

MIO AUSABLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Kick Off March Is Reading Month with Special Guests

March is here, and that means it's time to celebrate *Reading Month*! To kick off the excitement, our school hosted a special assembly featuring a visit from a talented author, Aaron Zenz, who inspired students with stories, insights, and the magic of books.



The celebration didn't stop there! The next school day, two local deputies, Deputy Esch and Deputy Easterday, joined classrooms as guest readers, sharing their favorite books and encouraging students to develop a love for reading. Their visit highlighted the importance of literacy while also strengthening the bond between students and community leaders.

With such an exciting start, March is sure to be filled with even more reading adventures. Let's keep the pages turning all month long!



Coffee & Connect: A Great Success!

Our *Coffee & Connect* hour has been a fantastic way to bring staff, parents, and community members together—just like the good old days! The conversations have been meaningful, the ideas inspiring, and the sense of community stronger than ever. With open discussions over a warm cup of coffee, we've tackled important topics, shared valuable insights, and taken steps toward making our school even better. Thank you to everyone who has joined in—your voices and dedication are what make this initiative a success! The next day we will be holding a coffee and Connect will be **Wednesday, March 19**. Hope to see you all there!

MARCH
2025



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SPRING BREAK
NO SCHOOL
March 21-31

NO SCHOOL
April 18

NO SCHOOL
May 23 & 26





SPARK AWARD

February's character trait was Courage. So proud of those who earned the Spark Award for the Month of February.



A Fun-Filled Day for Kindergarten and First

February 27 the kindergarten and first-grade students had an unforgettable day filled with fun, laughter, and lots of learning. The school organized a special day of reading, movies, popcorn, and a variety of exciting activities that brought smiles to the faces of young learners.

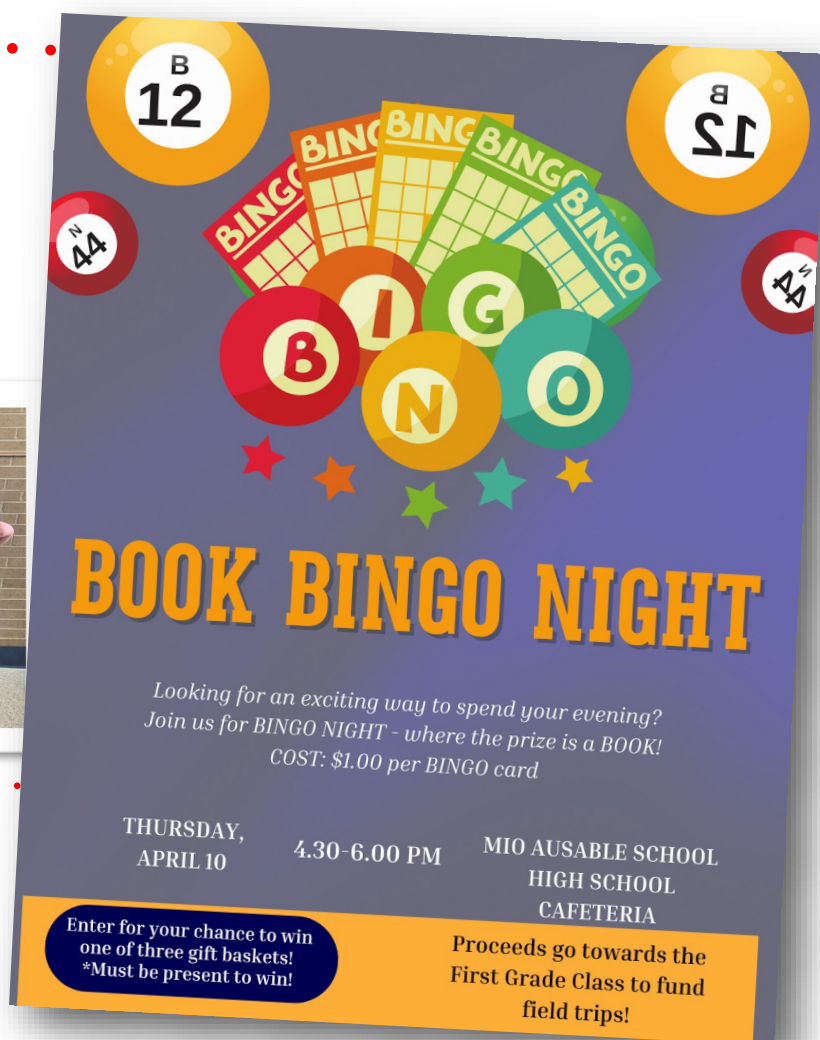
The day kicked off with a cozy story time where Ms. Kim read beloved books to the eager children, sparking their imaginations and fostering a love for reading. Afterward, the students gathered in the auditorium for a special movie showing, where they enjoyed a kid-friendly film full of adventure and heartwarming moments. Of course, no movie is complete without a snack, and the children happily munched on buttery popcorn while they watched.



