

INDIAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Home of the Trailblazers

April 2024 Newsletter



Contact us at:

20912 S. Frankfort Square Road
Frankfort, IL 60423
815/469-6993
FAX: 815/806-8352

www.summithill.org

Message from the Principal:

Important Dates in April:

April 4 - IAR Testing
April 8 - SCO Meeting
(zoom) 4:00 p.m.
April 9-11 - IAR Testing
April 15 - PBIS Store (all week)
April 16 - IAR Testing
April 17 - BOE mtg.
April 18 - Progress Reports
April 19 - SCO Treat Day
April 24 - Student half day
- dismissal @ 12:10 p.m.
April 25 - 2nd gr. Field Trip
April 26 - SCO Hot Lunch Day

Dear Parents and Guardians,

IAR Testing

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, our third and fourth grade students are taking the online IAR assessment beginning tomorrow, April 4. Then, they will test the 9th, 10th, 11, and 16th. Students will take 2 ELA assessments and 3 math assessments. Please encourage your child to do their very best. Ensure they get lots of rest and eat a healthy breakfast. We know with your support and all that we are doing on our end the students will do well.

Trail/Square Coming Together

We are very excited to welcome the Frankfort Square staff, students, and families to the building for the 2024-2025 school year. In preparation for this to occur, we have been making some changes around the building to get a jumpstart on the planning. Additionally, Mr. Isdonas (Principal, Frankfort Square) who will be joining me next year as a Co-Principal and I have been speaking often to plan various events for students and staff to come together to make this as seamless as possible. We hope that you will be able to join us for these activities. Please watch for future dates.

Dates of Importance

Please add the following dates to your calendar. More events are still being planned. Watch your email for dates and times.

April 11th - Transition Parent Meeting - Discussing FS coming to IT (RSVP by calling 815-469-6993)
April 29th - FS Step-Over Day to IT - Students Only
May 2nd - IT/FS Baseball Night
May 10th - IT/FS Slammers Game
May 21st - End of School Year Culminating Project Walk-through
May 24th - 4th grade party and awards
May 29th - Field Day

Thank you,
Mrs. Wright

General Information:

School Office Hours: 8:35 a.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Student Attendance Hours: 9:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Student Recess/Lunch Times: 1st/2nd grades 11:45 a.m.-12:25 p.m.

3rd/4th grades 12:35 p.m.-1:15 p.m.

Absent Notification

- Please report your child's absence by 9:10 AM the day of the absence.
- Homework requests need to be called in by 11:30 AM for same day pick-up.
- Any school work due to vacation absence will be given once the child returns.

Lunch Procedure

- Please remember to send a lunch with your child daily. Be sure the lunch is labeled with the child's name.
- Your child will need to bring a spoon and/or fork, as utensils are not provided.
- If a lunch is forgotten, parents may drop off a lunch on the cart in the vestibule outside the office by 11:40. Please have the child's name and teacher's name clearly labeled.
- Children will go outside for recess daily. As the weather begins to change, please be sure to send your child with a sweatshirt or light jacket to get them through the fall months.

School Support

- Box Tops for Education, Capri Sun pouches, pop tabs, old plastic gift cards, old cell phones, eye glasses, plastic bags, empty scotch tape and Elmer's empty glue bottles are collected to benefit our school. Please send them to school in a bag with your child's name and teacher's name
- Any new school supply donations, new books, new toys, etc. for our PBIS store are welcome and appreciated all year long.

Communication

- Please maintain regular communication with our teachers.
- Follow chain of command if you are experiencing any concern or issues relating to your child.

Volunteer

- The district has the Raptor Visitor Management System in place at all schools. Every visitor will be instantly screened. You will be screened each time you visit the building to volunteer.
- You will need to show a State ID or Driver's License every time you volunteer.

Indian Trail is a Bully Free Zone

We at Indian Trail EXPECT RESPECT in all areas of the school. We work hard to ensure a safe, nurturing, and positive climate for all students and staff. It is imperative that you help us maintain an environment that is conducive to learning and free from bullying behaviors.

