

January 2024, Tiger Tales

Taku Elementary Kaitlin Tallman, Principal



Taku Mission Statement

Taku will create a safe and welcoming learning environment to support the diverse needs of students where everyone believes they are valued and capable of success.



Principal's Corner, Kaitlin Tallman

Taku families,

Thank you for a wonderful first half of the school year! We are fortunate to live and work in such a supportive and caring community. We wish everyone great joy, rest and relaxation with family and friends during the holiday break. It is a wonderful time to reconnect and enjoy family. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday, 1/8/2024!

If you need assistance with anything, please contact us via email (asktaku@asdk12.org) or by phone (742-5940). We are here to help you. It is an honor to serve the Taku community. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to be in contact.

Kaitlin Tallman,
Taku Principal

We are Hiring!

Are you interested in working with the Taku Team? Maybe you know someone who would be a great addition to our learning community? We are hiring for several positions, including an



administrative assistant, classroom teacher, special education teacher, substitute teachers, and noon duties.

You can apply online here:

<https://www.applitrack.com/asd/onlineapp/default.aspx?AppliTrackPostingSearch=location:%22TAKU+ELEMENTARY%22>

Want to search all of our job openings: Follow this link:

asdk12.org, click the yellow tab labeled, " I want to...", click "Apply

for a Job", and then click "View External Applicant Positions."

Come and work with us!

Join our next PTA meeting!

We will be meeting in the Taku Library 1/16/23 at 5:30 pm! Please join us!

Support Your PTA!

We're calling on all parents, teachers, and supporters to join hands and support our school's initiatives. Your donation will go a long way in funding important programs, activities, and resources for our students. To make your contribution and help us reach our goals, please visit <http://takupta.memberhub.com> and donate today. Every dollar counts and helps us provide a brighter future for our students. Thank you for being a part of our dedicated PTA community!



Parking Lot Safety

Please remember safety is our top priority at Taku!

Some reminders in the parking lot during pick up and drop off:

- Parents and families should stay in their cars during pick up and drop off.
- Students and families should use the cross walk when appropriate.
- Students should stay in vehicles until you reach the drop off zone in the drop off loop.
- No running through the parking lot during drop off.
- Families should not drop off or pick up in the Bus Loop.
- Families should use the Pick up and Drop off Loop - do not drop off in the staff parking lot
- Please do not block the parking lot entrances and exits.

Thank you to all of you for helping to keep out students safe!

Basketball News

Basketball is under way! Taku has two teams separated by ability level. Please talk with your player to see what team they are playing on. Here is the schedule for the season. Please come support our players.



Upper League Schedule 23/24 Wolverine League

1. ANCS 1 12/1 @ Trailside 12/8 Fairview 12/15 Lake Otis *12/19 @ Baxter 1/12 Northwood 1/19 @ Taku 1 1/26 W. Crest 1 2/2 @ Chinook	2. Baxter 12/1 @ Taku 1 12/8 Chu. Opt. 1 12/15 @ Klatt 1 *12/19 ANCS 1 1/12 @ North Star 1/19 Spring Hill 1/26 @ Trailside 2/2 Bayshore 1	3. Bayshore 1 12/1 @ Spring Hill 12/8 Chinook 12/15 Kincaid 1 *12/19 @ Trailside 1/12 @ Lake Otis 1/19 Sand Lake 1/26 Taku 1 2/2 @ Baxter	4. Chinook 12/1 Sand Lake 12/8 @ Bayshore 1 12/15 Gov. Hill *12/19 @ Taku 1 1/12 Klatt 1 1/19 @ O'Malley 1 1/26 @ Spring Hill 2/2 ANCS 1	5. Chu. Opt.1 12/1 O'Malley 1 12/8 @ Baxter 12/15 @ Fairview *12/19 Spring Hill 1/12 @ Kincaid 1 1/19 Northwood 1/26 @ Sand Lake 2/2 Trailside
6. Fairview 12/1 Northwood 12/8 @ ANCS 1 12/15 Chu. Opt. 1 *12/19 @ Sand Lake 1/12 Gov. Hill 1/19 @ North Star 1/26 O'Malley 1 2/2 @ Taku 1	7. Gov. Hill 12/1 @ North Star 12/8 Trailside 12/15 @ Chinook *12/19 O'Malley 1 1/12 @ Fairview 1/19 Lake Otis 1/26 @ Northwood 2/2 Spring Hill	8. Kincaid 1 12/1 @ Lake Otis 12/8 Taku 1 12/15 @ Bayshore 1 *12/19 @ Northwood 1/12 Chu. Opt. 1 1/19 Klatt 1 1/26 @ North Star 2/2 Sand Lake	9. Klatt 1 12/1 @ W. Crest 1 12/8 Spring Hill 12/15 Baxter *12/19 North Star 1/12 @ Chinook 1/19 @ Kincaid 1 1/26 Lake Otis 2/2 @ O'Malley 1	10. Lake Otis 12/1 Kincaid 1 12/8 @ Sand Lake 12/15 @ ANCS 1 *12/19 W. Crest 1 1/12 Bayshore 1 1/19 @ Gov. Hill 1/26 @ Klatt 1 2/2 Northwood
11. North Star 12/1 Gov. Hill 12/8 @ O'Malley 1 12/15 @ Trailside *12/19 @ Klatt 1 1/12 Baxter 1/19 Fairview 1/26 Kincaid 1 2/2 @ W. Crest 1	12. Northwood 12/1 @ Fairview 12/8 W. Crest 1 12/15 Taku 1 *12/19 Kincaid 1 1/12 @ ANCS 1 1/19 @ Chu. Opt. 1 1/26 Gov. Hill 2/2 @ Lake Otis	13. O'Malley 1 12/1 @ Chu. Opt. 1 12/8 North Star 12/15 @ Spring Hill *12/19 @ Gov. Hill 1/12 Trailside 1/19 Chinook 1/26 @ Fairview 2/2 Klatt 1	14. Sand Lake 12/1 @ Chinook 12/8 Lake Otis 12/15 @ W. Crest 1 *12/19 Fairview 1/12 Taku 1 1/19 @ Bayshore 1 1/26 Chu. Opt. 1 2/2 @ Kincaid 1	15. Spring Hill 12/1 Bayshore 1 12/8 @ Klatt 1 12/15 O'Malley 1 *12/19 @ Chu. Opt. 1 1/12 W. Crest 1 1/19 @ Baxter 1/26 Chinook 2/2 @ Gov. Hill
16. Taku 1 12/1 Baxter 12/8 @ Kincaid 1 12/15 @ Northwood *12/19 Chinook 1/12 @ Sand Lake 1/19 ANCS 1 1/26 @ Bayshore 1 2/2 Fairview	17. Trailside 12/1 ANCS 1 12/8 @ Gov. Hill 12/15 North Star *12/19 Bayshore 1 1/12 @ O'Malley 1 1/19 @ W. Crest 1 1/26 Baxter 2/2 @ Chu. Opt. 1	18. W. Crest 1 12/1 Klatt 1 12/8 @ Northwood 12/15 Sand Lake *12/19 @ Lake Otis 1/12 @ Spring Hill 1/19 Trailside 1/26 @ ANCS 1 2/2 North Star	1. Alaska Native Charter School 1 2. Baxter 3. Bayshore 1 4. Chinook 5. Chugach Optional 1 6. Fairview 7. Government Hill 8. Kincaid 1 9. Klatt 1	10. Lake Otis 11. North Star 12. Northwood 13. O'Malley 1 14. Sand Lake 15. Spring Hill 16. Taku 1 17. Trailside 18. Willow Crest 1

Tournament Date: Feb. 10, 2024

Tournament site: Clark Middle School

Starting time TBD

Lower League Schedule 23/24

Winter League

1. ANCS2 12/1 Chu. Opt. 2 12/8 @ Muldoon 12/15 @ W. Park *12/19 Bowman 1/12 @ Klatt 2 1/19 M. View 1/26 @ C. Gate 2/2 Kincaid 2	2. Bayshore2 12/1 Bowman 12/8 @ M. View 12/15 @ Taku 2 *12/19 W. Park 1/12 Kincaid 2 1/19 @ Klatt 2 1/26 @ Chu. Opt. 2 2/2 C. Gate	3. Bowman12/1 @ Bayshore2 12/8 Klatt 2 12/15 @ O'Malley 2 *12/19 @ ANCS 2 1/12 C. Gate 1/19 Kincaid 2 1/26 @ W. Crest 2 2/2 Chu. Opt. 2	4. Chu.Opt.2 12/1 @ ANCS2 12/8 Kincaid 2 12/15 Muldoon *12/19 @ W. Crest 2 1/12 W. Park 1/19 @ C. Gate 1/26 Bayshore 2 2/2 @ Bowman	5. C. Gate 12/1 W. Crest 2 12/8 @ W. Park 12/15 @ M. View *12/19 Williwaw 1/12 @ Bowman 1/19 Chu. Opt. 2 1/26 ANCS 2 2/2 @ Bayshore 2	6. Kincaid2 12/1 Williwaw 12/8 @ Chu. Opt. 2 12/15 Klatt 2 *12/19 Taku 2 1/12 @ Bayshore 2 1/19 @ Bowman 1/26 W. Park 2/2 @ ANCS 2
7. Klatt 2 12/1 Taku 2 12/8 @ Bowman 12/15 @ Kincaid 2 *12/19 @ O'Malley 2 1/12 ANCS 2 1/19 Bayshore 2 1/26 @ Williwaw 2/2 W. Crest 2	8. M.View12/1 @ O'Malley 2 12/8 Bayshore 2 12/15 C. Gate *12/19 Muldoon 1/12 @ W. Crest 2 1/19 @ ANCS 2 1/26 @ Taku 2 2/2 Williwaw	9. Muldoon 12/1 W. Park 12/8 ANCS 2 12/15 @ Chu. Opt. 2 *12/19 @ M. View 1/12 @ Williwaw 1/19 W. Crest 2 1/26 @ O'Malley 2 2/2 Taku 2	10. O'Malley2 12/1 M. View 12/8 @ W. Crest 2 12/15 Bowman *12/19 Klatt 2 1/12 @ Taku 2 1/19 @ Williwaw 1/26 Muldoon 2/2 @ W. Park	11. Taku 2 12/1 @ Klatt 2 12/8 Williwaw 12/15 Bayshore 2 *12/19 @ Kincaid 2 1/12 O'Malley 2 1/19 @ W. Park 1/26 M. View 2/2 @ Muldoon	12. Williwaw 12/1 @ Kincaid2 12/8 @ Taku 2 12/15 W. Crest. 2 *12/19 @ C. Gate 1/12 Muldoon 1/19 O'Malley 2 1/26 Klatt 2 2/2 @ M. View
13. W. Crest2 12/1 @ C. Gate 12/8 O'Malley 2 12/15 @ Williwaw *12/19 Chu. Opt. 2 1/12 M. View 1/19 @ Muldoon 1/26 Bowman 2/2 @ Klatt 2	14. W. Park 12/1 @ Muldoon 12/8 C. Gate 12/15 ANCS *12/19 @ Bayshore 2 1/12 @ Chu. Opt. 2 1/19 Taku 2 1/26 @ Kincaid 2 2/2 O'Malley 2			1. Alaska NativeCharterSchool 2 2. Bayshore 2 3. Bowman 4. Chugach Optional 2 5. College Gate 6. Kincaid 2 7. Klatt 2	8. Mountain View 9. Muldoon 10. O'Malley 2 11. Taku 2 12. Williwaw 13. Willow Crest 2 14. Wonder Park

Tournament Date: Feb. 17, 2024

Tournament site: Clark Middle School

Starting time TBD

Family Night

What an incredible family night we had! It was heartwarming to see everyone come together. We're incredibly grateful to all the families who joined us—your presence made the night truly special. Here's to many more wonderful connections we build as a community. Thank you for making it a night to remember!





Nurse's Note

Hello families-

I hope this finds you well and in good health. I am working on placing reflective stickers on student's jackets. This helps to ensure that student's are visible to drivers while outside in these dark months.

As always, I am taking donations for winter gear and clothing. If you have any donations, please consider sending them to my office.

Never hesitate to reach out to me if there is something I can do to support you or you student here at school.

Nurse Karra



The Buzz with Bauer

In order to thrive, relationships need frequent care and attention. Family rituals allow families to slow down and connect, and they're associated with powerful benefits. They give you and your children a sense of security, identity and belonging. They can help children feel safe during uncertainty or change. Whether it's a shared coffee/hot chocolate every morning, or a ten-minute

check-in before bed, it is a special time for you and your families to connect, share affection, and be fully present. Family rituals are a way to focus energy with your families this holiday season and into the new year!



As a family, use the tips and examples below to create your own rituals:

Just be together:

Spend quality, uninterrupted time together, even if it's only for five minutes.

Eliminate distractions:

Turn off the TV, put away/silence cell phones, and move away from any other distractions that interrupt.

Keep it simple:

A ritual doesn't have to be a big event. It can be as simple as listening to a favorite song together.

Make it a priority:

Protect the time you set aside for your ritual, even when life gets busy.

Be completely present:

Spend time mindfully, focusing on your family and the experiences you're sharing.

Keep it simple:

A ritual doesn't have to be a big event. It can be as simple as sitting and reading a book together or going on a short walk.

Do it consistently:

Make it a routine of doing the ritual weekly (more if you want).

A few ideas for family rituals:

Arrivals & Departures:

When leaving for the day or returning home, connect with your family for a few moments. Discuss plans for the day, share an embrace, or talk about something that's on your mind. Have a mindful interaction, versus a rushed goodbye.

Morning or Evening Walk:

Take a walk around your neighborhood after dinner. Be mindful, paying attention to the sights, sounds, and smells outside that you would normally overlook. After a few minutes, take turns sharing what you noticed.

Quality time:

Choose a day and time each week to do something together that brings you joy.

Get moving:

Go for a walk, run/jog, practice yoga, play a favorite sport, or any physical activity. Get in a routine of doing exercise together daily or certain days of the week.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful holiday season!

Abby Bauer

School Counselor

Specialist News

Library with Amy Johnson

December and January @ Your Library

Curriculum:

For December, the genre, or style of writing, of the month is Folk and Fairy Tales. In January, all students will study the genre of Fantasy.

Activities:

The Library Class of the Month competition will continue through December and January, and for the rest of the school year.

All of us at Taku Elementary School wish you and your family a fabulous winter holiday.

Sincerely,

Amy Johnson, Taku Librarian



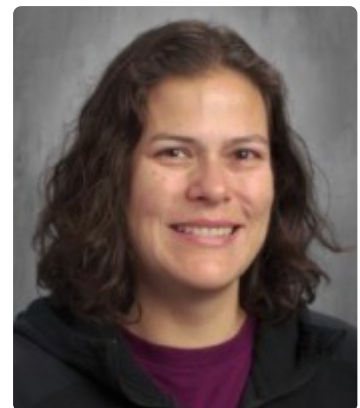
P.E. with Natalie Washington

Physical Education News:

Coming events:

· Healthy Futures log

- Thank you for participating in the Fall Healthy Futures logs!
- The next log will be in February.



Gym Shoes:

- Your student needs a clean, non-marking pair of gym shoes to leave at school.
- These are used for PE class to ensure they can participate safely and keep our new gym floor clean!

