

MARCH 2021

The Vadnais Voice



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Phone (651)653-2858 **Fax** (651) 653-2860

Attendance (651) 653-2859 -

attendancevadnais@isd624.org

Emergency School Closing (651)407-7540

Website - www.whitebear.k12.mn.us/Vadnaisheights

Principal - sara.svir@isd624.org



Dear Vadnais Heights Families,

Happy March!

It's so great to be back in school and I want to thank you for sharing your children with us. As educators we became teachers because we love to see students light up as they learn and it's wonderful to see the twinkles in their eyes and their broad smiles--even through the masks.

Spring Break is next week. I know it may seem crazy to take a week off when we've had so many days out of school yet this will provide a great opportunity for deep cleaning in our classrooms and some rest and relaxation for students and staff. The White Bear Lake nurses have put together [Covid Basics](#). This resource shares great information of when to keep your children home and guidance around quarantining if you travel over break. If you have questions, we are always here to help.

This week our school is kicking off March Madness. Throughout the month of March we will have our staff as Mystery Readers sharing books that are part of a Book Bracket. Students will vote on their favorite books and we'll have a winning book at the end of the month. We're starting our celebration with dress up days to get students excited about March Madness. All of the books that we're reading will focus on Windows and Mirrors. If it's a "window" book that means students can see into someone else's life or perspective and if it's a "mirror" book then our students can see themselves in the story. March Madness will be a fun time for our school to look at new books and it could be a great time for your family to enjoy reading, too. [Reading is so important for kids](#) and maybe your family could pick a new author, new subject, a different place to read at home, or even a different time. There's no right or wrong way - just keep reading!

The MN Comprehensive Assessments (MCA's) are coming up in April for our students in grades 3-5 and you will help your child to be prepared if they continue to work on their skills. As Dr. Seuss said, "Reading can take you places you have never been before." No matter whether you're home or traveling over break, there are adventures, for each and every student, in books.

Sincerely,

Sara Svir




Hmong: LUS CEEB TOOM! Yog koj xav tau

tsev kawm ntawv cov ntawv txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu rau Mas Lias Xyooj los yog Xw Xyooj. (651) 407-7623

Spanish: ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651) 407-7625

Important Dates

Date	Activity
March 1st- 5th	March Madness Dress-Up Days: Mozie Monday - Pajama Day Team Tuesday - Your favorite Team's Shirt or Hat WOWie Wednesday: Favorite Fancy Outfit or Your Favorite Outfit Thoughtful Thursday - Dress like what you want to be when you grow up Fitness Friday - Wear your work out clothes
March 8th - 12th	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break - Whether you're traveling or relaxing - ENJOY time with your kids!
March 17th	
March 18th	Virtual PTO meeting 6:30 PM
April 9th	End of 3rd Quarter