TYPES OF BULLYING

Verbal Bullying-usually consists of teasing, mocking, spreading rumors, lying about others. Bullying comments may focus on outer appearance. But to be bullying it must occur more than one time.

Emotional/Social Bullying- uses peer pressure and manipulation to isolate the target and to hurt their feelings. The victim usually feels that they have no friends, no one to talk to, and no way to escape.

Physical Bullying- Consists of pushing, tripping, hitting, or acting like you are going to push, trip or hit another.

Cyber Bullying – Includes written or electronic communication directed to another to cause fear, emotional, or psychological harm.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- Placing a student in reasonable fear of his/her personal property or
- Causing substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health or
- Substantially interfering with the student's academic performance or
- Substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in services, activities, or privileges provided by a school

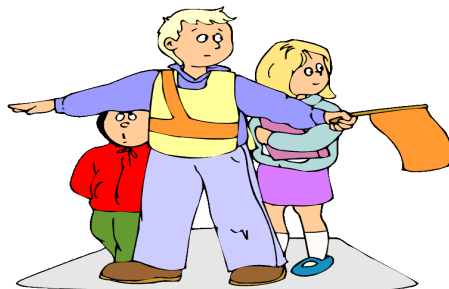


What can we do together to PREVENT bullying behavior?

- Create clearly defined expectations
- Teach social skills and tolerance early
- Foster positive relationships and environments
- Empower students to support and respect each other
- Set the right examples for students to follow
- Consistent and informed communication between home and school

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

- Student Drop-off time is 8:45-8:59 (no staff supervision prior to 8:45)
- Students may not play on recess equipment before school without a parent/guardian present to supervise
- From 8:45-8:59, students enter the school using doors 15 and 11
- Students arriving after the 9:00 tardy bell **MUST** enter the school through the main entrance with an adult
- First Graders exit door 15
- Second Graders exit door 11
- Third Graders exit door 11
- Fourth Graders with their siblings exit door 10 and are picked up in the back parking lot
- Post your child's first and last name on the passenger side of the car
- Always remain in your car while in the circle drive
- Form two lines until you come to the first turn
- You will begin to merge in one at a time (unless staff are there to direct)
- Pull forward as far as you can
- Cell phone use while driving is prohibited in school zones (this includes the school lot)
- If you walk, please stand on the sidewalk closest to the school sign and wait for your child
- Congregating by school exit doors is not allowed
- Follow all directions by the staff
- Be respectful to all Trailblazer students and staff





Indian Trail Student Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Student Drop-off at Indian Trail will be from 8:45-8:59. There is no guaranteed supervision for children arriving before 8:45, so please do not drop children off earlier than 8:45.

We are continuing with our previous practice for arrival and dismissal. Please know the process will take longer in the beginning, but we will work to streamline as the year progresses. Please refrain from planning appointments or meetings around the time of arrival and dismissal. I would not want you to be late for those appointments, as I cannot predict how long it will take for some students to enter and exit the building.

From 8:45-8:59, students will enter the school utilizing doors 15 and 11.

Students arriving after the 9:00 tardy bell MUST enter the school through the main entrance with an adult (by the flagpole). All other doors are closed and locked at 9:00 for security purposes.

Parents will drop off their children in the “circle drive” located on the north side of the building. You must remain in your vehicle at all times while in the circle drive. Your child will remain in your vehicle until 8:45 when staff members exit the building to allow students to enter. You will form two lines until you come to the first turn. There will be a staff member there to merge you into one line. After the merge, PARENTS ARE TO PULL AS FAR FORWARD AS POSSIBLE between the cones to drop off their children. Please pay attention to the staff directing you. Students may exit the vehicle as soon as the sidewalk begins even if they are not right at the school door. The longer you wait to let them out, the later they will be for class. When parents cooperate with staff, we do not have drop-off safety concerns and traffic flow moves seamlessly.

