

OCTOBER, 2024

TIGER TALES

Taku Elementary Kaitlin Tallman, Principal



Principal's Corner, Kaitlin Tallman

Dear Taku Families,

As we welcome October, I hope you are enjoying the change in seasons. This month brings not only cooler temperatures and vibrant fall colors but also a host of exciting activities for our students.

With the cooler temperatures, remember to send students with appropriate gear to go outside for recess. Start getting prepared for winter! Do your kids have proper gear? Is their name written on their gear? If you have a Preschooler or Kinder, it's always a good idea to practice getting gear on and off! Students will go outside up to -10 degrees, so it's important they dress to stay warm. If you need any assistance making sure your students have the proper gear, don't hesitate to ask.

October is a time for reflection and celebration. We look forward to our upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences on October 23rd and 24th. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with your student's teacher and discuss your child's progress, strengths, and areas for growth. Your partnership is vital in fostering a supportive learning environment. Teachers will be sending home Parent Teacher Conference information soon! Make sure to be on the lookout for it, and then make sure to sign up for your spot using the Online Scheduler in Parent Connect. We will have normal school days on Monday, 10/21, and Tuesday, 10/22. Wednesday, 10/23, and Thursday, 10/24, students will be released at 11:30am. Friday, 10/25, there is no school for students.

I also want to thank everyone for coming to our Taku Chuck E Cheese Night last week! It was great seeing you there. Our teachers competed in the Ticket Blaster for a chance to win a Pizza Party for their students. And the winning class is Mrs. Gardeline's 4th graders! Congratulations!

What else is happening at Taku this month?

Our first Fall Family Night is just around the corner! Mark your calendars for October 17, from 4:00 - 5:30. This event is a fantastic way for families to come together, enjoy some pizza, games and

activities.

The following week, we will be meeting for Parent Teacher Conferences, AND we'll be kicking off our Read-A-Thon! More info will be coming home about this soon.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement. Wishing you all a great October!

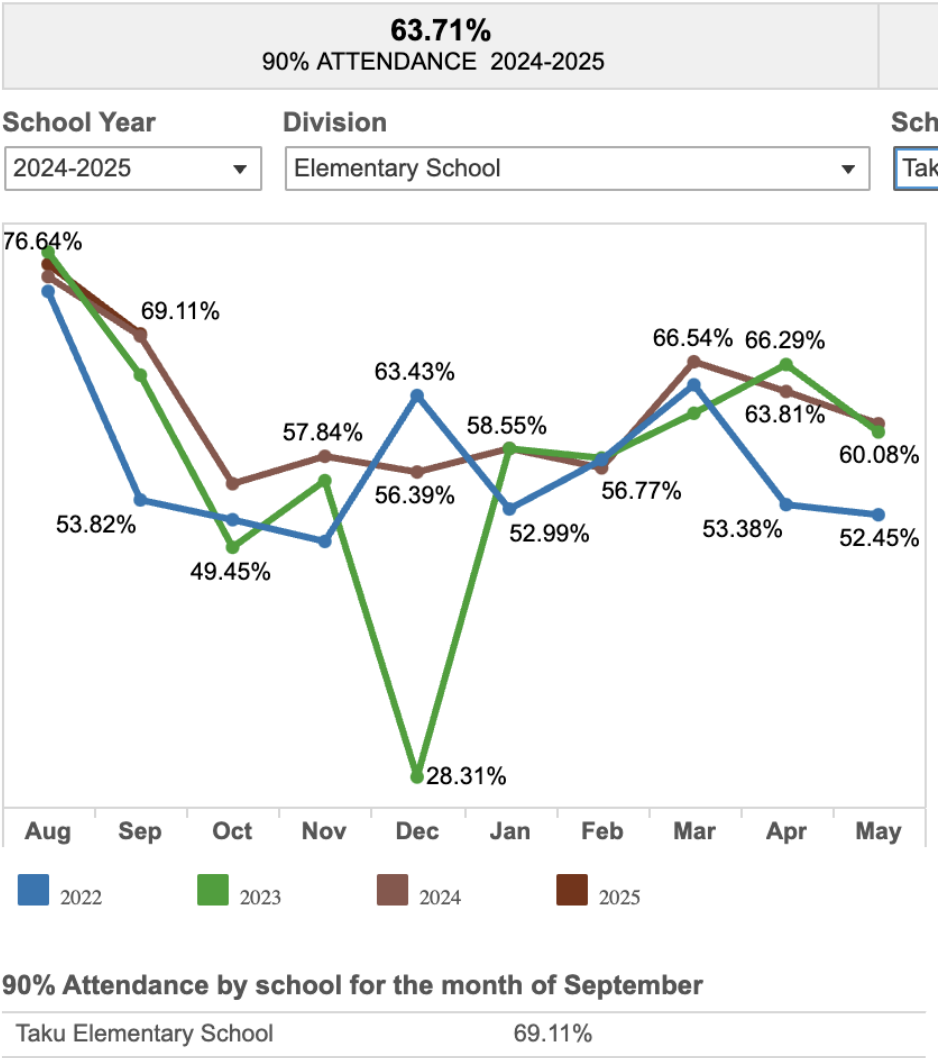
Go Tigers!

