

# TURNER TIMES NEWSLETTER

December 4, 2024

## YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES!

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Thanksgiving Break! We are excited to have students back in the building and continue learning as the weather gets much colder. Please make sure your student is dressed appropriately for the weather. We want to make sure students are staying healthy with only a few weeks left until Winter Break! If there is a day where students are outside and there is snow on the ground. Students will need snow pants and boots in order to go in the snow if the weather is 10 degrees or below. Students will have indoor recess in their classrooms.  
Let's have a great December!

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## UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

December 4: 5th Grade CogAT 10:15 am & 1:30 pm  
December 5: 5th Grade CogAT 1:30 pm  
December 5: Turner PTO Meeting (Turner STEM Lab): 3:45-4:30  
December 5: PTO Smencils for Sale \$1 - During Lunch  
December 6: Grades go Live: 4:00 pm  
December 16-17: PTO Holiday Shop - 9:00-3:00 (STEM Lab)  
December 20: District Wide Pajama Day  
December 23- January 5 : No School - Winter Break  
January 6 : Return From Winter Break

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## 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**

**Literacy:** Students are continuing to work on knowing all our uppercase and lowercase letters along with the sounds. Students are working on words with syllables. They are still working with words that rhyme. While listening to a story they are answering wh questions.

**Math:** Students are showing 1:1 correspondence for numbers up to 20. They are also working with simple addition and subtraction problems. They have been introduced to coin names and values along with knowing we use money to buy things we need.

**Functional:** We are working hard to show whole-body listening within the classroom and use the Zones of Regulation to help identify how others feel.



### **Kindergarten**

Kindergarten students are continuing to work on letter names and sounds. In Spanish, they are working on reading short, two-syllable words with taught consonants and vowels. In English, they are working on reading and writing short CVC words (like "mat" or "pat"). Kindergarten students are working on identifying and writing numbers 0 to 10. Kindergarten students are working on counting out loud to 40 or above. We are working on following directions.



### **1st Grade**

**Literacy:** First Grade is working on consonant digraphs and will begin long vowel sounds in English Language Arts. They are also studying animals. In Spanish students are working on consonant blends and syllable reading as well as the Social Studies unit on How We Help One Another Meet Their Needs (Wants and Needs).

**Math:** First Grade is working in Module 2 adding and subtracting through 20. We will finish this Module before Winter Break.



### **2nd Grade**

**Literacy:** Students are learning about Ancient Greek Civilization with a continuation into Greek Myths.

**Math:** Students are learning about Place Value with and without Regrouping.



### 3rd Grade

Students completed their Amplify Unit on Human Body Systems. They worked on asking and answering questions as well as identifying the main ideas and key details. We have just begun a unit on Ancient Rome, where students are reading both legends and nonfiction texts about the Roman Empire. Through these readings, students are developing a greater understanding of close reading skills.

In math, the students have recently completed a unit on measurements. They worked on rounding, estimation, and time skills. The unit we are currently focusing on revolves around the properties of multiplication. Students are using the commutative, associative, and distributive properties to solve more complex multiplication problems.

In social studies, the students are learning more about how people can impact the world around them through our leadership unit. Students are learning about leaders and activists around the world and are applying this to their own lives, identifying ways that they can be good leaders in their own communities.



### 4th Grade

#### 4th Grade Literacy

Students are exploring nonfiction standards in the ARC Animal Lab. Students are working on finishing their web pages!

Coming soon! Our 4th grade historians will read American historical fiction texts from different time periods and write their own Historical fiction narrative.

#### 4th Grade Math

Students are working on Module 3: Multi-digit multiplication and division.

#### 4th Grade Science

Students are working through the energy unit via hands-on experiences.

Coming soon! Students will learn about the state of Illinois and will complete a state project.



### 5th Grade

We are starting our ecology reading and writing unit. We are finishing math module one. We will continue working with division and multiplication with decimals in module 2. We will start our revolutions unit in social studies soon.



## Art

**Kindergarten-** Practicing cutting and gluing by making turkey collages.

**1st Grade-** Practicing cutting, gluing, and mixing paint colors by making turkey collages.

**2nd grade-** Learning about patterns by creating turkey zentangles.

**3rd, 4th, 5th grade-** Learning about art supply maintenance and care.



## SEL/Health

### K-2 Healthy Practices & Hygiene

**Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd graders** are learning/reviewing how and why to wash our hands, brush our teeth, exercise, and get good sleep to stay healthy. **1st graders** are adding new information about making good food choices and keeping their hearts, lungs, muscles, and bones healthy. **2nd graders** are also learning there can be negative effects of poor hygiene including disease and illness.

**3rd graders** are learning to stay healthy by eating the proper balance of foods from the 5 food groups.

**4th graders** are developing an understanding of the circulatory and respiratory systems, and how these relate to keeping them healthy.