Please post your child’s first and last name in the passenger side of the window for both arrival and dismissal. If your child is a new student to the school, please post “New Student” on the sheet, as well. This will allow us to group your child(ren) with other new students and escort them to class.

At dismissal, you will follow the same procedure as arrival. Your children will remain in the building and will be called to exit the building based on your position in the circle drive. A staff member will exit the building around 3:15 to start calling in the order of names from your window sign. Please have your signs posted clearly on the passenger side and leave them in place until your child enters the vehicle.

If your child walks to school or brings their bike, they must not arrive prior to 8:40. They can lock up their bike and line up on the yellow line prior to entry. Parents are not allowed to congregate by any door. You may watch your child from a safe distance. If by door 11 (near bike rack), parents must stand by the baseball field. If by door 15, parents must stand on the sidewalk furthest from the door. Please note, parking lots will be closed off and you are not allowed to park on school property during arrival and dismissal.

Parents are not allowed to stop along Frankfort Square Road to drop off or pick up their children. The curbs are clearly painted yellow, and signage indicates “No Parking.” The Will County Sheriff’s Deputies informed the school they intend to be regularly present and issue tickets to violators. Most important, it is essential that vehicles do not park or stop curbside in this zone since it restricts driver and pedestrian visibility.

Please also be aware that Frankfort Square Road by the school and the school parking lots are cell phone free. This is state law. The deputies can issue tickets to drivers using cell phones in school zones. We do take down license plates of those not following the state law. This is to protect the students and staff.

Parents are not to use the driveway or parking lot on the south side of building (at Inverary Rd). This is for staff parking and buses only.

Children that walk to school will only cross the street at the Frankfort Square Rd/Acorn Ridge intersection accompanied by the crossing guard. Students are not to cross the street at Hickory Creek/Frankfort Square Rd intersection (in front of the school) without a parent or guardian escorting them.

Please refrain from walking along the sidewalk along the circle drive during our arrival and dismissal process. I need this area clear for students and staff to safely distance from one another, as well as prevent any unsafe conditions.

I understand that your little ones might like to run around while they are waiting, please do not allow them to run through the landscaping or play by the school sign.

Pets are only allowed on the sidewalk closest to Frankfort Square Road.

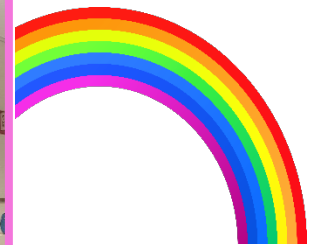
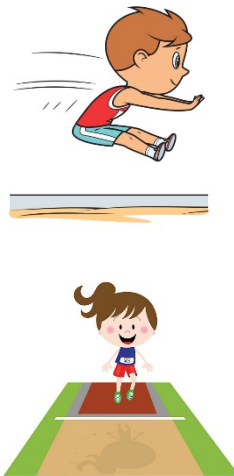
Thank you for your understanding. I look forward to an outstanding year with you and your child!