Best regards,
Kaitlin Tallman, Principal
Sara Kriz, Assistant Principal

Taku Attendance Data - 63.71%

Regular attendance is important for your child's success. And most classrooms begin learning right away at 8:00, so being on time is crucial.

Taku's attendance goal this year is to have 70% of students attend school 90% of the time.



The Anchorage School District is dedicated to providing a safe and civil learning environment. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying disrupt a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Students and staff are expected to consistently demonstrate respectful conduct and communication to ensure safe learning environments for all.

If a student experiences, or another person observes, a student being harassed, intimidated, or bullied, they should report it to a school administrator or through [STOPit](#) anonymous reporting. This [Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying flier](#) outlines the reporting process.



Taku has decided to hold a Read-A-Thon this year!

Read-A-Thons get your reader excited about reading and it gives friends and family the opportunity to encourage your child to read even more.

Our Read-A-Thon starts Monday, October 21, 2024.

About one week before our Read-A-Thon starts we will send home instructions on how to activate your reader's personal page. This is where you will be able to view and record their progress. We encourage you to activate your reader's account today by clicking on <https://www.read-a-thon.com/readers/r/323737323532/1> and following the simple instructions. We've chosen Read-A-Thon because it will not take much of your time, gives your child a reason to read, and helps in the development of stronger reading skills.

We hope EVERYONE participates.

Thanks so much

Attention Parents: Parent-Teacher Conferences Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars! Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on **October 23rd and 24th**, with **no school on October 25th**. This is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and goals for the school year.

Please use the link below to schedule your conference time. We encourage all parents to participate!

<https://apps.asdk12.org/ConferenceScheduling/StudentScheduleStartExt.aspx>

Nurse's Note

HEAD LICE: HOW TO STAY AHEAD

HEAD LICE (or pediculosis) are annoying little insects that live on the human scalp and feed on blood. They are a small, tan-colored critter (less than 1/8 long). They may live for days or weeks depending on temperature and humidity. They deposit tiny, gray/white eggs, known as "nits", on the shaft of hair 3 – 4mm from the scalp because the eggs need the warmth from the scalp for hatching. They cannot live for more than 48 hours away from the scalp as adult insects, and eggs cannot hatch at temperatures lower than those found close to the scalp. Lice do not carry disease but are a nuisance. They are not sign of uncleanness; they love clean hair because it is easier to hold on to! Lice are transmitted by direct contact, head to head. They crawl, they do not fly or hop. Once discovered, child must stay home only until they have been treated.



STAYING AHEAD OF HEAD LICE:

1. Watch for signs/symptoms of head lice: excessive itching or scratching head especially behind ears and nape of neck.
2. Check family members for lice and nits/eggs at least once a week. It helps to use natural light and a magnifying glass.
3. Treat only family members who have lice. Treatment of choice over the counter/prescription medication that kill head lice and nits.
4. Use these specialized shampoos exactly as instructed to be most effective. Use product over sink. Keep eyes covered with washcloth.
5. Removing all nits (eggs) with a special fine-toothed comb is the most effective way to get rid of them. This may be a tedious job.
6. Wash infested articles that can be laundered at 130 F (54.4 C) and dried on the hot setting. (hats, pillows, bedding, clothing, etc)
7. Toys, personal articles, bedding, other fabrics, and upholstered furniture that cannot be laundered with hot water and a dryer or dry-cleaned can be kept away from people (in a plastic bag) for more than 2 days if there is concern of infestation.
8. Head lice can live for 1 -2 day away from the scalp; chemical treatment of the environment is not necessary. Vacuum floors, carpets, mattresses, and furniture.
9. Continue to check head daily for at least 2-3 weeks after discovery. Removing nits EVERY day for 3 weeks is the most effective treatment
10. Help prevent lice infestation by encouraging your child not to engage in activity that causes head to head contact.

