

Hello YGS families,

On Monday, I had a chance to speak to the Y115 Board of Education and highlight all of the amazing students and staff at YGS. A video was also created highlighting the awesome experiences our students have had this school year. You can view it by clicking HERE. Enjoy!

I also wanted to share that in the next three weeks students will be taking our winter benchmark assessments in math and reading. Each test can take anywhere from 30 - 45 minutes, though it is untimed and some students may take longer. Below are a few reminders that will help your student be more successful.

- Have a fully charged Chromebook each day
- Have your student get a full night's sleep
- Eat a healthy breakfast
- Encourage your child to try their best and believe in themselves
- Encourage them to take short breaks, persevere through challenging tasks and instill the importance of trying their best. (remind them about Millie who makes a million mistakes)

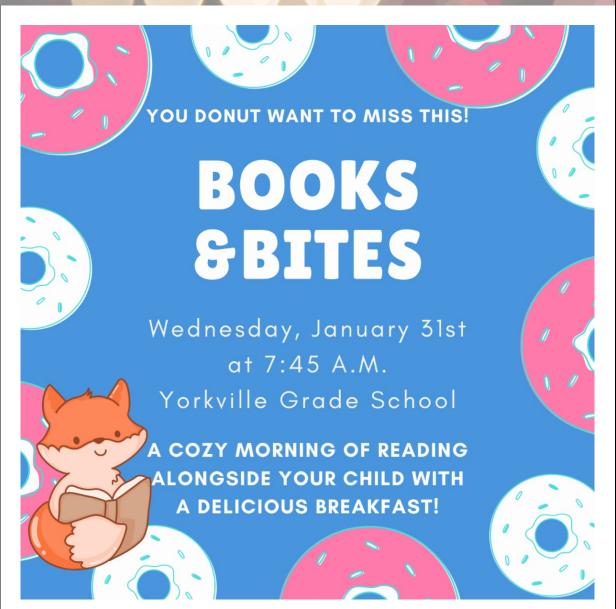
Thank you for entrusting us with your children and supporting our school. Have a great weekend.

Best, Melinda Hafenrichter YGS Principal

"You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think." - Christopher Robin

NEWS TO NOTE





Fostering our Future Awards

Each year, Yorkville Educational Foundation honors Yorkville CUSD 115 educators, staff, volunteers, and community members who go above and beyond to support Y115. The Foundation's 6th annual Fostering Our Future recognition program allows us to share the stories of these extraordinary heroes and honor them at a formal awards ceremony in the spring.

NOMINATIONS OPEN!

Sth Annual
FOSTERING
OUR FUTURE
AWARDS

Learn more and submit a nomination here: <u>yef115.org/fostering-our-future</u> Nominations close on Sunday, February 11.

We have the most amazing staff at YGS! Please consider nominating someone.



Chess Scholars

Winter 2024

Yorkville Grade School



Please feel free to bring a nut free snack from home to eat before class. Register early, limited number of participants.

Develop your child's intellect through the royal game of chess! Current research has shown a strong link between chess and academic performance in a variety of areas, including mathematics and language arts. Chess has been proven to enhance children's motivation, concentration, focus, social skills, and creativity.

Each class will consist of a fun, interactive teaching period and guided practice time. Both beginner and experienced players are welcome and will learn under the guidance of an experienced Chess Scholars coach.

Schedule: 8 Thursdays, February 1st - March 21st, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

To sign up, please visit https://www.learningmeansfun.com/signup

You will need to enter the course code YOG2.1.24 to register. Please register by 10pm PST on 1/25 for the early bird price of \$136.00.

If you have difficulty registering, please contact Afterschool Enrichment Solutions at 847-482-9999 or registration@learningmeansfun.com

All participants must conduct themselves in a manner that allows all students to fully participate during the class without impeding their experience. We have a no refund policy, unless there is insufficient enrollment. No make-ups will be scheduled for inclement weather or circumstances beyond our control. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds. It's the parents' responsibility to remind the children about the classes.

Spring Fox Clubs

Information regarding Fox Clubs for the spring will be shared in the next few weeks and we wanted to let you know so you can mark your calendars. Fox Clubs run on Tuesday for kindergarten and first graders and Thursday for second and third graders.

They will start the week of March 4th. Please look for the sign-up link in next weeks newsletter. Spots will be reserved on a first come basis so please make sure to check future newsletters.

Quarter 2 Report Cards

Quarter 2 report cards will be released to parents on February 6th at 5:00 p.m. through Home Access Center. If you do not have access to this website for your student or have forgotten your password, please feel free to reach out to the main office. Directions will be provided next week on exactly how to access the report card.

100 Days of School
February 13th will be our 100th day of school! We have some activities taking place throughout the day in and out of the classroom. Students are encouraged to wear 100 of something or dress like they are 100 years old.