First Grade News

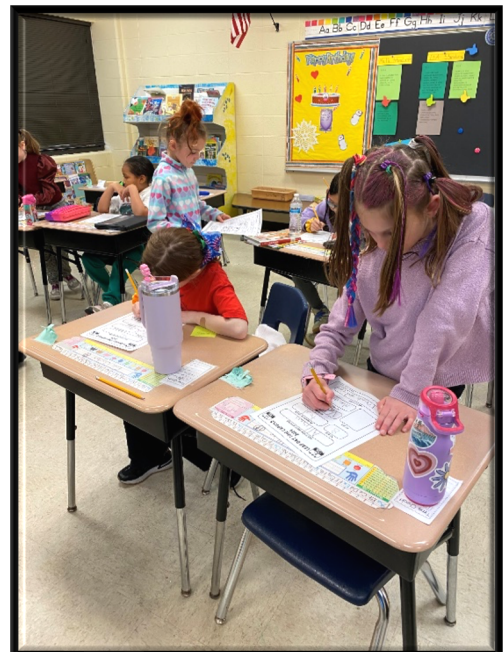
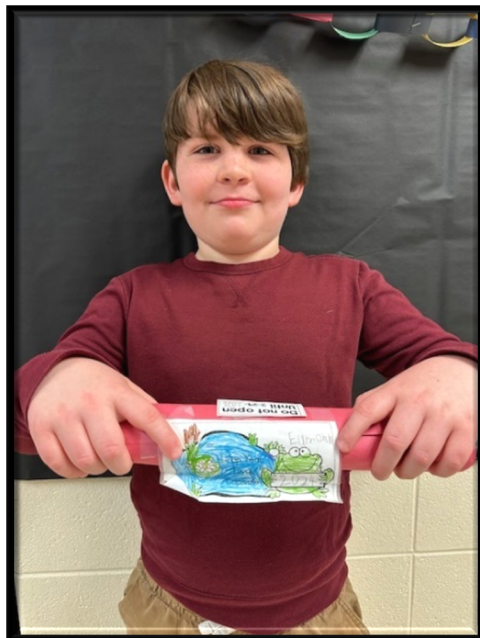
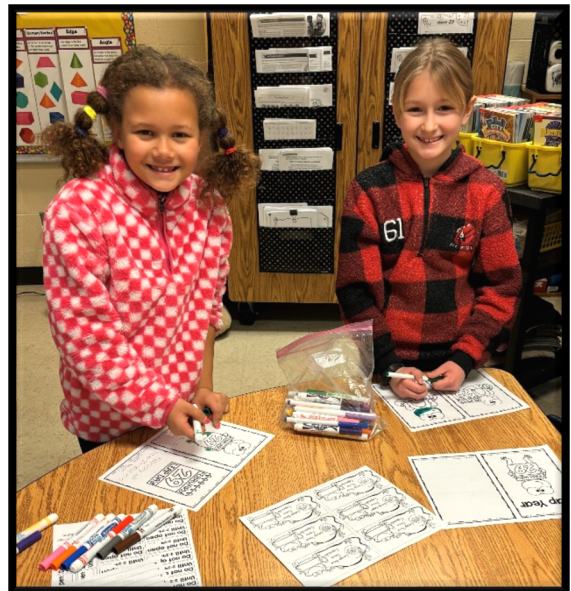
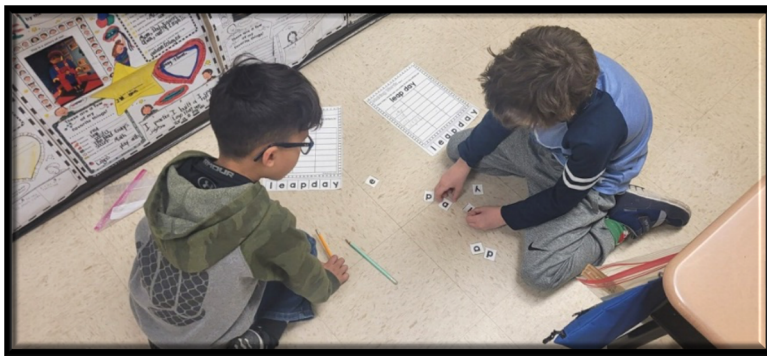
In honor of Leap Day, the first grade students delved into the world of the long jump, an exciting Olympic sport. After learning about the mechanics of the long jump, we took the lesson outdoors to put our newfound knowledge to the test! Each student bravely estimated how far they could jump, and we carefully recorded both their guesses and actual jump distances. The day was filled with laughter and learning as we connected the thrill of the Olympics to the uniqueness of Leap Day.

