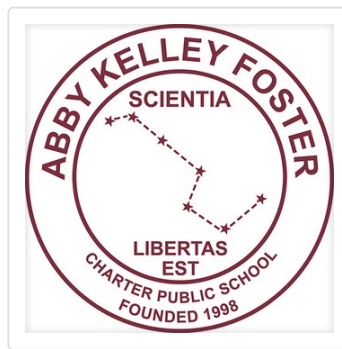


# Elementary School Principal Update

March 5, 2023



March is Kindness  
Month!

Abby Kelley Foster  
Charter  
Elementary

What is Kindness?

## March at Abby Kelley ES!

This is a very busy time for the students and staff of AKFCS Elementary! Please see the list of important dates below.

- Wednesday, March 15-Early Release Day for Family Conferences-please schedule a time with your student's teacher
- Thursday, March 16-Early Release Day for Family Conferences-please schedule a time with your student's teacher
- Friday, March 17-Free Dress Down in Green Day-students are encouraged to wear lucky green clothing, or any school appropriate clothing.
- Monday, March 20-Spring Picture Day-Free dress down day for students
- Wednesday, March 22-Early Release for Professional Development
- Thursday, March 30-5:00-7:30-Elementary Music Concert



## News from the Specialists!

### Art:

*Grade 3* is learning the art of weaving. They are using colored yarn and pattern to make a decorative piece or a wall hanging.

*Grade 2* learned about several contemporary artists. We used line, shape, color, and pattern to create several works in the style of each artist.

*Grade 1* illustrated a Love Monster, inspired by the book *Love Monster* by Rachel Bright. They used shape, color, and texture to make their own Love Monster. *Kindergarten* is learning about color mixing. They are mixing the primary colors to make secondary colors. They made a Mouse Paint color wheel inspired by the book *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh.

### Library:

*Grades 3 and 2* are learning how the library is organized. Last week we made a map of the fiction areas of the library including picture books, chapter books, and longer fiction books.

This week to promote Random Acts of Kindness Day (the official day is Feb. 17th), we are writing letters to teachers, friends, parents, and relatives. After vacation, we will start learning about Dewey Decimal System and the nonfiction collection.

*Grades 1 and Kindergarten* are learning about winter and hibernation. Each time we are together we learn a new sign language depending on the topic. Ask your child how to sign library, star, snow, book, or help. It's wonderful to see students use sign language and they are so proud to show off what they know.

Students have been misplacing library books, please help your child keep them in a safe place. If your student loses/damages a library book, please email or call before purchasing a new copy.

I can be reached at [kaarnold@akfcs.org](mailto:kaarnold@akfcs.org).

**Music:** We are working diligently towards our concerts on March 30th! It is such a joy to see each and every student work to the best of their ability with the goal of providing you with a fantastic show. 3rd grade is also working on reading notes on the Treble Clef and playing their recorders. 2nd and 1st grades are rocking out with boomwhackers and kindergarten is exploring tap dancing!

**P.E.:** Students have been eagerly alternating between practicing their tumbling skills and learning about winter sports as the snow has allowed. *Kindergarten and 1st grade* students have learned how to dress themselves independently from head to toe in snow clothes and gone sledding. *2nd and 3rd grade* students have begun to learn how to cross country ski. Students are crossing their fingers for more snowy days so we can continue to practice these fun winter skills!

**SEL:** Students have been practicing calming down strong feelings by using slow breathing, positive self-talk, and slow counting. Now, we are learning about empathy, kindness and true friendship. Empathy is feeling or understanding what someone else is feeling. Once we have empathy, we can do a kind act for someone. If we do kind things for others, we will make true friendships.

**Technology:**

*Students in grade 3* did a research project on animal teeth. Students are learning how to input word art, change color and style, add images, and format the text. *Grade 2* students researched underwater animals and are inputting word art, changing the color and style along with an image to represent the animal. *Grade 1* has been practicing locating letters on the keyboard using a fun interactive game. We have practiced logging into a new website to help practice and support math skills, [boddlelearning.com](http://boddlelearning.com). *Kindergarten* students have been exploring many different educational games. Students learned how to use the pen, pencil, marker, and selecting tool in the SeeSaw platform used weekly in class.

## Elementary Concert Update

As you know, we have been working very hard in music class for our upcoming concerts on March 30th! Each and every one of you can be proud of the hard work and focus your student brings to music class. Multiple students have been asking me for ways to practice their numbers outside of music class, so I would like to give them just that! This is not a

requirement, just something special for the students that would like to practice their songs, or show you what we are up to.

Kindergarten and First Grade songs can be found on here

[Practice for, "The Day the Crayons Quit"](#)

Second and Third Grade songs can be found on here

[Practice for, "It's Showtime"](#)

## Absences

Please limit family vacations to weeks when school is not in session. Our attendance policy is attached below.

