

# TURNER TIMES NEWSLETTER

April 28, 2025

## YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES!

*\*this message was previously shared on 4/28/25 via ParentSquare\**

Dear Turner Families,

As many of you know, our family is eagerly anticipating the arrival of our second daughter at the end of May. I had planned to continue working up until my due date, but circumstances have changed, and I will need to go on leave effective today to ensure the best care for both myself and baby Efrom.

While this was unexpected, I have the utmost trust in our dedicated Turner staff and administration to successfully finish the school year! During my leave, Mark Truckenbrod, who has served this year as Interim Principal at Wegner Elementary School, will support Turner in partnership with our Assistant Principal, Jennifer Dalrymple. Mr. Truckenbrod now has access to ParentSquare, allowing you to communicate with him directly. He will also have access to my office phone for any urgent matters.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for a wonderful first year as Principal at Turner. I have truly valued the opportunities for communication, feedback, and growth we've shared. I am looking forward to returning with staff to prepare for the 2025-2026 school year! I wish everyone an amazing remainder of the school year! To our 5th graders and their families who are moving on to middle school, I know you will accomplish great things, and I can't wait to see you continue on your path to success. You will be missed!

Thank you for an incredible year,  
Mrs. Efrom  
Principal, Turner School

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# UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

5/1: \$1 Smencils for Sale

5/1: Turner PTO Meeting - 3:45-4:15

5/2 Trimester 3 Midterm Grades Sent Home

5/5-5/9: Staff Appreciation Week

5/7: Kindergarten & 2nd Grade Music Program - 2:00 pm

5/19-23: Spring MAP Testing

5/21: Turner Faculty Meeting - ***No MyLearning After School***

5/23: PTO Movie Night at Turner - More info coming soon!

**5/26: No School - Memorial Day**

5/29: Last Day of MyLearning

6/4: Turner Field Day - Please make sure your students are dressed appropriately to be outside and have a lot of fun!

6/5: \$1 Smencils for Sale

6/5: Turner PTO Meeting - 3:45-4:30 (Turner Library)

6/12: Last Day of School Grades K-8

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## TURNER CLUBS IN SESSION

### Running Club

Mondays, 3:30-4:10

*Last Session: May 19th*

### Eagles Soccer Club

Tuesdays, 3:30-4:40 pm

*Last Session: May 13th*

### Indoor/Outdoor Games Club

Wednesdays, 3:30-4:40 pm

*Last Session: May 28th*

***Club is not in session on Wednesday, May 21st due to our Faculty Meeting***

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## TRIMESTER 3 MIDTERM & REPORT CARDS DATES

**March 11 - June 12, 2025**

Midterm Reports go Home: May 2nd

Reports go Live: June 12 (4:00 pm)

## CROSSWALK REMINDERS

As a reminder, please make sure you are not stopping/parking your vehicle at the crosswalk to drop off your student. Please use the parking lot at or across from the church. We understand that we are in the colder months of the year and while most certainly more convenient. This poses a safety risk to all and causes a build up in traffic patterns. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out!

Thank you for your understanding,

Mrs. Efrom

## HERE COMES THE BUS – MOBILE PHONE APP

Please click on the links below if you would like to download the "Here Comes the Bus" app to your mobile device. Please note, this app is not controlled by West Chicago Elementary District 33.

**[Here Comes the Bus App - Spanish Download Directions](#)**

**[Here Comes the Bus App - English Download Directions](#)**

## MONTHLY TEAM UPDATES

Here is a space where Turner staff will offer families a glimpse into classroom activities, special projects, and important milestones, fostering collaboration and communication between home and school. This dedicated space allows parents to stay informed about their child's learning environment and the exciting developments taking place throughout the school.



### K/1- Mrs. Goolish

Students are continuing to practice counting to 100 and moving to 120 for the older students. They continue to work on counting with one-on-one correspondence, making patterns, identifying coins, telling time to the hour, and completing simple addition and subtraction problems. We practice place value while counting the days we have been in school. Students are answering questions after listening to stories. For writing they are still working on forming letters correctly and forming a complete sentence. For life skills, we always focus on following directions, managing our emotions, and using whole-body listening. Students have been working on building their independent skills. We talked about doing

chores and helping out in the classroom (making the bed, sweeping the floor, throwing away garbage, etc.).