As March unfolds, we engaged in a lively brainstorming session to explore the concept of luck. Using a lucky charm marshmallow template, students crafted sentences detailing what makes them feel lucky, which were proudly displayed in the hallway. Among the myriad of reasons, themes of friendship, family, a great school, and fun toys were listed as great reasons to feel lucky. The first grade teachers are truly grateful to have such wonderful "lucky charms" gracing our classrooms, making each day special and enriching.



Second Grade News

Students celebrated leap year by doing different activities. One activity was to create a time capsule. Students wrote down some information about themselves. What was their favorite color, hobby, and food in 2024? The students are going to try not to open the time capsules until 2028. I wonder if any of their favorites have changed. Students also got to come to school with crazy hair if they donated money to St. Baldrick's.



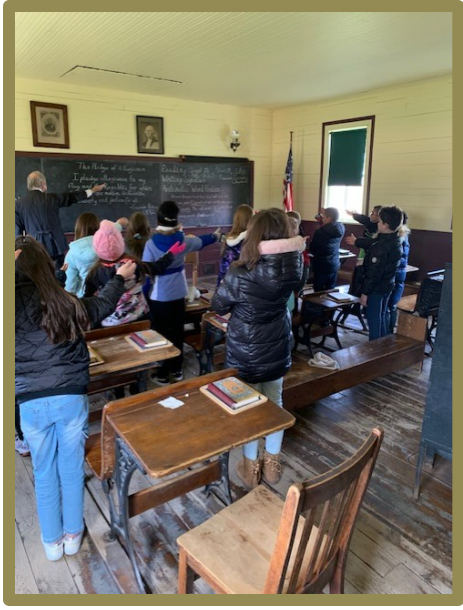
Third Grade News

On March 19th Indian Trail 3rd grade students enjoyed their field trip to Naper Settlement. Students were engaged in hands-on activities to learn about lifestyles and chores from the 18th century. They had fun making butter, learning in a one room schoolhouse, sending morse code messages, watching a blacksmith work with iron, and finally learning a popular dance from that time period. The students asked great questions and were amazed at all the things the kids had to do back then.





Isla and Lois enjoy the butter they helped make.

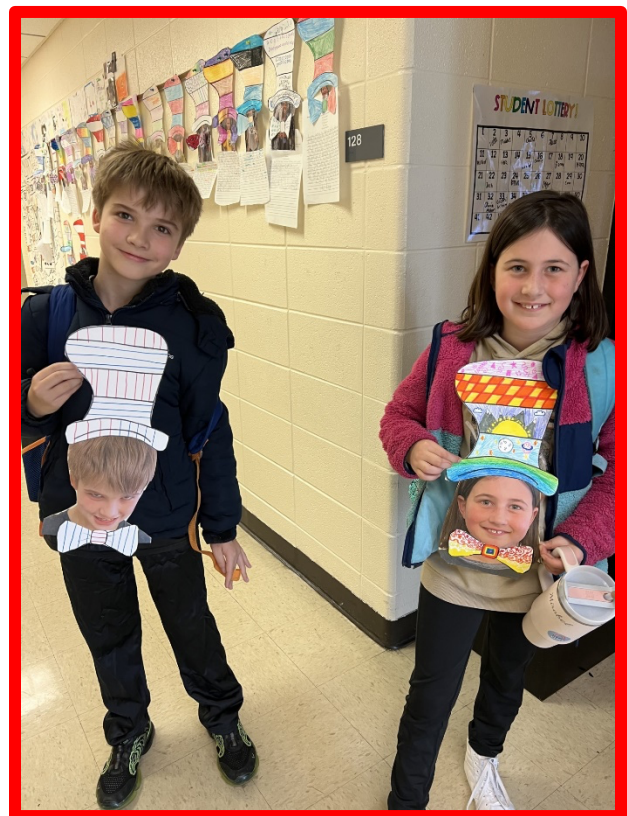
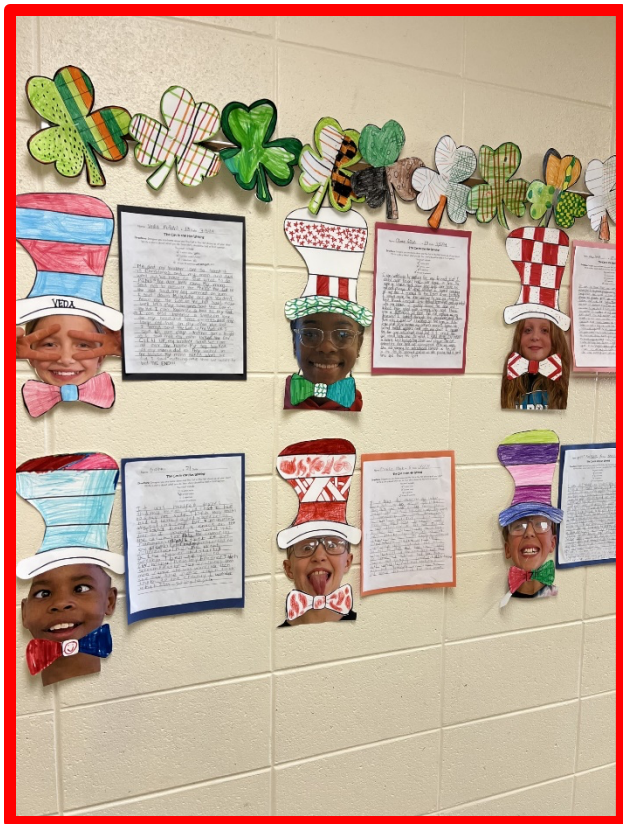


Students walked into a 1800's school. Here we learned about how different school was back then. This picture shows how you would extend your hand to the flag to recite the pledge.



Fourth Grade News

The fourth graders celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday by working on some creative writing! The students read *The Cat in the Hat* and discussed some of the silly things that were happening in the story. Then, the students were given a task to write a first-person story about what would happen if the Cat in the Hat arrived at their door one day. They were given a few specific grammar tasks to complete within the writing as well. Some students even chose to try and rhyme their story similarly to the way Dr. Seuss does. The students were able to then design their own hat and bow to add to a picture of themselves! We had fun sharing our crazy and creative ideas with each other!



Aiden Magruder and Mirabel Miller

Indian Trail PE News

In Physical Education class at Indian Trail School, we finished our Jump rope unit in conjunction with the Kids Heart Challenge. We instructed students on many different jump rope skills that improve agility, increase cardiovascular fitness, and builds stronger bones and muscles. We then transitioned into our juggling unit where students were taught the fundamentals of juggling with scarves. Juggling can improve hand-eye coordination, muscle memory, and bimanual coordination.



Service Club News...

The Indian Trail "Make a Difference" Service Club sponsored a donation drive to benefit our local Tinley Park PAWS Animal Shelter.

The PAWS shelter had a recent fire in their laundry area, and all the dogs and cats had to be placed in foster care while the facility was rebuilt.

The students at Trail had a "Stuffed Animal Day" where each student that brought in a dollar or more got to bring in a stuffed animal to "live" with them for the day at school.

Our school raised \$743.69 for the shelter! Thank you SO much for donating!

The Indian Trail Service Club amazed with our dollar amount!



Here are some of our Trail students with their stuffed animal friends.

Indian Trail's

Make A Difference Club

Calendar of Events 2023-2024

Here is our list for the school year of all the charities that Indian Trail supports through our Make a Difference Club. Please feel free to pick & choose your favorite charities or donate to all! It's your choice!

We appreciate your support! More individual details to follow!

All year



Indian Trail Beautification

Indian Trail is asking for donations of seasonal items such as: mums, pansies, haybales, scarecrows, holiday greenery, and spring items to decorate the front of the school. We will be also be sponsoring a "Hats On" day to raise funds for our fall beautification.

October

10th Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest



Bring a can or box of food (or several!) to enter our Decorating Contest. All proceeds benefit the Frankfort Food Pantry.

November



Toys for Tots

Bring an unwrapped toy for a boy or a girl. All proceeds benefit the Toys for Tots Organization in conjunction with the United States Marine Corps.

December

Project Linus



Donate the warmth of a blanket, some fleece fabric, or money to the service club. The club will make tied fleece blankets. All proceeds benefit Local Area Children's Hospitals.



January

Mitten Tree



Bring in new or close to new hats, mittens, scarves to help children in need. All proceeds benefit local shelters.

February



Kid's Heart Challenge

Jump rope and raise money for the American Heart Association. Done in conjunction with the P.E. teachers.

March

St. Baldrick's/Julia's Legacy



Donate money to help Childhood Cancer. See our tech teacher, Mr. Schneider, shave his head!

April



Earth Day Activities

We will be focusing on ways to help our Planet Earth. We will have a garbage free lunch, do an Earth day clean-up, and brainstorm ways we can reduce, reuse, and recycle.

May

Walk-a-thon



Collect pledges for our laps around the school. All proceeds benefit The American Diabetes Association.

Don't forget that Indian Trail recycles as well. We collect old eyeglasses for the Lion's Club and pop-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. THANKS!



Indian Trail School Community Organization (ITSCO) 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

August

- August 31: Curriculum Night Book Fair*

January

- January 12: Treat Day
- January 19: Mother/Son Night*
- January 26: Hot Lunch*

September

- September 21: Activity Night*
- September 25: Unfundraiser Kicks Off
- September 29: Treat Day

February

- February 2: Winter Carnival*
- February 14: Candy Grams
- February 15: Treat Day

October

- October 20: Treat Day
- October 20: Daddy/Daughter Dance*
- October 27: Hot Lunch*
- October 31: Fall Fest*

March

- March 7: Activity Night*
- March 15: Treat Day
- March 21: Hot Lunch*

November

- November 16: Treat Day
- November 30: Hot Lunch*
- November TBD: S&T Fundraiser

April

- April TBD: Scholastic Book Fair*
- April 19: Treat Day
- April 26: Hot Lunch*

December

- December 19-21: Holiday Shop*

May

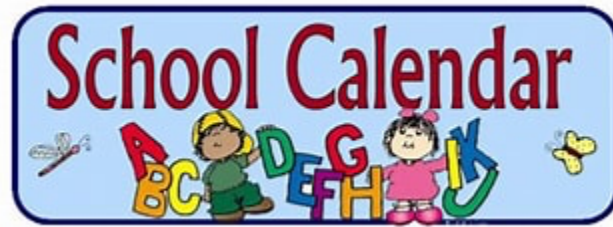
- May 24: Fourth Grade Party/Awards*
- May 29: Field Day*

Email ITSCO161@gmail.com with any questions.

* Parent volunteers will be needed for this event. Details on how to sign up to volunteer will be sent via email closer to the event date.

Event dates are subject to change.

Revised: 8/23/2023



Summit Hill District 161
2023-24 District Calendar

August 21 & 22.....	Teacher Institute Days
August 23.....	First Day of School
September 4.....	Labor Day - No School
October 6.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
October 9.....	Columbus Day - No School
November 17.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
November 20 & 21.....	Parent/Teacher Conference Day - No School
November 22-24.....	Thanksgiving Holiday - No School
December 22.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher Inservice
December 25 – January 5.....	Holiday Break
January 8.....	Classes resume after Holiday Break
January 15.....	Martin Luther King’s Birthday - No School
February 16.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
February 19.....	President’s Day - No School
March 4.....	Casimir Pulaski Day-No School
March 25 – April 1.....	Spring Break
April 2.....	Classes resume after Spring Break
April 24.....	1/2 Day School in AM/PM Teacher In-service
May 27.....	Memorial Day-No School
May 30.....	Last Day of School without snow days
May 31.....	Teacher Institute
June 7.....	Last Day if all snow days are used

Approved: February 15, 2023

