

Turner Times Newsletter

September 2025

Dear Turner Families,

What a wonderful school year it has been so far with our Turner students, staff, and community! I am genuinely grateful for how our community has come together in these past weeks, supporting one another and coming together.

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration and trust. Serving as the Principal of Turner is an honor, and I look forward to the rest of the school year!

Mrs. Efrom
Principal

School Hours

 **School Hours:** 8:40 AM – 3:25 PM

1/2 Day Dismissal Time: 11:45 am

Office Contact Information

Turner Main Office: 630-293-6050

Attendance Line: 630-293-6050 ext. 7207

Morgan Efrom, Principal: 630-293-6050 ext. 7201

Kelly Reinmann, Assistant Principal: 630-293-6050 ext. 7205

Connie Michiels, Secretary: 630-293-6050 ext. 7200

Sabrina Williams, School Nurse: 630-293-6050 ext. 7202

Upcoming Dates to Remember!

October 1: Fire Drill

October 2: Turner PTO Meeting, 3:45-4:30 (Turner Library)

October 6: CAPE Begins

October 7: 3rd-5th Grade Wheaton College Concert Field Trip

October 9: Fall Picture

October 10: Trimester 1 Midterms Sent Home & Available in PowerSchool

October 13: NO SCHOOL - Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 14-17: School Safety Week

October 15: Law Enforcement Drill/Lockdown (parent letter will go out on 10/7)

October 17: PTO Fall Fest (5:00-7:00 pm)

October 29: Shelter/Tornado Drill

October 31: Halloween (information to come)

West Chicago School District 33 Wellness Policy: Supporting Healthy Students

Our district is committed to creating a positive and healthy learning environment where every student can succeed. The Wellness Policy guides our efforts to promote healthy nutrition and regular physical activity before, during, and after the school day. This includes offering nutritious meals that follow federal guidelines, providing free access to safe drinking water, and integrating nutrition education into our curriculum.

To support student health, we will no longer allow food to be brought into school for birthdays or classroom celebrations. This means items like cupcakes, pizza, cookies, juice boxes, and other treats sent for birthdays will be sent back home with the student. Instead, we encourage non-food alternatives such as stickers, bookmarks, small toys, or craft and activity-based celebrations.

D33 Wellness Policy

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

🚶 Student Drop-Off/Arrival

- Students may be dropped off starting at **8:15 AM**.
- ***With safety as our number one priority. Please do not drop off your student before 8:15, as supervision of students begins at 8:10.***
- Students arriving **after 8:40 AM** are considered tardy. **A parent/guardian must walk them into the front office to sign them in.**

Important information about our updates drop-off procedures are coming soon!

Car Pick-Up

Important information about our updated car pickup procedures are coming soon!

Important Safety Reminders

- Stay in your car during drop-off and pick-up.
 - A staff member will assist your child in getting in or out of the car if needed.
 - Always watch for staff walking through the parking lot to and from their cars.
 - Maintain a safe speed and stay off your cell phone at all times while on school grounds.
 - Staying in your vehicle and being alert helps keep everyone safe and keeps the car line moving efficiently.
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Bus Route Information

You should have received information regarding your child's bus route yesterday, August 11th through Parent Square. As a reminder, only kindergarten and special transit students get door-to-door pick-up and drop-off.

If you did not receive information regarding your child(ren)'s bus route, please

If you would like to request a change to your child's bus route, please fill out [this form](#).

It always takes a few days for the bus drivers to get used to their new routes. This means that busses may run early or late. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we get the new school year started.

Here Comes the Bus Tracking App

In partnership with our transportation provider, Illinois Central, District 33 has launched Here Comes the Bus™, a bus tracking and transportation communications app for your smartphone or desktop! The app provides:

Tracking Features

- Shows the real-time location of your child's bus on a map
- Gives scheduled and actual arrival times at home and school for bus routes
- Provides push and email notifications when the bus is near

Sign Up Instructions For Parents

- Download Here Comes the Bus app or visit herecomesthebus.com
- Click the "Sign Up" button
- Enter school code 30061 and click "Next" followed by "Confirm"
- Complete the "User Profile" box
- Under "My Students," click "Add." Enter your child's last name and student ID number
- Once you confirm your information, you're ready to begin

Parents can download Here Comes the Bur™ in the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. For more information, and links to download the app visit <https://www.wego33.org/Page/1228>.

Dismissal Changes

If Your Child Has a Bus Route

- If your student has an assigned bus route but will be a **car rider** this year, please notify our **Secretary, Mrs. Michiels, at 630-293-6050 ext. 7200** as soon as possible so we can update our records.
- **Important:** Any student with a bus route will be placed on the bus at dismissal unless we have received different instructions from you.