## Kindergarten

Kindergarten students are continuing to practice counting to 100 and adding numbers 0 to 10 as well as subtracting numbers 0 to 10. We are using number bonds and ten frames to complete addition problems, like  $3+4=7$ . Please have your child read the books that go home. Students are working on spelling CVC words such as cat, run, bed, hit, and hot. Students are working on writing simple sentences such as It is hot. The cat can run. In Spanish, students are working on reading 2 to 3-syllable words, like "camisa" or "elote" with the previously taught open syllables (ma, me, mi, mo, mu, pa, pe, pi, po, pu, etc...).



## 1st Grade

First grade has just completed our Math Module 5 which is focused on Geometry and telling time. We have just begun our final Math Module 6, which is a culmination of our work in first grade. Students are adding, subtracting, and comparing numbers up to 120. In literacy students are working with r controlled vowels and also vowel teams. Students are working hard to be fluent readers using the skills we have learned throughout the year. Students are applying what they know in reading, writing, and even in Math as they read word problems.

Please continue supporting students as they practice reading at home and complete their daily math homework. We see great growth in students who practice daily at home. Thank you!



## 2nd Grade

We are currently studying the Civil War in Amplify. The students are learning about the causes of the Civil War as well as important people in the Civil War. They are also learning about how awful slavery was. Our next unit is the Human Body.

In Math, we are in the middle of Module 7. This module covers many different topics. The students are learning about graphing, counting coins and money, and measurement. As we are teaching this unit, we have noticed several students who are still struggling to identify the coins and count them. This is an important life skill for students to have. Please check that your child can tell you the names and values of all the coins and practice counting mixed amounts of coins at home.

As always, please make sure your child is reading at home each night and practicing basic addition and subtraction facts.



### 3rd Grade

We have begun our second to last Amplify language arts unit of the school year, which focuses on Native American cultures. Students are exploring different indigenous groups while strengthening their reading comprehension, writing organization, and geographical understanding. Many of the Native American cultures we are learning about are known for their rich history of storytelling, so students have had the opportunity to strengthen their own speaking skills through storytelling and read-aloud practice.

In math, students are working on Eureka's module 7, developing their geometry skills through understanding the attributes of different shapes. They are applying this to the real world by finding the perimeter and area of complex shapes. You can help your student strengthen these skills by talking about finding the perimeter and area of shapes in the real world!

In science, we are discussing the many ways plants and animals adapt to their environment. We are identifying the traits that make plants and animals uniquely suited to thrive in a variety of different habitats.



### 4th Grade

#### 4th Grade Literacy:

Students are engaged in the ARC argument writing lab focusing on U.S. States. Each student will become an expert on one of the 50 states.

#### 4th Grade Math:

Students are currently exploring Module 5, which covers Fractions. Coming up next is Module 6, focusing on Decimals.

#### 4th Grade Science/Social Studies:

Students are about to kick off the Earth Changes unit. Additionally, are preparing for the 4th Grade STEM fair on May 29th from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM.



### 5th Grade

Spring is a busy time for 5th grade. We have several meetings regarding LMS coming up. Students will make exploratory choices next week. Please keep an eye out for materials that come home regarding these events.

#### A Look Ahead:

**Math:** Students are working through their last full 5th grade unit and preparing for 6th grade math.

**Reading:** Students will finish the adventure unit and begin a research unit, with a focus on the American Civil War. Students will use their research skills to become experts on a chosen topic.

5th grade field trip: St. James Farm on May 22nd! This is an outdoor field trip- rain or shine. More information to come

Candor Health presentation- May 5th You should have received a letter regarding this presentation. Please contact your student's classroom teacher if you have any questions.



## Art

**Kindergarten-** Learned about rainbow color order

**1st grade** - Learned about primary and secondary colors

**2nd grade-** Learned about paper weaving

**3rd grade** - Learned about fiber arts and created yarn weavings

**4th grade** - Learned about fiber arts and created pillows

**5th grade** - Learned about fiber arts and created plushies



## SEL/Health

All grade levels are beginning a new unit about Safety and Accident Prevention.

**Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders** will identify dangerous situations and learn safety methods to reduce risks. These risky situations will include safety on wheels, in cars, crossing streets, near water, by strangers, if sharp or dangerous objects are located, etc. These safety methods will include wearing helmets, wearing a seatbelt, stay with an adult, say no and tell a trusted adult, etc.

