



The Paw Print



Carpenter Elementary

Building our Family One Branch at a Time!

As winter arrives and the weather turns cold, many of us start to turn in to our family and home for this season. As we do this, let's be sure to reflect on the community we've **BUILT** together here at Carpenter: our children attend a school with teachers who care and work hard every day with our students, we have an administration who works to enrich their lives, and parents who do all they can to make the time at Carpenter better for all.

Let's remember that the cornerstone of this community we live in is family. We build this school on relationships, family and care for each other. In that spirit, we humbly present to you an opportunity to build each other up.

In the next week there will be a tree placed in the lobby and will be there through December 15th. Visit our Family Tree and choose an envelope. Each envelope will contain a way you can help a fellow family breathe a little easier and celebrate the season this year. All donations are anonymous. No matter what this season means for your family, let's come together to make sure all our families have a peaceful, heartfelt season.



Upcoming Events:

**Thursday, December 14th
& Friday, December 15th**
Penguin Patch Gift Shop

**Monday, December 18th -
Friday, December 22nd**
Sprit Week

Friday, December 22nd
Last day for winter break

Monday, January 7th
School Resumes

Wednesday, January 9th
Little Caesar's Pizz Kit
Orders Go Home

Monday, January 15th
No School

Tuesday, January 16th
PTO General
Membership Meeting
MPR 6:30 p.m.



Carpenter Elementary School's Mission

The Carpenter School Community will provide a respectful, responsible, and safe environment in which each student is academically, emotionally, and socially prepared to face the future.



News You Can Use!



Carnival NEEDS a Committee

Over and over again, when we talk to our students, the number one event they remember from their time at Carpenter is CARNIVAL!!!!

Food! Fun! Games!

There is so much to love about our final event of the year. OUR CARNIVAL WILL NOT HAPPEN THIS YEAR WITHOUT YOU!!!

Although our PTO has the ability to help with the planning, we do NOT have a Carnival Chair this year to organize and put together our carnival.

We must start planning now and we NEED a committee to begin! If you are willing to help on our carnival committee, please email Kym Randall at carpenterptopres1@gmail.com, or talk to any PTO board member.



News from the Music Room November and December

We've made great progress this term in the Music room. Our theme for November was being thankful. Students talked about what it means to be thankful and how they can show their thankfulness at school and at home. Students illustrated examples from one of our videos and wrote sentences to match. You can see some of the examples in the special area hallway outside the multi purpose room. We learned a number of songs about being thankful and a few turkey songs, mostly about them running away. A link you might like is:

Kid President's 25 Reasons to Be Thankful

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yA5Qpt1JRE4>

Our December theme will be having fun with music and movement. Young students have been listening to instrumental music during our "listening game" then moving along with the melody. We are adding scarves and ribbon sticks to add fluidity to the movements. Older students will be listening as well, but we've added a combination of classical songs and modern/popular songs collected by our fifth grade students. Mirrored movements in time to the music and interpretive movement will be our goal.

Every student from Young 5s through 5th grade has worked with rhythmic patterns in 4/4 time. Older students will be building their own rhythmic patterns and eventually add words and melodies to write their own songs. I hope to have a Google classroom for 5th graders up in January to assist.

Two classes went on a UMS field trip to hear traditional music and dance from India. The visiting group was called Ragmala. We were chosen to have two representatives from UMS prepare the students in a pre and post show workshop where they learned movements and gestures used in traditional dance along with the background pictures based on the game "Chutes and Ladders". We were also able to reduce the cost of the ticket and have our bus covered by a grant from the U of M Credit Union and UMS. We thank them for helping provide this opportunity for our students. The students were amazing as usual and mostly stayed attentive to this new and intricate music. Students wrote letters and illustrated chalk pictures that were then sent to UMS and the performers as thanks for the opportunity. There is also a display in our hallway.

Second grade students will be traveling to Eastern Michigan's Pease auditorium on Friday, December 8th to see both the orchestra and school of dance perform Coppelia by Delibes, in a Youth Concert. Concert dress is appreciated. No heels or flip-flops please. We've watched snippets of the ballet and are learning the condensed story. This is a great trip and it's free! Thank you PTO for paying for the bus.

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Music Room News Cont.

