

Hello YGS families,

During the month of December, our school is placing a special emphasis on cultivating empathy among students and staff. Each morning on the announcements we define empathy and classrooms are encouraged to engaged in discussions, and utilize read alouds to promote empathy as a core value, encouraging students to walk in each other's shoes and appreciate diverse perspectives. Through these efforts, we aim to create an inclusive and supportive environment where empathy becomes an integral part of our school culture. By prioritizing empathy this December, we hope to instill lasting values that contribute to a more compassionate and connected school community.

I have included a graphic below with our theme days for the last week of school. Do you think the students will understand the reference to a particular music star?

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

Best, Melinda Hafenrichter YGS Principal

"People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel." - Maya Angelou



NEWS TO NOTE



Coming to YGS on Thursday, December 21st!



Picture Fun Pac

Last week, your child should have come home with a Fun Pac photo package. This fun item is available to purchase for \$10 and the proceeds will be used to purchase new items for our school store. The pictures can be popped out and turned into ornaments. Check out the cute example in the included picture.

If you decide to purchase, please return

cash or check to the school and keep the Fun Pac (checks should be made out to Yorkville Grade School). If you do not want to purchase the Fun Pac, please send it back to school with your student.

All order are due by December 15th.



Santa's Winter Ball

Hosted by Circle Center Grade School, this event is a great way to kick off the holiday season. You can pay online by visiting THIS link.



MINDFUL MOMENTOS WITH MRS. R.



Hello there YGS Families,

First and foremost I want to say thank you so very much to all of those that helped support some of our students with gifts this year through our YGS Virtual Giving Tree! Thanks to this incredible community and our teachers we were able to "adopt" ALL the slots for our kiddos/families! It takes a village sometimes and we definitely couldn't have done it without you, so once again THANK YOU for spreading some holiday cheer and relief to those

around you!

In the spirit of caring and coming together, I also wanted to share my favorite Family Winter Bucket List full of fun winter activities for the whole family to enjoy. The bucket list not only has some fun indoor and outdoor winter fun suggestions, but also some links for recipes, crafts, games, calming kits and so much more!

I hope this season continues to be merry for you all, but if that changes and there is anything I can do to help, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Warmest regards, Mrs. R

DATES TO REMEMBER



Mark Your Calendars

- December 14th Rescheduled YGS PTO Meeting at 5:30 pm at YGS
- December 21st 2:35 Dismissal
- December 22nd January 5th Winter Break
- January 8th First day back from Winter Break
- January 24th 3rd Grade Outdoor Ed field trip
- February 23rd Kindergarten Outdoor Ed field trip
- April 25th 1st Grade Outdoor Ed field trip

PTO UPDATES



PTO surveyed staff at YGS to learn about their favorite things. If you are wanting to get your teacher a gift for the holidays, we hope this provides you with some easy to find ideas. Check out the list <u>HERE</u>.

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

- December 12th, 2023
- January 9th, 2024
- 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?







Yorkville Music Boosters is hosting a Rock 'n Roll Fundraising Gala on April 20, 2024 at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora, but we need your help! In order to make this event a success, we need to have amazing silent auction items!

Please consider donating items related to the theme indicated below:

5th grade: Staycation6th grade: Camping

• 7th grade: Sports

• 8th grade: Fun and Games

• YHS Band: Outdoor Adventures

• YHS Orchestra: Photography and Art

• YHS Choir: Family Activities

Use your imagination! No item is too big or too small! Bring all items to your director by Friday, January 12.

You can find out more about the gala here: https://www.yorkvillemusic.org/gala
Tickets go on sale January 31!

Don't Forget to Pack a Snack

We have recently had a significant increase in the amount of K-3 students not bringing a snack to school. 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.

Cold Weather Gear

As the weather heads toward winter, bringing cold weather gear for recess is essential to ensure that students can fully enjoy their outdoor break while staying warm and comfortable. If the temperature/wind chill at recess time is above 15 degrees we will be headed outside for recess. Packed with warm layers, insulated jackets, hats, gloves, and scarves, cold weather gear helps protect against the brisk temperatures.

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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STAY CONNECTED







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