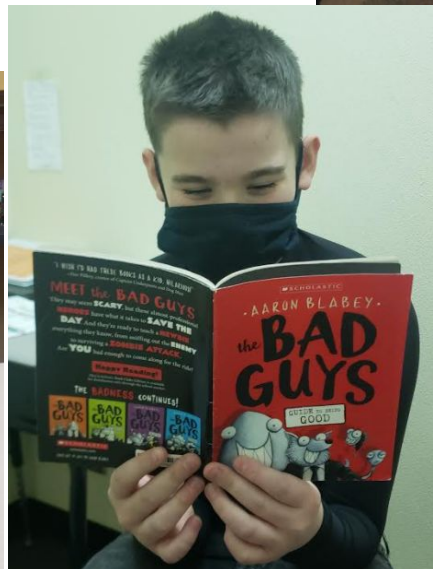
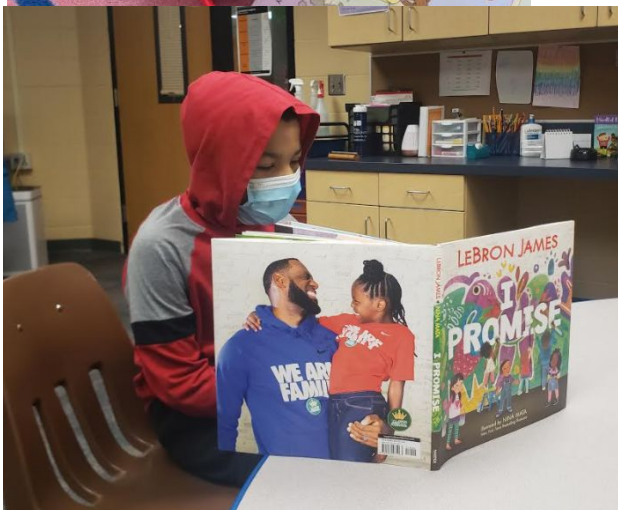
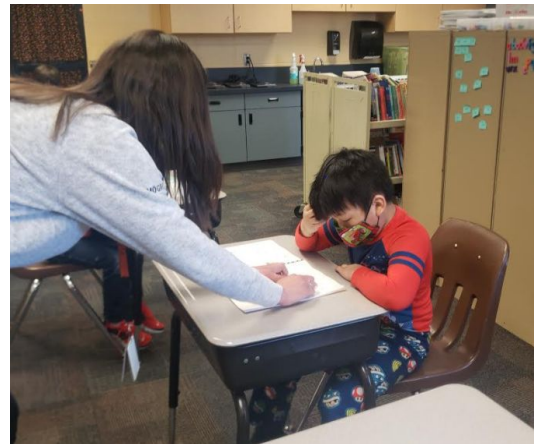
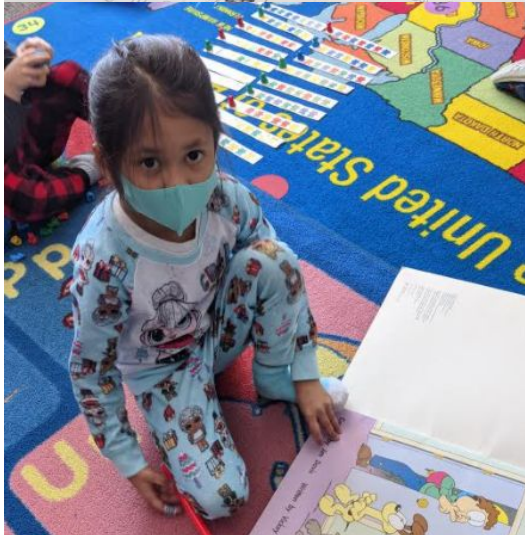
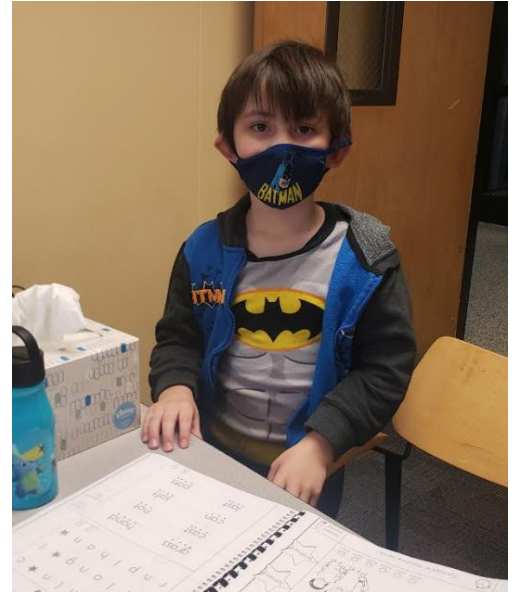
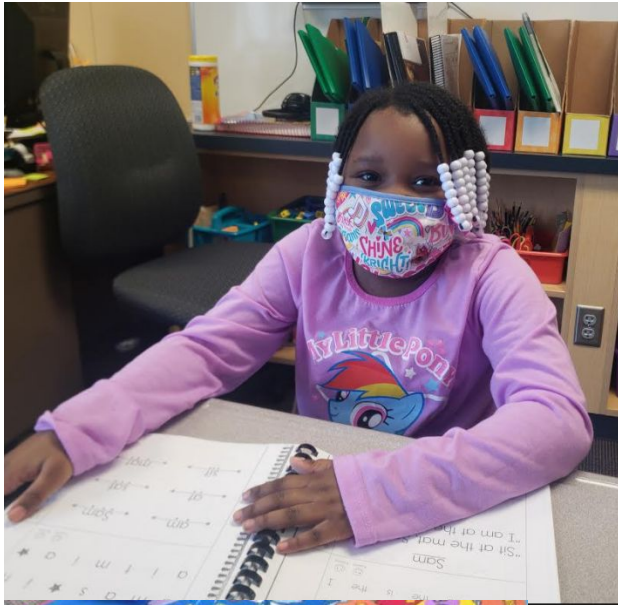