Ellie Smith
Registered Nurse
Taku Elementary School
907-742-5928

Specialist News

Art with Elizabeth Feucht

All Taku students are eligible to take part in the Annual Fur Rondy Button Contest! You can watch this [slideshow](#) or [movie](#) for more information. I have papers at school, but you can also download the entry form here: [Fur Rondy Contest Entry Form](#). Return your entry form to me at Taku by September 25th, or return it right to the Fur Rondy Headquarters by October 19.

Go, Taku Artists!

If you have any questions, you can email me at Feucht_elizabeth@asdk12.org



Library with Amy Johnson

October @ Your Library

Happy October, All!

Curriculum



Activities

Sincerely,

Ms. Johnson
Taku Elementary School Librarian

PE with Mr. B

Physical Education/Health Teacher, M. Ed.
Taku Elementary - Taku Tigers
701 E. 72nd Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99518
1 (907) 742-5940

Important Dates



Picture Retake Day - 10/15

If your child missed picture day or would like to retake their photo, please ensure they arrive at school on time! We'll also be taking class photos, so don't miss out on this important day.



PTA Meeting - 10/8

Come and join our PTA meeting from 5:30pm - 6:30pm!



Family Night - 10/17

From 4:00pm - 5:30pm. More information coming soon.



Taku has an Instagram!

Go like, share, and follow our page!



Parent-Teacher Conferences 10/23-10/24

Parent-teacher conferences are just around the corner! Students will have half days on 10/23 and 10/24, with no school on Friday, 10/25.



1st quarter award assembly - 10/21

We'll be holding an award assembly for our students on October 21st to celebrate their hard work and achievements.



Spirit Week 10/28 - 11/1

Spirit Week will be from 10/28 - 11/1. More information coming soon.

Thank you Great Alaska Pizza Lake Otis Pkwy



A big thank you to Great Alaska Pizza Co. for their generous donation of pizza for our Students of the Month! We're proud to celebrate these amazing students and their accomplishments.

THE BULLETIN BOARD, Office Ladies

HI TAKU FAMILIES!

Just some friendly reminders:

- Absences can be reported in parent connect. If you are planning a vacation please let the office know so we can enter a pre-arranged absence.
- Students who arrive to school at or after 8am need to come through the front office to get marked tardy. We have breakfast in the office for late students.
- We are striving to achieve an attendance rate of 90% or higher. More details on our new attendance procedures will be provided soon.
- Our Lost and Found is filling up! If your student is missing any items, please encourage them to check there first.



~ Rachel **Musselman** (AA) and Rachel **Ketchum** (Secretary) ~

Volunteering at Taku

If you are interested in volunteering at Taku this upcoming year, please fill out the volunteer form ASAP. This must be done every school year. Parents who filled out the form last year will need to reapply.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSft2SM758xCY0fkBu7cYj6vdYGO4RRJt7LFAqrCKaQDHMwPMg/viewform>

We encourage families to do this now, that way, as events, field trips and other volunteer opportunities arise you won't have to scramble last minute. The volunteer process includes a background check and can take up to 5 business days before ASD's Office of Equity approves or denies your application. Once we have received the approval/denial we will email you to let you know.

PTA Vacancies for 24-25 School Year

The following PTA positions will be vacant for the upcoming 24-25 school year:

- Teacher Representative
- Parent Volunteers

We would love to have you [join](#) the Taku PTA! If you are interested, please join us for the September PTA Meeting!



Taku Elementary

Email: takuattendance@asdk12.org

Website: <https://www.asdk12.org/taku>

Location: [701 East 72nd Avenue, Anchorage, AK, USA](#)

Phone: [907-742-5940](tel:907-742-5940)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/taku365/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/taku_elementary365/



Taku Elementary

Taku is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters