



University Times
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December 2018

School Hours:

7:50 am—All students may enter the building
8:00 am—Classes begin
2:45 pm—School ends
2:50 pm—Buses depart

Students are marked TARDY after 8:00 am . We request that ALL visitors please check into our office! Collaboration occurs EVERY Monday! Our normal schedule begins 45 minutes later on Mondays!

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!

Happy Holidays to each and every one of you and your families! This month we simply wish you well and give a few tips for enjoying the holidays with your children.

1. Try to keep children on a routine despite school being in recess and the seemingly endless holiday get-togethers. If this cannot be avoided, just be very conscious of the fact that the change in routine may adversely affect your children and you need to be calm in responding to their "out of sorts" behavior.

2. Get plenty of rest and exercise yourself to ensure that you are in a good place to enjoy the children. Remember, your children will only be this age once so take it in and cherish the moment.

3. Remember that you set the tone for your household. Be calm and try to take on as little stress as possible. The children need you to focus on them and enjoy them more than your friends and family need Christmas cards. A good rule of thumb during the holiday season is, "if you cannot do it with joy, don't do it".

4. Cut down on gift giving to the children and instead, give them you and your time. This should be all year round but especially during this stressful time of the year. The whole family could use a night of games and connection versus running from store to store. In addition, when you give children an overabundance of gifts they tend to feel entitled to raking in the presents instead of focusing on giving to others.

Family Fun for Christmas Many people get so caught up in shopping and obligations that they have no time left to have a good time. Remember, the holidays are supposed to be fun. Below are ideas you and your family can do together to celebrate this holiday.

1. Watch old Christmas movies together.
2. Read aloud "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens.
3. Make salt dough ornaments together. Even small children can have fun molding the dough. Look for directions @ <http://crafts.kaboose.com/holidays/christmas/> 10. Capture Christmas fun with your video camera.
4. The whole family will enjoy watching Christmas videos for years to come. Resource: Read more at: How to Have Family Fun at Christmas @ eHow.com; http://www.ehow.com/how_3566_have-family-fun

Calendar

- Dec 3-PTO meeting—6:30 Media Center
- December 8th-Avilla Robotics Tournament-8:00-3:00ish
- December 11 Winter Program—Grades 1 ,3, and 5—6:30
- December 11, -14-PTO Claus' Closet
- December 21-Last day before break
- Jan 3, 2019— Return to School!
- Jan 21-eLearning day for students—Staff work day

This and that.....

A reminder that we will dismiss for the Christmas Break Holiday at the end of the day, Friday, December 21st and we will return to school on Thursday, January 3rd. On behalf of the staff at Avilla Elementary School, we would like to wish you and your family best wishes for the holidays and wish you a prosperous 2019



There is **no** doubt that the winter months are now here! Please be sure that your child is properly dressed for the weather. Hats, gloves, and boots should be the norm. Wouldn't it be wonderful if it were the exception!

While snowflakes are great (unless YOU have to shovel) they can cause some slippery road conditions. Please be sure to listen for weather related announcements on the local radio and television stations when the weather is questionable. Also, it is a good time to review alternate plans with your child so that he or she knows what to do if school were to be dismissed early due to poor weather conditions.

To clarify.....

2 hour delays... school ALWAYS begins at 10:00.



Starting in December, a PBJ sandwich will be a third main entree choice for lunch!

Yummy!



Always be safe.....during drop off and pick up

- Please encourage your child to enter and exit **ONLY** on the curb side of the car.
- After your child is in the car, please slowly pull away from the curb, allowing others to move forward.
- For drop-off, please drop off your child and pull away from the curb. When folks park and students remain in the cars, it impacts the flow of traffic and creates a bottleneck.
- **PLEASE** do not park across the street and then walk to get your child. We prefer that **NO ONE** crosses the road during this busy time.