Changing Dismissal Plans

- If you need to change your child's dismissal for a particular day, please call the **front office no later than 1:30 PM**.
 - This ensures we have enough time to notify teachers and get your child to the correct location at dismissal.
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Monthly Wellness Newsletter

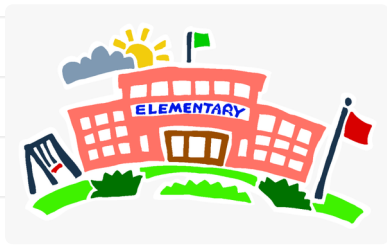
Each month, we will be sharing a Wellness Newsletter with all district families. You can check out August's Wellness Newsletter by clicking the link below. This month's newsletter includes healthy recipes, exercises, information on healthy habits, and more!

September Wellness Newsletter - English

September Wellness Newsletter - Spanish

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.



1/2 - Mrs. Goolish

We started our year by reviewing rules and expectations. Our first unit focused on working together and what we can do in our free time. Each unit for literacy has a component for comprehension, vocabulary, letters, sounds, and high-frequency words. For phonics, we have reviewed all letters and sounds. We have been learning how to tap out sounds to help us read and write words.

In math, each unit touches on numbers, patterns, addition, subtraction, money, and geometry. For some students, we have moved into addition and subtraction of 2-digit numbers.

In life skills, we focused on rules, expected and unexpected behaviors (stop and go choices), ways to calm our body when we have different emotions, how to make friends, and basic hygiene (hand washing, brushing our teeth, and taking a bath).



Kindergarten

Learning Expectations:

Students are working on following routines and expectations in the classroom and other classroom areas.

Reading:

Students are starting to work on "reading" by holding books, pointing under words, and 'reading' the pictures. Students are building their reading stamina up to 5 minutes of 'reading'.

Math:

Kindergarten students are working on identifying numbers 0 to 10.

Kindergarten students are working on writing numbers 0 to 5.

Kindergarten students are working on counting out loud to 20 or above.

Writing:

Students should be able to write their name. We are working on writing our first name with the first letter capitalized and the rest of our name is lowercase.

Other:

In Amplify, we are learning all about nursery rhymes.



1st Grade

Literacy:

First grade finished our first literacy unit covering fables and folktales, and we are now working on our new unit. Our new unit focuses on The Human Body. We have been reviewing our short vowel sounds and will continue working on our short vowels.

Math:

We are working in Math Module 1, focused on addition and subtraction within 10.

All first graders have a Math review Homework page each night, and we encourage parents to read at least 10 minutes each day with their first grader.



2nd Grade

Literacy:

We have finished our first Amplify Unit, about fairy tales and tall tales. Students should be able to identify the defining characteristics of fairy tales and tall tales. Ask your child to tell you about the stories that we read. Our second unit is Ancient Asian Civilizations. We will learn about the construction of the Great Wall of China, the silk trade, the start of writing, the beginnings of Hinduism and Buddhism, and many other topics.

Math:

We finished our first Module on basic addition and subtraction strategies. In our second Module, we are learning to measure with centimeters and meters.

Homework:

Please remember to have your child read for 15 minutes every night. The more they read, the more they learn!



3rd Grade

Literacy:

Through our first unit of Amplify's CKLA, students are exploring classic tales like *The Wind in the Willows*, *Aladdin*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. These fiction texts allow students to strengthen their reading comprehension and writing skills. Our next unit, Animal Classification, will allow the students to investigate the characteristics that make animals unique. This unit will introduce students to informational text features and allow them to practice informative writing.

Math:

In Module 1 of Eureka, students are learning the relationship between multiplication and division. Students are strengthening their conceptual understanding of these operations by drawing various models such as arrays, tape diagrams, and equal groups.

Social studies:

We have been discussing culture and its various components. The students have had the opportunity to write about their own cultures and investigate the cultures of other communities around the globe. This has deepened their understanding of diversity and appreciation for others who are different from themselves.



4th Grade

Literacy:

Students have been working hard on their personal narratives! They are learning to tell engaging stories with clear beginnings, middles, and ends. Soon, we will begin our Empire in the Middle Ages unit, where students will explore fascinating historical events and cultures.

Math:

In math, students are currently learning Module 1, which focuses on place value. Next is Module 2, where students dive into unit conversions and problem-solving with metric measurements.

Lectoescritura / English Language Development:

Students have been practicing literacy skills through Lotta Lara lessons and dictados to strengthen spelling, reading, and writing. Dual language students complete these activities in Spanish, while monolingual English students complete them in English.

