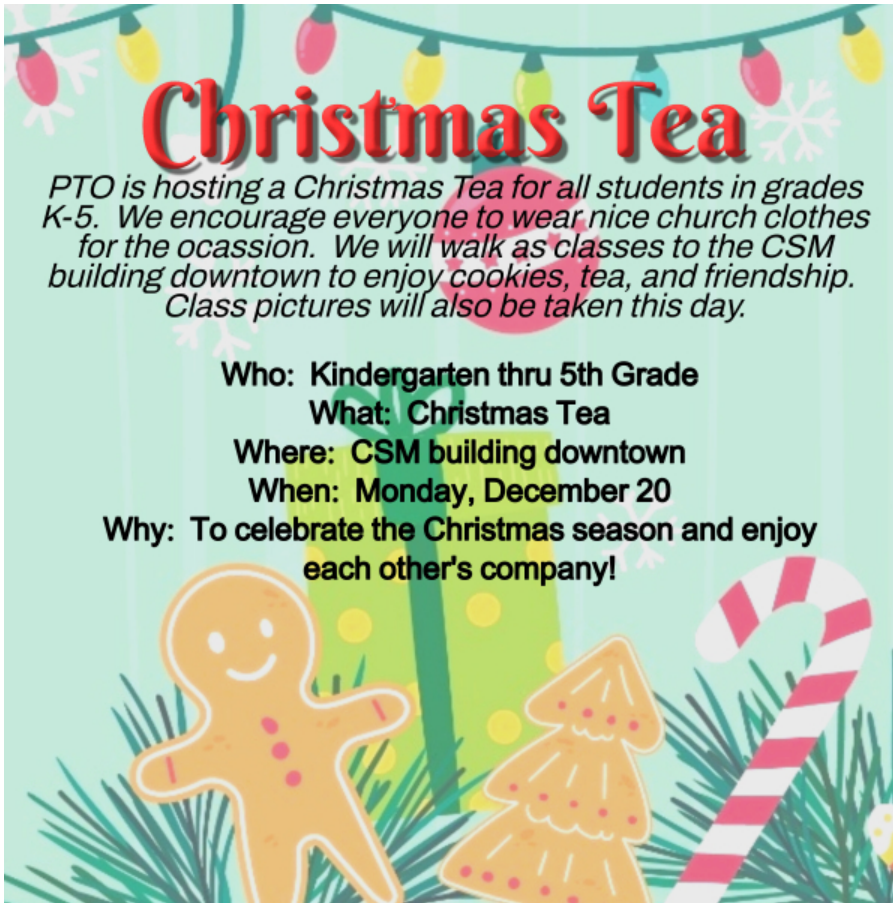


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SCAN ME

USD 297 St. Francis Elementary





Christmas Tea

PTO is hosting a Christmas Tea for all students in grades K-5. We encourage everyone to wear nice church clothes for the occasion. We will walk as classes to the CSM building downtown to enjoy cookies, tea, and friendship. Class pictures will also be taken this day.

Who: Kindergarten thru 5th Grade
What: Christmas Tea
Where: CSM building downtown
When: Monday, December 20
Why: To celebrate the Christmas season and enjoy each other's company!

All K-5 students will be completing Fastbridge benchmark testing (ELA and Math) during the month of December. We are very anxious to see the growth that our students have made since the beginning of the school year. These are very important assessments, which help the school staff to decipher what your student(s) need to achieve. Fastbridge reports will be sent home with your child's report card when school resumes in January.



The holiday season is a wonderful time of year, but it is also one of the busiest times of year. This can lead to extra stress for parents, teachers, and students. Consider the following tips to help your child (and your family) fully enjoy the holidays.

- 1. Maintain a consistent schedule for your child** (bed time, daily routines, etc). If your holiday plans are going to alter your routine, prepare your child by telling him/her ahead of time.
- 2. Rest!** Sleep is so important to a child's ability to focus, learn, and manage emotions. If holiday plans are leading to late nights, consider encouraging a nap or "down time" for your child before the event.
- 3. Nourish your child's body.** The holiday season is full of wonderful treats. However, too much junk food can lead to struggles with focusing, energy levels, and more. Make sure your child is getting plenty of nourishing foods (fruits, veggies, whole grains, protein, etc).
- 4. Hydrate!** Having enough water allows people to manage emotions, focus, and perform to their fullest. Encourage your child to drink from their water bottle often.

Happy Holidays!
Mrs. Wieggers



Christmas Pajama Day!

December 21



Ms. Loretta will be retiring this month. Thank you for your service and, most importantly, thank you for the wonderful meals you served! Your smile, laughter, and kind heart will definitely be missed! We wish you the best!

Christmas Food Drive

Make it a Merry Christmas for everyone! We would like to invite all grades to donate one item this season for the food pantry. Let's see how much the grades can donate! Thank you for your support!

- Kindergarten: Canned vegetables
- 1st Grade: Canned fruit
- 2nd Grade: Pasta
- 3rd Grade: Cereal
- 4th Grade: Crackers
- 5th Grade: Canned soup

St. Francis Elementary Gives Back

December 16

Early Dismissal

School will dismiss at 12:00. Lunch will be served. Buses will run at noon.





BASKETBALL Tournament



THROUGHOUT THE 1ST SEMESTER, THESE STUDENTS EARNED A POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL FOR ACCOMPLISHING A GOAL SPECIFIC TO THEM! WE ARE SUPER PROUD OF YOU!



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 2-hour late start 	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 School Dismisses @ 12:00 	17	18
19	20 PTO Christmas Tea 	21 School dismisses at 1:00 	22 NO SCHOOL	23 NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL 	25
26	27 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	30 NO SCHOOL	31	SCHOOL WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 5

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Happy New Year