Emergency Response Plan

The District has an emergency response plan that was created in consultation with local community emergency response agencies. A copy of the plan is located in each building's main office and summaries are located in classroom and public spaces. If you would like to review the plan, please call the building principal.

MARCH MADNESS

I L♥ve to Read Month



Global Day of Play

Around the world kids are getting less time for “unstructured” play. Unstructured play is play that is not planned or directed by an adult. It also does not include screens. Unstructured play allows children the freedom to explore, create and discover while promoting cognitive, physical and social/emotional development. On this day our kids were able to choose how and what they played ALL day!



Construction Update

Construction on the south end of our building is progressing and we are happy to share pictures of what it looks like. We're excited to add space for custodial needs, which allows us to upgrade our kitchen and give more space to Extended Day.





Class Selection Process



Vadnais staff members spend a great deal of time placing students in class groups for the next school year. Our primary concern is to establish productive, heterogeneous classrooms where each child can be provided with the opportunity to be successful and challenged to do their best work. In doing this several factors are considered:

- Learning style of the student
- Educational factors both academic and social
- Heterogeneous groupings in all classrooms including ethnic groups, gender, academic achievement, learning styles discipline concerns and birth date
- Personality conflicts
- Balanced class size
- Recommendations from current teacher

Parent requests - If you'd like to share your child's learning style or teaching style that best meets the needs of your child, please submit this information, in writing, to the principal, sara.svir@isd624.org, by **April 23rd. Please do not request a specific teacher** and know that our staff will make every effort to consider all factors when making student placements. If you do not submit a request, be assured that every child will be given care and consideration towards their placement.

Parents must be aware that the final responsibility and authority for all class placements rests with the principal. Consideration will be given to all factors noted above yet no assurances can be given that parental requests will be granted. Requests for placement for the next school year must be submitted to the principal by April 23rd, 2021. Thank you.



Did You Know?

- [Covid Basics](#) - Everything about absences & quarantining related to Covid.
- Studies show a direct link between regular school attendance and academic achievement. .
- Elementary schools may refer any child living in Ramsey County to the **School Attendance Matters (SAM) Program** if that child has been absent 5 or more days during a school year without lawful excuse.
- 3 AM tardies or leaving early (45 minutes or less) 3 times results in a $\frac{1}{2}$ day absence.
- Vacation requests should be submitted to Principal Svir by calling 651-653-2693 or e-mailing sara.svir@isd624.org Vacations may be considered unexcused if the family has been alerted to an attendance issue or if not pre-approved by the Principal.

Attendance is important and we want your students in school!
attendancevadnais@isd624.org or call 651-653-2859

State Target Your Efforts for Tests

Testing Dates:

Reading April 13th and 14th - Grades 3, 4 and 5 (9:30-11:30 AM)

Math April 20th and 21st - Grades 3, 4 and 5 (9:30-11:30 AM)

Science April 27th and 28th - Grade 5 students only (9:30-11:30 AM)

**** Attendance is critical and we appreciate your efforts to schedule other appointments around the testing dates and times.**

Testing Tips:

- Get plenty of rest each night before testing
- Eat breakfast and drink plenty of water
- Be calm and count to ten if you are stressed or nervous
- Listen carefully to test taking instructions
- Parents- Please encourage your child to do their very best work



No School in March these days...

Spring Break / March 8-12