Second graders are being introduced to using xylophones. We are learning the correct handgrip (like a bicycle handlebar, no thumbsies or pointer fingers extended), where to hit the bars (in the middle), high and low notes, and three kinds of strikes, together, alternating and crossing over. While mostly playing in the pentatonic scale, we hope to eventually accompany some of our simple so-mi songs by the end of the year. **Thank you PTO** for providing our classroom with a mini-grant for two xylophones. We received a third xylophone from a Donor's Choose grant in October.

I have a request for another xylophone in Donor's Choose. So far two people have submitted donations. I'd love to add another working xylophone to the collection. I am working on repairing and finding parts for the remaining, older instruments. Here is a link for more information on my project:

Excellent Experiences Using a Classroom Xylophone!.

UMS is holding a teacher workshop at Carpenter on collage and pop up books on December 5th and 7th led by Kennedy Center Teaching Artist and founder of Creative Curiosity Inc. Kim McCormack. A number of our teachers will be attending along with many from across southeastern Michigan. We were pleased to learn that Kim will be visiting Mrs. Brower's first grade class in the music room and working with them on Wednesday afternoon prior to one of her demonstrations.

Third graders are beginning to play the Doumbek drums and simple patterns. You may remember we received three different grants last year for a total of 27 drums. Half arrived the day after our concert. We will be better prepared and ready for this year's concert.

Fourth grade students continue to learn how to play recorders. They've made amazing progress in both reading the notes and playing them in rhythm. We are now playing B- A-G-high C and high D. Recorders go home on Mondays and return on Thursdays. I am introducing Google classroom on Monday to the fourth graders and hope that will help them continue to practice with a little more direction. I am also sending home practice sheets to monitor and record minutes spent playing recorder or reading notes. Once completed, sheets can be returned for a trip to my Treasure Box.

Young 5s, kindergarteners and first graders, I will be scheduling "Informances" for your child's class in January, February and March. They will be held in the music room during your child's regularly scheduled music class. I hope to share with you the things students do to "learn about and enjoy" music.

Second, third and fourth graders will have day assemblies later in the year.

Fourth graders will also have a night concert. Fifth grade students will have an instrumental concert in the spring.

Donations: Cold and flu season is here. We have hand sanitizer but could really use a few boxes of Kleenex.

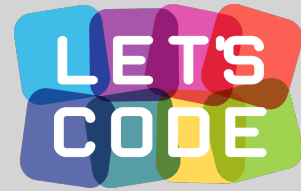
See my website for more information about the music room:

<https://bordersmusic.weebly.com>

Sincerely,
Ann Marie Borders, borders@aaps.k12.mi.us

News from the Carpenter Library

Hour of Code



During the weeks of November 27-December 8, classes will

participate in [Hour of Code](#). Carpenter students will learn the basics of computer programming, using kid-friendly "Blockly" programming language, which allows them to drag and drop the appropriate commands to create a program. Students from over 180 countries will take part in this event. Please note Kindergarten students will complete the Hour of Code event during their PLTW time.

For more information and resources please visit:

<https://code.org/learn>

<https://www.tynker.com/hour-of-code/>

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Students can access the library website at <http://carpenterlibrary.weebly.com/> to use the sites at home.

Educationally
yours,

Mrs. Clark



The Penguin Patch is Coming!!!!

It's time for one of my favorite Carpenter traditions -- the Penguin Patch!!

On December 14th and 15th, all students will have the opportunity to visit Carpenter's holiday shop to purchase gifts for their loved ones. With the help of our parent volunteers, students will select gifts, budget, check out, and wrap presents.

This event is not possible without your help!! Please volunteer for a 2-hour time block to assist our students. I promise that the joy on their faces will make every minute worthwhile!

Visit our sign-up genius to volunteer:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e44a5a82faafe3-carpenter>



Volunteer With Your PTO

Want to help, but not exactly sure how?

Complete our Volunteer Interest Form and help us **BUILD** an amazing PTO team!

Follow this link to help us **BUILD**

<https://goo.gl/forms/flslmyGNcLKl7Lh73>

Share Your Stories & Events

We would love to hear about what great things are happening within the Carpenter Community. If your class, teacher, or school organization has done something or will be doing something that the community should know about, please share with us!

E-Notes

This is a weekly list of upcoming events with a small description and links for signing up, if applicable.

These are due by Tuesday of each week.

Paw Print

For publication in our bi-weekly Newsletter provide a flyer or article about your event.

Submissions for the next edition of the Paw Print are due by **Monday, December 11th.**

Please send submissions to: Kim Ulrich - kim@bityard.net

Please note, that Mr. Johnson has final say on all information provided to our community.

Guess Who's Coming to Our School...

Jenny's Penguin Patch® KIDS' HOLIDAY SHOP

Dear Parents,

Your child is receiving a special gift this holiday season... the joy of giving! Your school is providing the chance for your child to shop for their loved ones with the Penguin Patch Holiday Shop®.

Important tips to create a memorable experience for your child... and for you!

1. Plan and budget with your child using the money envelope provided.
2. Every gift is inexpensive, with kid-friendly pricing from 25¢ to \$12.
3. Join the fun and excitement - Sign up at your school to volunteer during the Penguin Patch Holiday Shop®.
4. Ask your child why they chose a particular gift... the smile will be the real gift!



PS: One of our favorite stories comes from a mom who cherishes the "Big Diamond Ring" that her son bought for her five years ago. He was so excited that he had bought a better gift than dad that year!



Queridos Padres.

Su hijo(a) esta recibiendo un regalo especial esta temporada festiva el disfrutar de regalar! Tu escuela te da la oportunidad para comprar a quienes amas con el Penguin Patch Holiday Shop®.

Consejos importantes para crear una experiencia memorable para su hijo(a) ... y para usted!:

1. Haz un plan y presupuesto con el sobre de dinero y lista de regalos.
2. Cada regalo no es caro, con precios amigables para hijo(a) desde 25c hasta \$12.
3. Unete a este exitante y divertido evento - Registrate en tu escuela como voluntario durante el Penguin Patch Holiday Shop®.
4. Pregunta a tu Hijo(a) por que ellos escogen ese regalo en particular ...la sonrisa sera el regalo real!



PS: Una de nuestras historias favoritas viene de una mama quien guardaba en su corazon el "Gran anillo de Diamante" que su hijo trajo para ella hace cinco años. El estaba tan emocionado por que el habia traído el major regalo que papa ese año!

Parent's Night Out

(5th Grade Camp Fundraiser)

Drop the kids off and enjoy!!

Friday, Dec. 15th 6:00-10:00pm, at Carpenter Elementary

\$15.00 per child (Admission includes 1 slice of pizza and 1 drink)

Check in: 6:00-6:30pm

Pick up: 9:30-10:00pm

Lots of activities:



Open Gym



Movies



Games

Henna painting available at an additional cost (1 hand \$3.00, 2 hands \$5.00)

Snack Bar will be open to purchase additional items

Elementary age kids only

Kids not picked up by 10:00pm will be charged \$2.00 for every 5 minutes late



MITCHELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



FREE FOOD PROGRAM:

Monthly Food Distribution and Resource Fair

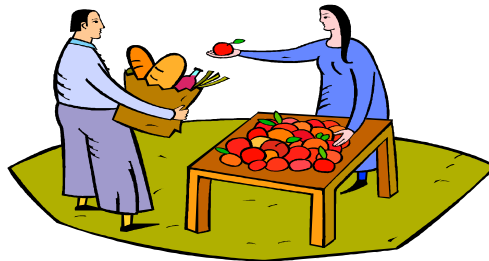
Non-perishables (Canned and Boxed Goods),

Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, and Bread

1st Saturday of every month

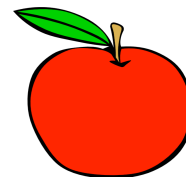
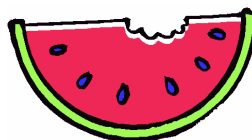
Food Gatherers truck arrives @ 9 AM

Distribution begins once food is ready and ends @ 11 AM



Eligibility Information

- **Must have child who attends Mitchell or Carpenter Elementary**
- **Photo Identification**
- **Verification of household members will only be necessary once a year.** Bring one of the following: state ID, drivers license, mail, bills, school records, voter card, lease, medical ID card, report cards, DHS/WIC ID





Programa de Alimentos **Libre** Escuela Elemental Mitchell:



Distribucion de Alimentos y Feria de Recursos Mensual

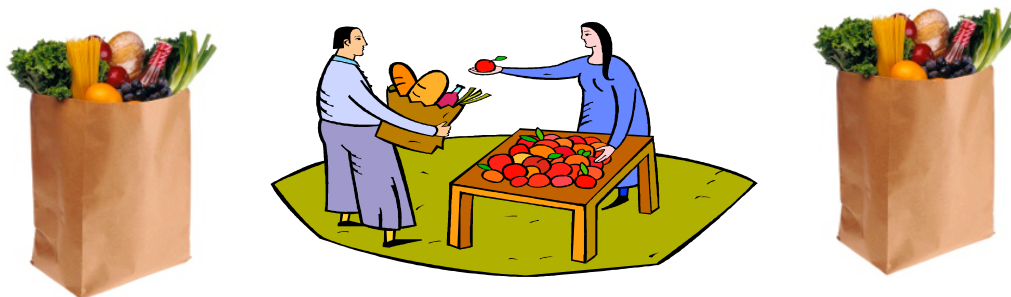
No-perecederos (alimentos en latas y cajas),

Frutas Frescas, Vegetales, y Pan

Primer Sabado de Cada Mes

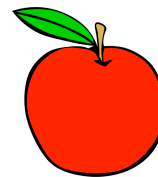
La camioneta de Food Gatherers con alimentos llega a las 9AM

Distribucion comienza cuando la comida está lista, Distribucion termina: 11AM



Información de elegibilidad

- Tiene que tener un niño que asiste a la Escuela Elemental Mitchell y Carpenter
- Identificación con foto
- **Verificar miembros de la familia: Esta verificación es necesaria solo una vez cada año.** Traer una de las siguientes: (identificación del estado, licencia de manejar, correo, recibo de la luz o gas, documentos escolares, tarjeta para votar, contrato de renta de hogar, título de auto, calificaciones de la escuela, o documentos (DHS/WIC))



Carpenter Elementary School

4250 Central Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Principal:

Michael Johnson

Secretary:

Valerie Bacoat

Teacher Clerk:

Valerie Munson

General Office Phone:

734-997-1214

Carpenter PTO Leadership

President: Kym Randall

Vice President: Shannon Dunn

Secretary: Andreia Souza

Treasurer: Amber Beattie

SIT: Glenn Timpe

Fundraising Chairs: Kathy Owens & Laura O'Leary

PTO Thrift Shop Representative: Kim Britt

PTOC Representative: Crystal Bissell

PAC Representative: Crystal Francis

SSSC Chair: Veronica Shallcross

Communication Chair: Kim Ulrich

Additional Ways to Support Your PTO and our Students!



Box Tops for Education:

Turn in your clipped Box Tops from participating products to the school office. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents for our school. Want to help our school earn extra box tops? Visit the following website to enter the sweepstakes: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/sweepstakes>



Coca Cola Product Bottle Caps:

Did you know that Coke Rewards can help bring money to our school?

Just visit: <https://donate.mycokerewards.com/causes/featured>



Amazonsmile:

Did you know that Amazon donates a percentage of each sale when you shop at smile.amazon.com? It's the exact same Amazon products, the same prices, and the same quick shipping, but when you shop Amazon Smile, Carpenter receives a portion of each sale!

1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. Login with your normal Amazon account info
3. Type Carpenter PTO in the charitable organization search box, and select our school.



**SHOP
DONATE
FUNDRAISE**

a2ptothriftshop.org ♦ 2280 S. Industrial Hwy. ♦ 734-996-9155

Clothing ♦ Shoes & Accessories ♦ Jewelry ♦ Household Goods ♦ Home Decor
Furniture ♦ Linens ♦ Crafts ♦ Toys ♦ Electronics ♦ Books/Media ♦ and More

**A nonprofit supporting Ann Arbor Public Schools and its students
through the resale of unique and gently-used community donations.**

SHOP

Mon-Fri 10-7
Sat 9-6 Sun 11-5

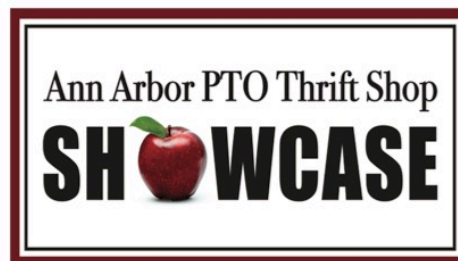
DONATE

Mon, Thu, Fri 10-6
Sat 10-5 Sun 12-4
Donations Closed Tue & Wed

FREE

Furniture Pickup
Call 996-9155

*Find unique and collectible
treasures at our
Showcase every day!
(Located next to our Donations Door)*



***Find out how you can help support AAPS by Volunteering at the
Shop! Email a2ptothrift@gmail.com for more information!***

