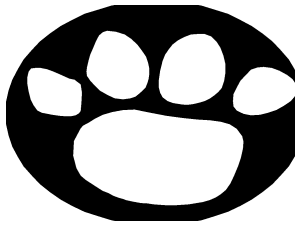


Defiance Elementary School News

400 Carter Road
Defiance, OH 43512
419-785-2260

Principal K – 2: Deanne Held
Principal 3 – 5: Teresa Pfeiffer



FEBRUARY 2024



Important Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| February 12 | K-2 Spring Pictures |
| February 13 | 3-5 Spring Pictures |
| February 14 | Valentine's Day |
| February 16 | Teacher Inservice - NO SCHOOL |
| February 19 | President's Day – NO SCHOOL |



- | | |
|-------------|---|
| March 1 | Kindergarten Registration Begins |
| March 15 | End of the Quarter |
| March 17 | St. Patrick's Day |
| March 18 | 3rd B.A.R.K. Day for Grades 3-5: Theme is Respectful |
| March 25-29 | Spring Break – NO SCHOOL |
| March 29 | Good Friday |
| March 31 | Easter |



DES Information

Winter Weather: Please keep in mind that winter weather has arrived. **Shorts are not appropriate to wear during these cold months.** Most of our children go outside for recess at least twice a day and need to be properly clothed. **A coat is necessary every day.** In the event of snow, all-weather boots are required to play in the wet snow. Children without **snow boots** will remain on the blacktop areas. **Please note, if the wind chill is above 20°F, we have outside recess.** Thank you for your cooperation.



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Attendance: A new measure on our State report card is attendance. Last school year, we had over 30% of our students miss two or more days of school a month, which harms our overall score. ***If a child is not in school, they are missing crucial instruction.*** While teachers make every effort to ‘catch your child up,’ it is not the same as receiving direct instruction, practice and feedback with their entire class. Please try to help us improve this attendance rate by having your child at school each and every day. Make an effort to have doctor or dentist appointments before or after school. Take your vacations during Thanksgiving Break, Christmas Break, Spring Break and Summer Break. Thank you for making this adjustment. Together we can improve our attendance rate. NOTE: Fever, unexplained rash, severe cold/flu, Covid, vomit and diarrhea are legitimate reasons to miss school.

Yearbook Orders:

Order your Memory Book now! Go online to www.orders.langephotographics.com and use the code: 5U8KQ8ZY for Defiance Elementary School. All orders must be submitted by Thursday, February 29, 2024. The cost of the yearbook is \$20.00 plus tax.

PTO NEWS

During our last meeting, a decision was made to hold the Father/Daughter Dance on Saturday, March 2 and the Mother/Son Event on Saturday, March 16 at the elementary school. If you are interested in assisting with these events, please reach out to our PTO at elempto@defianceschools.net or attend our next meeting. It is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30 p.m. in our elementary library. We are always seeking new members! Hope to see you there!

As always, stay up to date by visiting the elementary PTO’s facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Defiance.Elementary.PTO/>.

GUIDANCE

The KS-5 character word for the month of February is **Generous**. When you do things larger or more plentiful than usual or necessary, you are deemed generous.

K-2 Information

Kindergarten Registration: If you have a child that will be five years of age on or before September 30, please call the K-2 office during the month of March to register for Kindergarten. Defiance City Schools offers two kindergarten aged programs, KinderStart (early five program) and regular kindergarten. Students must meet the age requirement for both programs.



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Our registration will run throughout the month of March with the actual screening taking place April 9-11. Parents with students *currently* enrolled in our KinderStart program will NOT need to register or go through the screening process again. Our KS students will automatically be placed in a regular Kindergarten classroom next school year.

Preschool Screening: Is your child on track with their growth & development? Screenings can tell you. Early Childhood Screenings are designed for children ages 1 month through 5 years (screenings are not for children who will be entering kindergarten). Defiance screenings will be held on Monday, March 11 at the Family Christian Center. Please call the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center at 567-444-4818 for more information. Please take advantage of this FREE SERVICE!

3-5 Information

Spelling Bee: Two DES students recently competed in the Defiance County Spelling Bee. Fifth Graders Aaron Bruton and Ian Hinschlager were among 19 contestants hoping to become the champion that night. Although DES did not bring home a trophy, we want to congratulate both students for working hard and giving it their all!

Upcoming 3-5 PBIS B.A.R.K. Days

- **March 18:** Theme is “Respectful”-- 4th Grade is in charge of planning.
- **May 20:** Theme is “Kind”-- 5th Grade is in charge of planning.

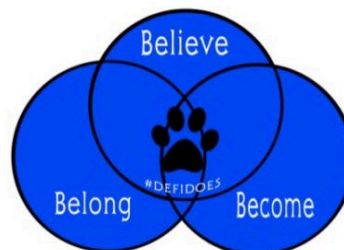
DES Promise

The DES promise, part of PBIS, is recited together each morning. Ask your student what it means to be accountable, respectful and kind.

I promise to:

- o BE Accountable,
- o BE Respectful,
- o BE Kind.

BARK like a Bulldog!



**Be
Accountable
Respectful
Kind**