### **Family Vacations during School Days:**

Family vacations scheduled during school time or prior to the last day of school are strictly prohibited and considered unexcused absences, regardless of whether the School has been notified in advance. **The school will not provide missed work ahead of time for students during family vacations.** If a student misses an excessive amount of school days (14 or more) they may be retained if they have not met the end of year grade level expectations. Extended vacations have a detrimental effect on a child's educational program and negatively impact the environment for the other students in the class. Parents must discuss any possible extended absences with the school Principal.

## Free Tutoring and more from the WPL!

- Worcester Public Library offers free, live, online tutoring. For more information, please see [Live Help](#).
- Check out the March calendar below for a list of activities being sponsored at the library!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Notes
			1	2 3:30 p.m. Graham Cracker Scenes	3	4	All programs are free! _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
5	6	7 10 a.m. Family Storytime	8	9	10 4 p.m. A Visit with Lego Master Builder Dan Steininger	11	
12	13	14 10 a.m. Family Storytime	15	16	17 3:30 p.m. St. Patrick's Day Salt Painting	18	
19 	20	21 10 a.m. Family Storytime	22 4 p.m. Crafty Kids: Stencil Art	23	24	25	
26	27	28 10 a.m. Family Storytime	29	30 4 p.m. Egg Hunt	31		

Don't forget the Main Library is open on Sundays from 12 to 4 p.m.

**Graham Cracker Scenes** - Thursday, March 2 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - We are making edible art on graham cracker canvases. Use different candies and snacks to make pictures almost too good to eat. All ages welcome.

**Family Storytime\*** - Tuesdays, March 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 10 - 10:45 a.m. - Now on Tuesdays! We will explore math, literacy, and social skills through rhymes, stories, and books. Suggested for children birth to 5 years old, older siblings are welcome!

**A Visit with Lego Master Builder Dan Steininger\*** - Friday, March 10 from 4 - 5 p.m. - Do you love Legos? Dan has been a Lego Master Builder for 23 years! He will share his lego knowledge in an interactive presentation. Learn about the life of a master builder then get a chance to do some building of your own! Suggested for ages 5-11.

**St. Patrick's Day Salt Painting** - Friday, March 17 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - Salt is for food, but it is also great for art. Come make colorful art featuring St. Patrick's Day symbols, or make something unique from your imagination. Suggested for ages 5-11.

**Crafty Kids: Stencil Art** - Wednesday, March 22 from 4 - 5 p.m. - Stencils are a great way to create a picture. Decorate a canvas bag with stencils, paint, and your creativity to carry all of your library books. You may also bring in a t-shirt or other cloth item to decorate. Suggested for ages 5-11.

**Egg Hunt** - Thursday, March 30 from 4 - 5 p.m. - Hop on over for a spring egg hunt! Please arrive early, as space and supplies are limited. Hunts begin promptly at the listed times. Those who can locate the elusive golden eggs will be rewarded with egg-cellent prizes! Ages 12 and under. Participants must check-in and receive the "rules" and an egg hunt bag.

\*Sponsored by the Friends of the Worcester Public Library.

# \*Lunch Update\*

There has been a change to the lunch menu for Monday, March 6th. Instead of chicken and broccoli alfredo, it is going to be sweet and sour chicken.

<b>Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public Elementary School</b> <b>K-3rd Grade Breakfast Menu</b> <b>March 2023</b>				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 Cereal (Variety) Apple Cinnamon Break Bar Fresh Apple Grape Juice Choice of Milk	2 WG Honey Bun Fresh Banana Orange Juice Choice of Milk	3 WG Honey Bun Fresh Orange Apple Juice Choice of Milk
6 WG Honey Bun Fresh Banana Orange Juice Choice of Milk	7 WG Honey Bun Fresh Orange Grape Juice Choice of Milk	8 Cereal (Variety) Graham Crackers Fresh Apple Orange Juice Choice of Milk	9 Granola Strawberry Yogurt Diced Peaches Blended Fruit Juice Choice of Milk	10 Strawberry Break Bar WG Apple Cinnamon Muffin Diced Peaches Apple Juice Choice of Milk
13 Apple Cinnamon Break Bar WG Blueberry Muffin Fresh Banana Grape Juice Choice of Milk	14 WG Honey Bun Mixed Fruit Blended Fruit Juice Choice of Milk	15 Strawberry Yogurt Granola Diced Peaches Orange Juice Choice of Milk	16 Cereal (Variety) WG Banana Muffin Diced Peaches Apple Juice Choice of Milk	17 Cereal (Variety) Graham Crackers Fresh Apple Grape Juice Choice of Milk
20 WG Honey Bun Applesauce Grape Juice Choice of Milk	21 WG Honey Bun Fresh Orange Apple Juice Choice of Milk	22 Cereal (Variety) WG Banana Muffin Fresh Apple Grape Juice Choice of Milk	23 Strawberry Break Bar Fresh Banana Blended Fruit Juice Choice of Milk	24 Cereal (Variety) Graham Crackers Diced Peaches Orange Juice Choice of Milk
27 Vanilla Yogurt Granola Fresh Banana Apple Juice Choice of Milk	28 Strawberry Break Bar WG Blueberry Muffin Diced Peaches Grape Juice Choice of Milk	29 WG Honey Bun Fresh Orange Blended Fruit Juice Choice of Milk	30 Cereal (Variety) Graham Crackers Fresh Apple Orange Juice Choice of Milk	31 WG Honey Bun Diced Peaches Orange Juice Choice of Milk

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

**Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public Elementary School**  
**K-3rd Grade Hot Lunch Menu**  
**March 2023**



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		Dominos' Cheese Pizza Slice Cucumber Slices Mixed Fruit Cup Light Ranch Dressing Choice of Milk	Diced Chicken Sweet & Sour Sauce Brown Conchita Rice Diced Carrots Fresh Orange Choice of Milk	WG Cheese Pizza Dippers Marinara Sauce Lima Beans Diced Peas Choice of Milk
Diced Chicken Alfredo Sauce WG Penne Pasta Broccoli Cuts Fresh Orange Choice of Milk	Beef Meatballs Marinara Sauce Tater Tots WG Hot Dog Bun Diced Peaches Choice of Milk Ketchup	Dominos' Cheese Pizza Slice Celery Sticks 100% Fruit Juice Light Ranch Dressing Choice of Milk	Beef Macaroni & Cheese Diced Carrots Baked Beans Fresh Banana Choice of Milk	WG Galaxy Cheese Pizza Diced Carrots Green Beans Fresh Apple Choice of Milk
Diced Chicken Jerk Sauce Brown Rice Black Beans Mixed Fruit Choice of Milk	Sloppy Joe Crinkle Cut Fries WG Hamburger Bun Fresh Orange Choice of Milk Ketchup	<i>Early Dismissal for Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>  *No Lunch Served*	<i>Early Dismissal for Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>  *No Lunch Served*	WG Cheese Pizza Dippers Marinara Sauce Green Beans Diced Peaches Choice of Milk
Salisbury Beef Brown Gravy Whipped Potatoes Diced Carrots WG Dinner Roll Fresh Banana Choice of Milk	WG Popcorn Chicken Mixed Vegetable Blend Broccoli Cuts Brown Rice Diced Peas Choice of Milk BBQ Sauce	Dominos' Cheese Pizza Slice Marinated 3 Bean Salad Baby Carrots Applesauce Cup Light Ranch Dressing Choice of Milk	WG Chicken Nuggets Marinara Sauce w/Parmesan Green Beans WG Breadstick Diced Peaches Choice of Milk	WG Galaxy Cheese Pizza Green Peas Diced Carrots Fresh Apple Choice of Milk
Turkey Hot Dog Diced Carrots Whole Kernel Corn WG Hot Dog Bun Diced Peas Choice of Milk Ketchup	Beef Patty Sliced Cheese Sweet Potato Tots Baked Beans WG Hamburger Bun Fresh Orange Choice of Milk Ketchup	<i>Early Dismissal for Professional Development</i>  *No Lunch Served*	Beef Meatballs Korean BBQ Sauce Broccoli Cuts Brown Rice Wango Mango Juice Fresh Banana Choice of Milk	WG Cheese Pizza Dippers Marinara Sauce Mixed Vegetable Blend Diced Peaches Choice of Milk

## Resources for Elementary School Families

- [Elementary School Drop Off Map](#)
- [Elementary Breakfast and Lunch Menus](#)
- [Elementary School Bus Routes](#)
- [Elementary School Staff](#)
- [Uniform Requirements](#)
- [District Calendar](#)



## Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

Facebook @twitter\_akfcs

Follow Abby Kelley on Instagram @AKFCPS

10 New Bond Street, Worcest... info@akfcs.org  
 508-854-8400 akfcs.org

## Winter Gear

We will continue to go outside for recess as much as possible, even as the weather gets colder. The students love to get outside and run, swing, and move their bodies! Please send



them to school with a warm jacket, hat, and gloves each day. If students are wearing appropriate snow gear, including snow pants and boots, they will be allowed to play in the snow. All other students will still be going outside, but will play on the blacktop area or basketball court. You may choose to leave a pair of snow pants and boots at school for your student to wear at recess.

If you would like assistance with getting cold weather clothing, please contact Kate Stockwell at [kstockwell@akfcs.org](mailto:kstockwell@akfcs.org) .