**3rd, 4th, and 5th graders** will be learning the potential risks that are involved when they encounter risky or dangerous situations and they will be learning multiple safety methods to help prevent and/or reduce those risks. They will work on ways to say no and plan methods to keep themselves healthy and safe.



## Music

**Kindergarten** students are learning about high and low sounds! They are also working towards preparing music for their music program "Sounds of the Ocean." Kinder and 2nd Grade students will be performing on May 7th, 2025 at 2:00 pm. Please plan to arrive between 1:30-1:45 to get seated. Any Questions? Please call the office or send a message to Mrs. Wright on Parentsquare!

**1st Grade** students are learning to sing and play melodic patterns of Sol and Mi. We have been working on Sol-Mi centers and creating and singing our own patterns.

**2nd Grade** students are learning to sing and play melodic patterns of Sol-La and Mi. They are also working towards preparing music for their music program "Sounds of the Ocean." Kinder and 2nd Grade students will be performing on May 7th, 2025 at 2:00pm. Please plan to arrive between 1:30-1:45 to get seated, Please call the office or send a message to Mrs. Wright on Parentsquare!



**3rd Grade** students are learning the melodic patterns of Do-Re-Mi-Sol and La and singing these patterns in the song "I am a fine musician." Students are learning about Instrument Families of the Orchestra. They are exploring what the instrument family sounds like and the instruments that go in each family.

**4th Grade** we are learning how to play the Recorder using recorder techniques and learning the notes G, A and B . We have been learning the song "Hot Cross Buns" and also working on Recorder Centers in class.

**5th Grade** we are learning how to play using both left and right hands now with the notes E, D, G, A and B. We have been learning to play the song GED Blues and have been exploring recorder centers in class.



## Physical Education

**Grades K-2:** We are fortunate to have some brand new scooters come in this month, and we have been putting them to use! Students have been learning to play scooter soccer. We are now starting our jump unit, which involves hula hoops and jump ropes.

**Grades 3-5:** We are fortunate to have some brand new scooters come in this month and we have been putting them to use! Students have been learning to play scooter soccer. We are now starting our jump rope unit.



## Library

We have checked out a total of 12,162 books so far this year!

Thank you to all of the students who celebrated School Library Month by participating in our Bookmark contest! Winners will be announced the week of May 5th.

**Kindergarten:** We celebrated National Poetry Month by learning about the letter 'P', reading poetry, and doing puzzles. Ask your child, "What is a poem?"

**First Grade:** We practiced using shelf markers to keep our library books in the right place. All first graders passed their shelf marker test. Way to go!

**Second Grade:** The winner of the Illinois Monarch Award was *There's a Ghost in This House* by Oliver Jeffers. Second grade is now reading The Food Group Series by Jory John. For each book we watch the book trailer, read the book, and do a hands-on activity tied to the story.

**Third Grade:** We're currently in the middle of our Chapter One & Chill unit, where students are introduced to a new genre each week. Together, we read the first chapter of three different books, and students added any that caught their interest to their "To Read" lists.

The goal? To help students expand their reading repertoire and discover their next great read!

**Fourth Grade:** We're wrapping up our Location Skills unit, where students have learned how to navigate the library using the Dewey Decimal System and how to read a catalog record. Their next challenge: is to independently search for a book in the catalog and locate it on the shelf.

**Fifth Grade:** We are learning how to spot fake news, disinformation & conspiracy theories by reading and taking notes on the book, *Killer Underwear Invasion* by Elise Gravel.



## **MLL Instructional Coach, Instructional Coach, & Instructional Technology Coach**

Tips for making reading time at home more engaging for the entire family:

### **Creating an Engaging Reading Environment at Home**

To foster a love for reading, it's vital to establish a cozy and inviting reading space where children feel encouraged to explore books.

Here are some effective strategies:

#### **Cozy Reading Space**

Designate a reading nook with comfortable seating like bean bags or cushions and soft lighting.

#### **Incorporate Fun Activities**

Enhance reading with themed games, trivia, or scavenger hunts related to the books.

#### **Encourage Reading with Rewards**

Implement a reward system with stickers, treats, or extra family time to motivate children.

#### **Personalize Stories**

Create stories featuring your child as the main character or include family members and pets.

#### **Choose Engaging Books**

Select books that align with your child's interests.

#### **Consider Interactive Elements**

Opt for books with interactive features like pop-ups or QR codes linking to audio or video content.