Valentine's Day Parties

Valentine's Day parties at YGS will be spread out throughout the day similar to what we did at Halloween. Classroom teachers will be asking for volunteers for grade level times listed below. As a reminder, Valentines may be sent in with your child to give to all students in the classroom but cannot contain food.

> Kindergarten 9:15 - 10:15 1st Grade 1:30 - 2:30 2nd Grade 2:30 - 3:25 3rd Grade 10:15 - 11:15

DATES TO REMEMBER



Mark Your Calendars

- January 31st Books and Bites at 7:45 a.m.
- **February 6th** PTO meeting at 5:30 (YGS Library)
- **February 23rd** Kindergarten Outdoor Ed field trip
- March 25th April 1st Spring Break
- **April 25th** 1st Grade Outdoor Ed field trip

MINDFUL MOMENTOS WITH MRS. R.



Hello there YGS families,

I don't know about you but this time of the year can feel much heavier than the rest. With colder days and less sunshine/vitamin D; it can be the season for just...bleh. Whether it's a case of some winter blues or Seasonal Affective Disorder, not feeling like yourself is more common this time of year than you may think. The slump during this seasonal time can also take a toll on our overall mood, sleep, energy, and outlook which is why it is super important to make sure we are taking care of our mental health for ourselves and those around us. Never fear though, help is near! These 7 Tips to Beat the Winter Blues can hopefully help you get back to you. Plus, don't forget the Kendall County 211 Program is always available 24/7/365 to provide assistance and information regarding food, clothing, shelter, housing, rent/utilities, childcare, counseling, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence,

transportation, employment, legal services, volunteer opportunities and so much more! To access this free service you can call the phone number 211, text 898211, or use their online database/website at patherisis.org.

Wishing you nothing but the best, always. Mrs. R

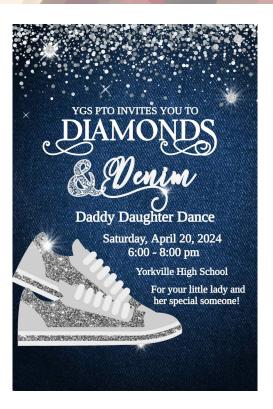
PTO UPDATES



PTO has begun planning for the 2024 Daddy Daughter Dance. This year, the dance will take place on April 20th and the theme is Diamonds and Denim.

Meetings will take place at 5:30 p.m. at the Yorkville Grade School Library.

- February 6th, 2024
- March 5th, 2024
- April 2nd, 2024
- May 7th, 2024



FOX FOODIES



If you would like to apply for free or reduced lunch fees, please visit THIS website. This application needs to be completed on a yearly basis to qualify. This means that if you received free or reduced fees last year you will need to apply again this year. If you have never applied and need to set up an account the website contains an easy to follow tutorial for setting up your account in order to apply.

Breakfast

A breakfast option is available for purchase (\$1.80). Any student interested in a grab-and-go option may stop at the serving station set up by the cafeteria



Snack

Please send your child with a snack to school each day. Parents are encouraged to review which item should be eaten for snack and which items should be eaten for lunch.

Lunch

Purchasing a school lunch (\$2.80) continues to be an option for students. Parents are encouraged to talk with their child about what their lunch choice will be each day. Will they bring a lunch from home or will they order at school?



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Don't Forget to Pack a Snack

A full belly contributes to a positive learning environment, promoting overall well-being and supporting the academic success of individuals by laying the foundation for sustained attention, memory retention, and effective problem-solving.

Please take some time this weekend to talk to your child about the snack that they might have in their lunch box or create a plan for your child packing their own snack. If you are in need of support for snacks, please reach out to Mrs. Resendiz.

2023 - 2024 Yearbooks

Order your yearbook now and get a discount! Visit www.treering.com/validate and enter the YGS code of 1016328586504766

Community Flyers

Are you looking for events happening in the Yorkville area? Check out the Community Flyer page on the Yorkville Website for up-to-date information about local events.

Community Flyer Page

DROP OFF & PICK UP



Please review the reminders below to ensure that all students and parents are safe during pick up and drop off.

- If you would like to walk your child to the door, please park and use the cross walk located between the green and red cars in the picture below.
- If you plan to pick up your child outside of your car, please wait in the area near the handicap parking spots.
- When in the drop off line, you **MUST** stay in your car. A staff member can help you if you need a door to be opened. Please make sure your child is ready exit when you are in the drop off zone.
- Please make sure to call the office before 2:30 if there is a change in transportation for the end of the day.
- Click <u>HERE</u> to view the map.

My primary communication to families will be through weekly newsletters on Friday which is an email/e-newsletter. Please make sure your contact information is kept up-to-date with the school so that you receive these important messages.



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