Dear Parents and Guardians,

It’s the most wonderful time of the year! We’re concluding the exciting year of 2022 and welcoming a new year. What better way to end the year than bringing families together to celebrate the community we share. We’ve had a number of amazing family events throughout this school year that just make me so honored to be part of the Garfield community. Our Holiday Meals and Veteran’s Day Celebrations were truly a joy in which to participate. I hope you all know the gratitude that we have here as a team towards you and your family for all that you do! I want to personally thank all of you who attended these events, there was an amazing turn out.

As our minds shift towards holiday cheer and happiness, I encourage you to share that happiness and gratitude with your child’s classroom teacher. Cool 94.3 is celebrating local teachers all year long and is asking for nominations for a teacher of the month. If you are interested, please see this link and fill out a nomination form telling why your teacher is great!

With the winter weather, comes the cold and flu season as well. Please be sure to remind your little ones to practice careful hand washing and to not share water bottles, etc. If your child is sick, please have them stay home until they are symptom free for 24 hours. We want to try hard to keep illness to a minimum!

One final note, while the Holiday Season is a time of jubilation and celebration, it can also be a time of challenge. If you or any family you know is having a difficult time providing winter gear, toys, or food, please contact your child’s teacher or building social worker for support and resources.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about anything, please feel free to reach out to me at your convenience via email or phone at 320-762-3350, ext. 4926.

Troy Wunderlich, Principal
Upcoming Events:

December Events:
December 15: Holiday meal  
December 21: Gr. K-2 will be seeing ‘Puss and Boots’ at the Sauk Centre theatre  
December 22: Gr. 3-5 will be skiing at Andes Tower Hills  
December 23 - January 2: No School

January Events:
January 3: School resumes  
January 9 - January 13: Roller skating unit at school  
January 16: No School PreK-12, Teacher workday

** mark your calendar: The GMC Showcase will be held on May 11th at the AAHS Performing Arts Center
Important Information:

Winter Gear:
The weather is getting colder. Please send snow pants, coat, hat and
gloves with your child each day - or to keep in his/her locker. As it is
Minnesota, we never know what the weather will be on each given day.
We want to keep our students warm while they play outside for recess.

PAC:
We would like to take this time to thank our PAC for supporting our
students in their activities such as skiing, going to a movie, roller skating,
etc. - THANK YOU! You are appreciated!
We also want to take this time to send a special THANK YOU to them for purchasing snow shoes for
our students to wear during recess and when they are outside playing.

Cardinal Cards:
If students have lost either their Cardinal Card for the bus or breakfast/lunch, there is a $5
replacement fee. You will receive an email or phone call from the office if your child's card has been lost
and needs to be replaced. You can send the check or money with your child or drop it off in the office. Thank you.

**Internet Safety:**

**Alexandria Public Schools Provide Internet Safety Resource for Parents.** APS is partnering with Linewize, a provider of online safety products and education, to create an educational hub for parents and teachers. The hub ([linked here](#)) includes articles, videos, courses, and more to ensure parents know how to keep kids safe online. Parents can also find advice on the latest apps and games and getting help with social media incidents. Check out this excellent resource!

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**Art Contest:**

We have some really exciting news! Alexandria elementary students had the opportunity to be entered into a curated art contest and show. The art was chosen by the design department at Alexandria Technical and Community College.

Below is a list of our Garfield winners! They will have their artwork featured at the Tech College from **December 5th through January 13th** in Gallery 300. CONGRATULATIONS to our students - this is a big deal for them!

1st grade: Hunter S, Akeley K, Tenley V, and Braelyn M
2nd grade: Victoria R and Beckett G
3rd grade: Riley M, Kajsa S, and Ingrid R.
4th grade: Ryker Y and Annabella B
5th grade: Autumn H, Lane N and Betsy R