Social Studies:

Students have been learning about various Native American tribes and their unique cultures, exp



5th Grade

We took the math and reading MAP assessment. We are hoping to grow and do better on our spring assessments. For math, we are working on place value and operations with decimals. Our students must practice their math facts at home if they have not yet mastered them. In reading and writing, we are implementing a new program called Amplify. It is a very intensive and challenging program that will help our students become better readers and do better on the MAP and IAR tests. For science, we are learning about matter. Nightly math and reading practice are essential to help get students ready for middle school.



Art

Kindergarten - Introduction to natural art (art found in nature, making art from nature).

1st grade - Introduction to observational art

2nd grade - Introduction to found object art

3rd grade - Introduction to observational art versus imaginative art

4th grade - Introduction to innovative art (collaborating with Ms. Vaca to create 3D printed Calaveras)

5th grade - Introduction to self-portraits/ artist study: Tim Burton



SEL/Health

All grade levels have reviewed the four dimensions of health—physical, social, emotional, and intellectual. We are on our last lesson about the social dimension of health (how we have positive and healthy social interactions). Kinders and first graders have reviewed how to make new friends and interact positively with

friends through sharing, treating others with kindness, and appreciating differences. Second grade has been focusing on responding when peers are doing something unsafe or pressuring others to do something unsafe. Third grade has worked on how to identify the size of a problem and respond in a healthy way when conflicts might arise. Fourth grade has been working on how self-awareness helps us to understand similarities and differences that enrich our relationships and help us identify healthy friendships. Fifth grade is in a unit on self-awareness and expressing emotions positively and healthily to foster positive relationships.



Music

Kinder - We are learning our music expectations and being able to move, sing, and play in our own space.

1st Grade/2nd Grade - We are learning our music expectations and how to play and move to a steady beat.

3rd Grade -We are learning our music expectations and how to play and move to a steady beat. We read the book "We're going on a Bear hunt" by Micheal Rosen and will create sound effects and movements to the steady beat in the book.

4th Grade/5th Grade: We are learning our music expectations and how to play and move to a steady beat. Students have been starting to review our elemental rhythm building blocks (rhythm patterns) to create class rhythm patterns.



Physical Education

(Grades K-2) Students are currently working on locomotor movements such as walking, speed walking, skipping, sliding, jumping, and galloping. Students are learning spatial awareness as they move around the gym during different tag activities.

(Grades 3-5) Students have been learning various classic blacktop games/activities such as 4-Square, Champion Ball (similar to basketball knockout), and Jump Rope (single ropes and long rope). This past week has focused on our state-mandated fitness testing, such as the push-up, curl-up, and pacer tests.

*After-school clubs will begin the week of September 22nd. For Grades 3-5 only, I will be in charge of the Mileage Club! Mileage Club is a program that motivates kids to stay active by walking or running laps and tracking their progress. Students earn rewards for reaching mileage goals, making fitness fun and goal-oriented.

Please contact me via ParentSquare if you would like to register your child still! As the registration link that was sent out is now closed.



Library

All grade levels are reviewing behavior expectations while in the library, focusing on respecting everyone and everything. Grades 1-5 have begun library checkout. Kindergarten will start the week of September 22nd. Please help your child find a safe space to keep their books at home away from siblings, pets, food, and drinks. If a library book is lost or damaged beyond repair, please get in touch with Jenny Totman or Tori Farquhar through Parent Square.



MLL Instructional Coach, Instructional Coach, & Instructional Technology Coach

Routines Make a Big Difference

Kids do their best when they know what to expect. Simple routines—like a set bedtime, a regular spot for homework, or a consistent morning plan—help students feel calm and ready for the day. Routines don't have to be perfect, just consistent. The more predictable things are at home, the more energy your child can put into learning, growing, and having a great day at school!

When families engage their children in language activities (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), they help build confidence and strengthen learning both at home and in school. Below you will find ideas. ~ ♥ Mrs. Barros

Getting Ready for October – Seasons & Fall Fun

📖 Word List

fall, leaf, pumpkin, orange, cold, costume, windy, crunchy, sweater, apples

🌀 Practice Ideas for Home

- Collect leaves and sort by color/size; describe them.
- Talk about the weather daily using new words.
- Read a fall book and find descriptive words.
- Write or draw your favorite fall activity.

🗨️ Sentence Starters

- "It is ____."
- "The leaf is ____."
- "I see ____ outside in the fall."
- "In October, the weather is usually ____ and I wear ____."
- "During autumn, I notice changes such as ____ because ____."

📖 Book Suggestions

- [Leaf Man — Lois Ehlert](#) [Español](#)
- [Apples and Pumpkins — Anne Rockwell](#) [Español](#)

🗨️ Discussion Topic

- Describe what you wear each day and connect it to the weather.

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