**5th graders** are learning the healthiest food sources to find the six essential nutrients.



## Music

**Kinder:** We have been using the songs The Itsy Bitsy Spider and Row Row Row Your Boat to practice our Whispering, Speaking, Shouting, and Singing voices. We also have been practicing our high and low voices in following vocal pathway lines. Students have been exploring how to create their own vocal pathway lines as well! Students also learned how to be good audience members by showing respectful listening skills while the 3rd and 5th grade students performed in their music program on November 19th.

**1st Grade:** We are learning how to identify and perform Quarter notes and Quarter rests in music. Students composed Quarter note and Quarter Rest patterns on Thanksgiving Turkeys and we performed each pattern in class. Students also learned how to be good audience members by showing respectful listening skills while the 3rd and 5th grade students performed in their music program on November 19th. **\*Save the date-February 7th, 2025 will be the 1st and 4th grade music program at 2:00pm\***

**2nd Grade:** Students are learning to identify and perform tied quarter notes, half notes and half rests. Students have been working on

identifying rhythm patterns based on Thanksgiving foods. Students did a scavenger hunt around the music room and then took the food rhythm words and made a food rhythm composition. Students also learned how to be a good audience members by showing respectful listening skills while the 3rd and 5th grade students performed in their music program on November 19th.

**3rd Grade:** Students did a fantastic job in preparing for their music program "Let's Go Camping" on November 19th. Students worked on how to transition in their groups by being able to get their own instruments and supplies on their own, move in their spaces or on the risers, and be able to perform their songs for the audiences. They also learned how to be a good audience member by showing respectful listening skills while other students were performing.

#### **4th Grade:**

We are learning about theme and variation, and how music can use a melody and change part of it to make a variation. Students even created their own variations of Caramel apples. We are working on performing and composing our sixteenth-note variation patterns by using animal rhythms. We explored how to play these rhythms on the tubano drums.

Students also learned how to be good audience members by showing respectful listening skills while the 3rd and 5th grade students performed in their music program on November 19th.

**\*Save the date-February 7th, 2025 will be the 1st and 4th grade music program at 2:00pm\***

**5th Grade:** Students did a fantastic job in preparing for their music program "Let's Go Camping" on November 19th. Students worked on how to transition in their groups, play their instruments correctly, move in their spaces or on the risers, and be able to sing their songs for the audience. They also learned how to be a good audience member by showing respectful listening skills while other students were performing.



### **Physical Education**

**(Grades K-2)** Throwing and Catching unit. Students have been learning how to throw and catch in various games.

**(Grades 3-5)** Throwing and Catching unit. Students have been learning how to throw and catch in various games.



### **Library**

Way to go Turner! We have checked out a total of 4,191 books so far this year!

**Kindergarten** read *Pumpkin Jack* by Will Hubbell and we'll spend the year watching our own pumpkin Jack decompose and hopefully

sprout new pumpkin plants in the Spring!

**First Grade** is engaged in an author study on Julia Donaldson, exploring her work and enjoying the discovery of rhyming words.

**Second Grade** read *Goldie Socks and the Three Librarians* to learn how to find a “just right” book. To guide us in finding a “just right” book, we learned how to do the 5 Finger Test and the IPICK method.

**Third Grade** is working on alphabetical order to the first and second letter in preparation for learning more about Library location skills.

**Fourth Grade** read *Balloons Over Broadway* by Melissa Sweet in honor of National STEAM Day. We learned how Tony Sarg invented the balloons we see today in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade then used our VR headsets to view the studio where the balloons are made today.

**Fifth Grade** finished up their bookmarks and we are waiting for our 3D printers to be fixed so we can print them! We also reviewed how to find materials in the library catalog and place holds.



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

Save the date! Academic Family Night is March 12th! More information about how you can help make this event a success is coming soon!

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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)

## 2024–2025 PTO MEETING DATES

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

December 5

January 9

February 6

March 6

April 3

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!*

## PTO Holiday Shop Volunteer Form

PTO is in need of about 15 volunteers for our Holiday Shop taking place on December 16-17. Please click the link above to sign up!

## Turner Collectible Ornament Order Form

Order forms have been sent home with students! Turner Elementary School Collectible Ornaments are available for purchase the first two weeks of December for \$15.00. All proceeds go to Turner PTO to support the students and school!

### SMENCILS FOR SALE!

First Thursday of each month \$1 each (cash only)! Smencils will be sold during each lunch period.

December 5

January 9

February 6

March 6

April 10

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\\*](#)

## ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES REMINDER

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

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 and instruction begins

Please view the maps linked below for more information! Thank you for your support!

[ENGLISH - Dropoff and Pickup Procedures](#)

[SPANISH - Dropoff and Pickup Procedures](#)

### Morgan Efrom

Principal, Turner Elementary School

Contact

[efromm@wego33.org](mailto:efromm@wego33.org)

Ph: 1.630.293.6050 ext. 7201

750 Ingalton Ave.

West Chicago, IL 60185