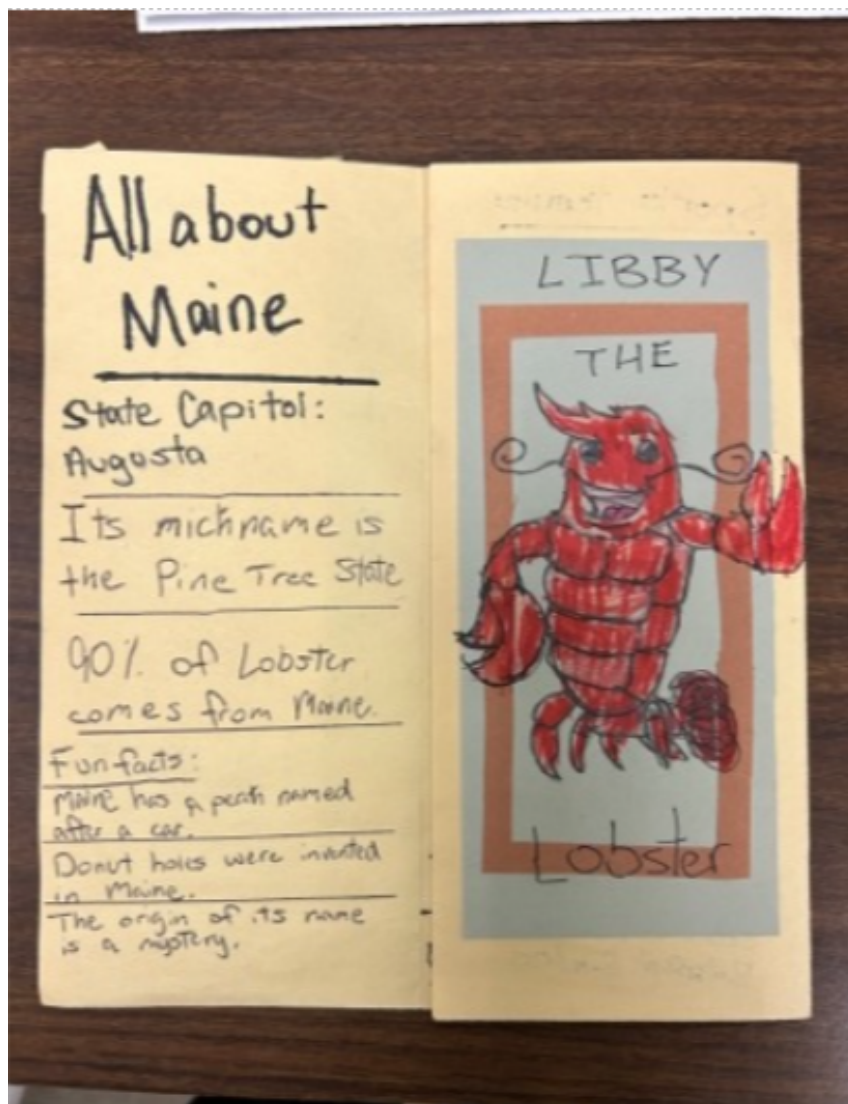
4-6 Enrichment WIN

This quarter, the 4-6 enrichment WIN group worked on Travel Brochures.

They chose a state randomly and then researched their state. The next step was creating a travel brochure about their state to entice people to visit. Every student did an amazing job with their research and design.

Here is the winner: MAINE by Natalie Wonhola





Thank you
Natalie Washington

Washington_natalie@asdk12.org

Health with Katrina Rhodes

Parents or Guardians of 5th and 6th Grade Students:

During the 2nd semester, the Elementary Health curriculum, The Great Body Shop, will cover Human Growth and Development and Diseases.

The 5th grade units are "Growing Up" and "About Blood and Disease."

The 6th grade units are "The Reproductive System" and "HIV/AIDS: What You Need to Know Now."

Lesson topics, student issues, and videos can be viewed here.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zTuTxyXfvva8JXUNPqjgYJgmiVUCp7xS>



An OPTIONAL in-person Parent Preview opportunity is scheduled for:

Taku Elementary

Thursday, January 11, 2024

3:45pm – 4:30pm

HeArt Room

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Katrina Hill Rhodes

Health/SEL Specialist

Rhodes_katrina@asdk12.org

Important Dates



See you 1/8/24!

We are looking forward to seeing kids back to school on Monday, 1/8/2024!



1/15/24 - MLK Day - No school

Reminder: No school 1/15/24



1/16 - PTA Meeting

Join us at the PTA meeting at 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm!

Donor Thank You

CU1 Donation

BIG SHOUTOUT to CU1 Bank for their incredible generosity! Thank you for warming our hearts and gearing us up for winter with your donation of winter gear and backpacks to our school. Your support means the world to us!



The Bulletin Board, Office Ladies

Please join us in saying goodbye to Joy. She'll be missed, but we're cheering her on from here! Go conquer the world, Joy!

Student Handbook: https://www.asdk12.org/cms/lib/AK02207157/Centricity/Domain/1179/23-24_ES-Student-Handbook_Accessible.pdf

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/1FAIpQLSft2SM758xCY0fkBu7cYj6vdYGO4RRJt7LFAqrCKaQD_HMwPMg/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.



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/>



Taku Elementary

Taku is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters