

ARROWHEAD CHRONICLES

September 2018



"Building Knowledge, Character & Community in Each Child"

Arrowhead Elementary
School
2510 38th St. West
Billings, MT 59102
406.281.6201

September Events

- 6th-Open House, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 19th-Lifetouch Picture Day
- 22nd-Saturday Live!

Arrowhead Enrollment 2018:

K - 63	1st - 63
2nd - 66	3rd - 74
4th - 79	5th - 100

Total = 445 (7 more than last year in August)

Arrowhead Apparel ordering will be coming soon! Stay tuned!

Principal's Message

Dear Arrowhead Families,

The new school year is off and running. If you are a new family to Arrowhead, the staff, PTA, and I welcome you. We encourage you to be involved within the school community and PTA helping in small or large ways.

New faces around Arrowhead include:

- Kindergarten: Mrs. Marci Brown
- Speech Therapist: Mr. Nathan Hickle
- Psychologist: Ms. Brittany Lewno

SIGN UP for Freshschools!! NEW this year, ALL newsletters will be distributed via FreshSchools and the website.

Instead of paper copies, the Arrowhead Parent-Student Handbook is on the school website, along with the lunch schedule, calendar, PTA info, and all classroom websites/ blogs. I update the website frequently with all the latest news. Check it out at arrowheadelementary.weebly.com.

The "Manners and Respect" program will continue this year at Arrowhead. Every Monday, beginning on September 10, throughout the year during our morning announcements, a new manner of the week will be shared. Hopefully you see the results of this at home.

The Arrowhead Open House is set for Thursday, September 6 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Teachers will share identical information at two separate sessions: 1) at 6:00pm; 2) at

6:30 p.m. Plan on attending one of the sessions that evening to gain knowledge about expectations for your child.

On Monday, September 10 at 9:00 the entire student body will be practicing our "evacuation to an alternate site" drill. We will walk to the Lillis Chapel at St. John's/Mission Ridge which is the site for any emergency if the school needs to be evacuated.

Individual Lifetouch Picture Day will be Wednesday, September 19. Look for forms to be coming home soon.

Kindly,

Mrs. Pam Meier



Coming to Pioneer Park on September 22nd, it's Saturday Live! Join us to celebrate the biggest carnival in the West! The fun begins at 10am and lasts throughout the day until 4pm. We have old-fashioned carnival games, non-stop live entertainment, and delicious food.

Start your day at Daylis Stadium for the Saturday Live 2 Mile Fun Run/Walk at 9:00 am. Same day registration begins at 7:30 am or go online to register at www.efbps.org. There will be lots of fun prizes for all, including a prize to the school with the most participants!

Live entertainment will happen on the main stage all day.

Zoo Montana will showcase some animal friends on stage at 11:30 am. At 12:30 pm students from Senior, Skyview and West dig into pie in the annual pie eating contest. It will be messy, fast, and fun! Rounding out the day at 3pm will be the best kid's rock band in Billings, The ABC Band! Join us to dance in the grass.

The fun never stops with over 70 carnival booths throughout the park. Tickets for Saturday Live will be on sale at each elementary school prior to Saturday Live. This year, pre-event tickets will sell at a special price of 10 for \$4. You can also purchase tickets at the event for \$.50 each.

Don't worry about parking; we have two shuttle buses running to ease the congestion. One shuttle bus runs from the Billings Clinic lot at 9th Avenue and 30th Street (by the Riverstone Billings Inn). An additional shuttle bus runs from the Montana State University Billings parking lot on Rimrock and Virginia Lane. Both shuttle buses run every 15 -20 minutes with drop off/pick up at the Zimmerman Center.

For more information, visit our website at www.efbps.org or call the Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools at 245-4133.



Dogs...

Kids and dogs are like magnets but can lead to safety concerns when brought to the school grounds during drop off and pick up. We have kids allergic to dogs and a few are very scared of dogs. If you bring your dog, please stay at a distance from the school. Thank you.

A Message from the PTA.....



Welcome Back, Arrowhead Families!

We are excited to take on the role as co-presidents this year for the PTA, and want to take just a second to introduce ourselves. My husband and I (Meagen) have four kiddos, Molly is in West High, Liam is at Ben Steele, and two at Arrowhead this year. Tilly is a fourth grader, and Sean is a first grader, and you can usually find me lingering out by the basketball courts before and after school waiting for those two. Lynette and her husband have two beautiful girls, Aubrey at Ben Steele, and Peyton is a fifth grader here at Arrowhead. We love to get to know the families at school, so give us a hello when you see us, and we promise not to immediately attack with upcoming volunteer opportunities.

PTA Notables...

- ❑ We want your first day of school pictures for the Memory Book! Pictures of your kiddos in class, at events, or on the playground that you would like to have considered for the 2018-2019 Memory Book can be emailed to tanyarosebentley@gmail.com. Thanks!
- ❑ PTA Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at Arrowhead. Everyone is welcome!
- ❑ We thank and appreciate our parent volunteers! Your time is important to us and we're grateful. We couldn't do all we do without you!
- ❑ PTA Memberships are \$10, see the form sent home

Sign up for FreshSchools

- ❑ Communication from PTA, teachers, and Mrs. Meier
- ❑ Volunteer opportunities
- ❑ Print a school directory

We already made it through our first big event, and despite the wind, I think a good time was had by all at the ice cream social! Thank you to all the volunteers who kept everything running smoothly.

Wednesday, September 5th will be our first PTA meeting at 8:30 am, we invite everyone to come check out a meeting (little siblings are welcome too) and we can help find just the right fit and volunteer level for you here at school. We will be meeting in the Care room. Teri at the office will point you in the right direction, and we will work hard to keep the meeting to an hour so you can get on with your day. Our meetings will be held the first Wednesday of every month at 8:30, so if you can't make it in September, we will look for you in October!

Thursday September 6th, we will have Open House here at Arrowhead, and you can look for our PTA table in the front where you can get signed up for PTA, get any help with Fresh Schools you may need, and also sign up to be a school sponsor! What's that, you say? Well, only the coolest way to get your kid's name on our school t-shirts! We will have more information and ways to sign up coming home in the Tuesday folders, and we are happy to tell you all about it at Open House as well.

Thanks for helping us start the year off with a fabulous ice cream social, and we look forward to keeping the ball rolling through a busy year here at Arrowhead. We welcome any suggestions or comments, you can reach us at:

Lynette Ryder: lryder@guildmortgage.net (406)698-9648
Meagen Heenan: meagenbh@yahoo.com (406)697-0793

10 Reason to Join the PTA

The Arrowhead PTA is a recognized group of parent and teachers that work together for the benefit of our school. Taking an active role in your child's school is critical to their success. Here are ten reasons why joining PTA will greatly improve your child's education experience:

1. It's good for your child. Research shows that children whose parents are involved in their school make better grades and have fewer disciplinary problems at school. When parents get plugged in at school, their children do better.

2. It's important to the school. PTA provides support to teachers and administrators, and creates a caring and supportive atmosphere in the school. With all of the budget cuts, schools are becoming more and more dependent on parent groups.

3. You'll get connected. There's no better way to know what's going on at the school than to be in the school's PTA. You'll be the first to hear about important decision and changes the school is thinking about making and you will get to know the teachers and administrators on a familiar basis.

4. You'll be part of a fun network. Every PTA function is an opportunity to meet other parents in the same situation as you. You will be connected with a group of parents who share a common goal of improving the school for all of the children.

5. You'll make a difference. By volunteering with the PTA, you'll be able to use your skills for a noble cause - to help create the best educational environment possible for our children.

6. You'll be there. As children get older, many have a desire to be independent. They may pull away, but being in the PTA keeps you involved in their lives without feeling like you're intruding.

7. You'll be a role model. You'll show your children that not only are they important to you, but their education is as well. They'll see you taking a stand to make education better for them, and chances are they'll do the same.

8. You'll help raise necessary funds. The PTA raised funds to provide more educational services for children. Fundraisers remain important to improving the quality of the school overall, and parent groups make them possible.

9. It's flexible. The PTA has progressed to meet the changing needs of parents. There are a variety of small ways parents can help and be involved in PTA depending on your availability.

10. It's for every parent. Your voice and opinion matters! It make a difference when you speak up. Your voice and ideas can help improve the quality of education for your children and their peers.

The more time you take out of your busy day to become involved with your child's education, the better. Being an involved parent can be as simple as helping your child with homework or reading together. You don't have to make PTA a full-time job to make a difference. However, volunteering occasionally and attending school events really matters. Showing your children you value education will teach them to value it as well. The national PTA website is www.pta.org.

