



Welcome Back to School!

I hope that you all have enjoyed yourselves and your children throughout the holiday. It is great to see the return of more light each day and some snow! I wanted to fill you all in with the details for over the next few weeks, as we get started back to school.

Winter Sports Programs: These programs begin on Friday, January 12th and will continue through the 10th of February. Students, who are participating in the ski and snowboard programs need to be ready to board the bus at 8:00, **please arrive by 7:55**. Students participating in gymnastics or ice skating may arrive at school at our regularly scheduled time for a 9am departure. ***Please inform the office one day prior if you plan to transport your child to his or her sports program, your timely and direct communication regarding attendance and transportation supports a well-organized and smooth running program.*** Your child will bring home an information sheet for his or her Winter Sports Program, please read it thoroughly so that your child is ready for the first day of Winter Sports this Friday, January 12!

First Ski/Snowboard Day Only (January 12th): In order to set up the program and not lose ski time for the students we will be meeting at Anansi at 7:25 and leaving at 7:30am for the first bus. **All students who plan to use rental gear for the ski/snowboard program need to be on this first bus.** We will have a second bus meeting at Anansi at 7:55am and leaving at 8am. This bus will be for students who have their own gear and do not need any rental equipment. ***All students are required to ride the bus the first week because the TSV team will be providing our safety talk while we are still on the bus! No students may ride with a parent for the first ski week, no exceptions!***

Lunch on Fridays During the Winter Sports Program: All students who are participating in gymnastics, skating, or dance may order school lunch on Fridays. Please be sure to pre-order your school lunch as you always do, unless your child buys lunch every day. All students enrolled in skiing/snowboarding at TSV will need to bring a home lunch. All students need to bring a snack from home and a water bottle on Fridays since all students will be at their sport activity at the morning snack time.

Report Cards: You will receive your child's first semester report card on the 16th of January this month, please pick it up in your child's communication envelope on Tuesday, after MLK day.

Prepare for Snowy Days: Just in case we get some snow...Our school is required to follow the Taos Municipal Schools decisions regarding school closures and delays. Please listen to KTAO radio at 101.9 on the FM dial for school closure and delay announcements. In addition, you will receive a "robo-call" from the school regarding school closures and delays.

Dress for Child for Winter Weather: Please send your child with a winter coat, hat, and gloves every day in the wintertime! If it snowy or wet, please send your child in boots, and then have indoor shoes or slippers available. In the event it snows, please have your child bring snow pants so that his or her indoor clothing stays dry. Outdoor recesses are a lot more fun when you are dressed appropriately for the weather!

Indoor Shoes or Slippers: Please send your child kindergarten through 8th grade with a pair of slippers or inside shoes that he or she can wear when in doors. Due to the nature of the freezing, thawing, wet, snowy, and/or muddy days, it preserves our learning environments and their cleanliness to have the students have a second option in foot attire that can be kept at school through the winter spring.

Assessments: We completed our MAP assessments with our students prior to the winter break, and in our first week back to school we will conduct our I-Station assessment with all students in grades kindergarten through third. In addition, we will assess students in grades 4 and 5 who are continuing to work on grade level fluency and accuracy benchmarks. You will receive a copy of your child's results from their short cycle assessments along with a letter that informs you as to whether your child is meeting the grade level standards as required by the NM Public Education Department.

Return of "Wednesday Morning Coffee with the Director": Parents, please consider attending a Wednesday morning coffee session, to provide your input and feedback and to learn about policies and practices of the school. Our topics for January include January 10th Short Cycle Assessments, January 17th: Report Cards, January 24th: Legislative Issues, and January 31st Anansi Comprehensive Health Plan. We will meet in the cafeteria from 8:30-9am.

Free Classes for Families with Children Ages 0-8: The Holy Cross Hospital, Children's Trust Fund, and Pull Together.org are sponsoring a "Circle of Security" Class for parents. The class will take place at the Anansi Charter School from 5:30-7pm beginning January 17th through March 7th, for more information please call Paula at 751-8904. There will be childcare and snacks for all attending families. See the attached flyer for more details.

Dates to Keep in Mind This Month: Please consider attending a Governance Council meeting or a Friends of Anansi Charter School meeting, we are always interested in parental input and are currently seeking new members for the Friends of the Anansi Charter School. These groups support the continued growth and educational programs of the schools. We would love to see more parents attend and get involved!

Monday, January 8th: **No School due to teacher in-service day for report card writing**

Tuesday, January 9th: First day back to school, turn in any payments and enrollment forms for winter sports if you have not

Wednesday, January 10th: Coffee with the Director, 8:30-9 Short Cycle Assessments

Thursday, January 11: Turn in your bus permission slip for Winter Sports Programs

Friday, January 12th: First Winter Sports Day, Ski Program: Kids who rent gear leave Anansi at 7:30am, Kids with own gear leave at Anansi at 8am (bring your own snacks, lunch water bottle), Gymnastics & Skaters leave Anansi at 9am bring your own l, snacks, & water bottle

Monday, January 15: No School MLK Day

Tuesday, January 16: Report Cards Distributed

Wednesday, January 17: Coffee with the Director, Report Cards, 8:30-9

Wednesday, January 17: Governance Council Meeting, 5:30pm, Circle of Security Class begins

January 19th-February 9th: Winter Sports Programs **every Friday**, bring your own morning snacks on Fridays during winter sports programs (& your own lunch for ski program)

Monday, January 16: No School, Martin Luther King Day Observed

Tuesday, January 17: Friends of Anansi Charter School Meeting, 1:30pm, please ask for details if you wish to attend

Wednesday, January 24: Coffee with the Director, 8:30-9, Legislative Session Charter School Advocacy

Wednesday, January 31: Coffee with the Director, 8:30-9, Comprehensive Health & Wellness Plan

I look forward to starting the new semester and working with your children again. Let's work together to be collaborative, communicative, and supportive of one another. My goal is to provide a fulfilling, enjoyable, and successful semester for each student and the school community. Look forward to seeing you!

All the best,
Michele