By applying these strategies, you can cultivate a rich reading environment at home, making reading a fun and cherished activity for the whole family.

4th grade is going to be participating in the Stem fair on April 29th. They created bridges and towers to withstand earthquakes. During the stem lab they will be competing against the other 4th grade students in the district.

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# TURNER PTO (PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION)

Our PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) organizes community-building events and raises funds to support Turner students, teachers, and staff. The only way the PTO works is if parents, guardians, and staff get involved by volunteering a little bit of their time, ideas, and resources. Research has shown that there is a direct correlation between student success in school and positive and collaborative parental/guardian involvement in school life and activities. There are many ways you can help out with the PTO this year! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram or you can e-mail us at [turnertigerspto@gmail.com](mailto:turnertigerspto@gmail.com)

## 25-26 TURNER PTO LEADERS NEEDED!

We need parents/guardians and staff who are ready to step up and lead PTO activities for the next generation of kids! Without parent-teacher leadership the PTO cannot function. The activities and fundraisers you choose to do are completely up to you! You can make PTO activities work with your schedule! If we do not have a full PTO leadership team next 2025-2026 school year, the Turner PTO cannot run. Below you will find more information on the PTO roles that will need to be filled for the upcoming school year.

**Vice President:** Assist the president, provide input in decisions, help organize and oversee events, attend most PTO meetings.

**Treasurer:** Write checks, communicate with the bank, make payments, and keep detailed records of money inflow and outflow, attend most PTO meetings.

**Fundraising Head:** Organize fundraising events such as the Scholastic Book Fairs, Turner Spirit Wear Sales, Holiday Shop, and Valentine's Grams.

**Events Head:** Organize events such as Fall Fest, Neon Nights Glow Dance, Staff Appreciation Week, and Movie Night.

If you are interested or if you have any questions, please fill out the form below and turn it in to the school office by May 2, or contact us at [turnertigerspto@gmail.com](mailto:turnertigerspto@gmail.com).

### 25-26 Turner PTO Roles Signup Form

## 2024-2025 PTO MEETING DATES

All meetings are held in the Turner Library from 3:45-4:30 pm

May 1

June 5

*Do you need childcare to attend? We got you covered! Please email the PTO at [turnertigerspto@gmail.com](mailto:turnertigerspto@gmail.com) with 24 hours notice!*

## 5MENCILS FOR SALE!

On the first Thursday of each month smencils will be sold during each lunch period.

1 Smencil = \$1 (cash only please)

May 1

June 5

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## CORE VALUES CORNER

At District 33, our five core values—**Positive Interactions, Responsibility, Respect for Others, Readiness to Learn, and Orderly Transitions**—serve as the foundation for a thriving school community. These values guide our students in developing essential social and emotional skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. By fostering positive interactions, we encourage collaboration and empathy among peers. Emphasizing responsibility instills a sense of accountability in our students, while respect for others cultivates a welcoming and inclusive environment. Readiness to learn inspires curiosity and a love for education, and orderly transitions help create a structured atmosphere conducive to learning. Together, we can reinforce these values at home and ensure our children grow into respectful, responsible, and engaged individuals. Thank you for your continued support in nurturing these important principles!

**Core Values Behavior Matrix [\\*CLICK HERE\\*](#)**

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## ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES REMINDER

As a reminder, the parking lot is only accessible to staff, busses, and authorized taxis/vehicles from 7:45-9:00 am and 2:30-4:00 pm, Monday-Friday. Please park in the lot at the corner of Ingallton Ave. and James Ave. and use the crosswalk for safe crossing.

### **Student Arrival Times:**

8:15 am: Students may enter door 1 and enjoy breakfast in the gym or wait outside until morning recess by the path/playground

8:30: Students may access the playground

8:40: Students enter the building from morning recess and transition to their classrooms

*On days when it is 10 degrees or below, including the "feels like" temperature. Students will remain inside and not have morning recess. The same temperature rule applies to lunch recess as well.*

### **Tardy Information:**

Students who arrive at 8:45 or after will be considered tardy.

Parents, if your student is tardy you will need to walk them into the building and sign them in before they transition to class.

### **Student Dismissal Times:**

3:23: Dismissal Announcement Made (Busses, Walkers/Parent Pickup, After School Programs)

3:25: Elementary Student Dismissal

## Morgan Efrom

Principal, Turner Elementary School

Contact

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