Sign Up for FreshSchools

- Communication from PTA, teachers, and Mrs. Meier
- Volunteer opportunities
- Print a school directory

PTA Membership

- \$10 - see form sent home

Little Things Make a BIG Difference!

Did you know there are several little things you can do to help benefit our school? Arrowhead Elementary is proud to be a part of the following programs. Check it out!



AMAZON SMILE: This is a simple and automatic way for you to help support our school every time you order on Amazon.com, at no cost to you! When you shop from the <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0419769> link, Amazon automatically donates 0.5% of your purchase price to our school. Or go to <https://amazon.smile.com> and choose “Arrowhead PTA” from the list of organizations.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION: These are available on so many of the products that you already buy which makes this program a snap! Simply cut out the Box Tops from participating items, collect them, and then bring your collection to school in October so that they can be counted and sent in. Arrowhead will receive \$0.10 for each Box Top collected.



Eagle Eye

The Arrowhead staff is recognizing kids who are being EXTRA kind and helpful to the adults and other students at school. If they are caught going above and beyond with kindness and respect they will be given an “Eagle Eye” card to share with you! Your support with modeling how to be respectful to adults at home makes a difference at school.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Please park along 38th St. or in the baseball field parking lot to drop off and pick up your kids. DO NOT drive or park in the front of the driveway/loop or park in the parking spots in front of the school to wait for your children. Buses and daycare vans use this area and children run in between these vehicles if you are parked in the parking spots. Safety is a concern when these rules aren’t followed. Also, inform anyone who picks up your children of this guideline. Thank you!!



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CROSSWALK SAFETY

Your crossing guard has one main purpose, and that's to get your child(ren) across the street safely. A list of reminders below is to assist the crossing guard, you, and your children to get to school and on their way home safely. Please go over this information with your child. We must work together as a team to keep all children safe.



If your child needs to cross the street to get to or come from school, please use the marked crosswalk area for the safety of your child.

1). Please do not park in the yellow areas near the crosswalk, it will delay the crossing guard from crossing the children. It also interferes with other drivers from seeing the children. Remember they are hidden in your and other drivers cars blind spots.

2). Please do not drop your children off on the street side (drivers side) of your vehicle. Have them leave and enter your vehicle on the curb/sidewalk side, protecting them from oncoming traffic.

3). If you park in the middle of the block, please walk to the crosswalk and don't cross the street in the middle of the block.

4). The crossing guard at Arrowhead School will instruct your child every day, at every shift, to wait at the sidewalk, until she is in the middle of the street, and CALLS your children out, that is safe to cross the street. If your child rushes out before instructed, he or she will likely be sent back to sidewalk for further instruction on safe crossing. (It's important that they wait until called out, as other children will automatically follow the other child into the street) out of impulse. Safety, safety, safety is always first.

September Manners of the Week:

10th: Greet people with a smile
17th: Use please, thank you, and excuse me frequently
24th: Keep hands and feet to self

5). Children should always cross in the crosswalk, between the cones, and in front of the crossing guard, Never behind her.

6). To prevent falls in the street, please walk in the crosswalk. No running.

7). Please expect delayed crossing during winter and hard rain. It takes longer for vehicles to stop and your crossing guard will be making sure all cars are able to stop, all the way down the line....

we don't want the immediate car stopped being hit from behind and pushed through the crosswalk. This can happen even in good weather if a driver is looking at their cell phone, or everywhere but in front of them.

8). As a driver, please do not stop in the middle of the crosswalk. Obey, speed limit, and pedestrian laws, and watch for children for several blocks.

9). Teach your child to look LEFT, RIGHT, AND LEFT again.

And STOP(at the curb) WAIT(for the crossing guard), LISTEN(to the crossing guard for instructions.)

Every day is a PRACTICE run between your crossing guard and your children, so that when your crossing guard senses a dangerous situation, the children will respond immediately.

Thank you for reviewing these safety rules with your child, and for following them yourself when your child is with you. If you find an excuse to do the opposite, in your child's presence , so will your child,... and so will other children watching your child....it's like a dominos effect. If you support the crosswalk rules, so will your child.

Here's to a safe and happy school year at Arrowhead School,

Mrs. B (crossing guard on 38th St.)

Walk/Bike to School Safety:

With construction and traffic changes, the start of school is a perfect time to remind kids and parents the rules that will help keep kids safe on their route to school.

Kids:

- ★ Cross with the crossing guard or at designated school crossings - make sure to WALK!
- ★ Ride/walk on the sidewalk (NOT in the STREET)
- ★ Keep your eyes and ears aware of your surroundings (watch for cars)

Parents:

- ★ Slow Down (remind family and friends to drive slowly around the school)
- ★ Please do not stop on bridge or in street to drop off or pick up kids. Park along the street or park a few blocks away and walk (gets kids wiggles out and cuts down on congestion around school)

Education Technology





Mr. Casey will be providing information to 3rd - 5th graders on technology safety at school. Students are required to sign an internet safety pledge with the following pledges:



- I promise to never send or post personal information, such as my addresses, phone number, or school name.
- I will never send a picture of myself to anyone without a parent's permission.
- I will not open e-mails from people I don't know.
- I will not follow links to sites that I do not recognize.
- I will tell an adult if I see any information on the Internet that makes me feel uncomfortable.
- I will never give out my passwords to anyone, except my parents.
- I will never download and install files to my computer without a parent's permission.
- I will never e-mail or post mean or hurtful things about other people.
- I will follow all Internet rules set by my parents.

Attendance Matters



In a school year:				
	Missing less than 9 days	Missing 10-17 days	Missing 18+ days	

After School Arrangements

Please make your after school arrangements in the morning before your child arrives at school. We are unable to guarantee that messages received during the daytime will get to your student.

Helpful Hints About our Security Camera

After pressing the bell, please remain facing the camera until you hear the door click. After the click, please enter the building. Thank you!

Phone Messages from School

If you see Arrowhead School on your caller ID, PLEASE listen to the message before calling the school. We encourage all children to leave a message when calling home so you know exactly the reason for the call and to avoid a redundancy of phone calls. Thanks for your help!

Parking Spots

Have you noticed reserved parking for Nursing Staff and Itinerant Teacher in the front of the school and wondered the purpose of these spots? Our nursing staff are in and out of the school frequently on a daily basis and need quick access to the front door. Also, we have specialist teachers who come and go during the day and haul their materials from their cars. Having easy access to the front door helps them transition between schools quickly.

Watches

A friendly note about technology and student watches. These nifty devices are like a phone and we ask students to not use them during the day to check messages or texts. We treat them like a cell phone - off and in the backpack during the day. If there is an emergency, please call the office and we are certain to give your child the message.

Lego Robotics Informational and Organizing Meeting

Who: Grades (3-6) - Parental Involvement is Required

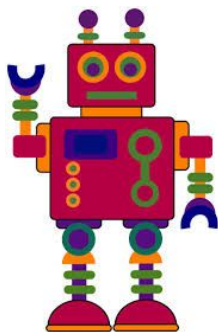
Date: Tuesday, September 11th.

Contact: Don Casey at 698-9138

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Arrowhead Library

Cost: \$50 (Arrowhead Robotics)



Lego Robotics is for students in third through sixth grade. Students do not need to be Arrowhead students, however, parental involvement is required. Every attempt is made to place a student on a team. Since teams spend many hours working together, it is imperative that a team is cooperative with all members on the team. Participants also need to have schedules that don't consistently conflict with the team mission.

FIRST LEGO is more than Legos. This year's theme is about space and how humans interact. In addition to programming a robot to perform tasks, each team needs to develop a "science fair" type project that is presented to judges.

The Montana State FIRST LEGO competition is in Bozeman on January 26th, 2019. Transportation and lodging is the responsibility of parents.

50 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR KIDS AFTER SCHOOL INSTEAD OF “HOW WAS YOUR DAY?”

- What made you smile today?
- Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?
- What did you do that was creative?
- Who did you sit with at lunch?
- Was anyone in your class gone today?
- Tell me something you know today that you didn't know yesterday.
- Did you like your lunch?
- What was the hardest rule to follow today?
- If you could change one thing about your day, what would it be?
- What made your teacher smile?
What made her frown?
- If you could switch seats with anyone in class, who would it be? And why?
- What kind of person were you today?

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@arrowheadeagles**