The fun didn't stop there! Throughout the day, students participated in interactive activities designed to boost creativity and teamwork. We all made lasting memories with friends.

This special day not only provided the students with a well-deserved break but also emphasized the importance of reading and learning in a fun, engaging environment. The excitement and joy was evident in every corner of the school, reminding everyone of the magic of childhood and the value of making learning enjoyable.

The event was a huge success, and both students and staff are already looking forward to the next adventure-filled day of fun!



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2nd—5th Grades Head to the Sledding Hills for a Day of Winter Fun

On February 27th, the 2nd through 5th graders traded their classrooms for the great outdoors as they headed to the nearby sledding hills for a day filled with laughter, adventure, and winter fun. The excitement was palpable as students bundled up in their warmest coats, hats, and gloves, eager to enjoy the snow-covered hills.

After a short walk to the sledding location, the kids couldn't wait to race to the top of the hill with their sleds in tow. They zoomed down the slopes, cheering each other on as they flew through the air, their giggles and shouts filling the chilly air. Whether they were racing with friends, making snow angels, or trying out new sledding tricks, there was no shortage of fun and excitement.

Staff joined in the fun, ensuring that everyone stayed safe while enjoying the winter wonderland. Lunch was provided after their exhilarating rides down the hill. As the day went on, all enjoyed the beauty of a snowy day outside the classroom.



The sledding outing provided a perfect opportunity for students to bond with their peers, enjoy the outdoors, and take a break from their usual routine. It was a day filled with laughter, camaraderie, and memories that will surely be cherished for years to come. The students are already looking forward to the next outdoor adventure!



- ♦ **Morning Drinks:** Please remember that **water is the only drink** that should be brought into school in the morning. There have been a few spills involving other beverages, and we want to avoid any messes or accidents. Coffee drinks and large sodas should not be brought to school by elementary students.
 - ♦ **Parking Lot Safety:** Be sure to **use the proper entrances and exits** when entering and leaving the parking lot. This helps keep traffic flowing smoothly and prevents accidents. Let's all do our part to keep everyone safe! Also, in the pickup line, please go to every other car when merging from the double lane to a single lane at the turnaround. We need to have a double line so cars are not backed into the main road.
 - ♦ If you would like your child to be seen in the clinic for an appointment, a **parent or guardian must contact ThunderBay to schedule.**
 - ♦ **Spring Break** starts on Friday, March 21 and we will resume classes on Tuesday April 1. Hope you all enjoy some much needed family time.
 - ♦ **No School** on April 18.
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SRO

School Resource Officer

Hello, my name is Todd Easterday, and I am honored to serve as the School Resource Officer (SRO) for both Mio and Fairview Schools in Oscoda County. I stepped into this role in January 2025 with a deep commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our students.

Throughout my career, I have been fortunate to achieve milestones such as earning a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, receiving the Combat Infantry Badge, three U.S. Army Expeditionary Medals, four Humanitarian Medals, a Presidential Unit Citation, and completing the U.S. Army's Senior Leaders Course.

My journey in service began with 23 years in the U.S. Army, where I gained valuable leadership experience and earned multiple military honors. In 2014, my wife and I relocated to Northern Michigan, where I worked at Cooper-Standard in Fairview before becoming a member of the Oscoda County Sheriff's Auxiliary.

In 2024, I joined the Oscoda County Sheriff's Department as a Road Patrol officer after graduating from the regional police academy that same year. After serving on both night and day shifts, I pursued my passion for working with youth and requested reassignment as the School Resource Officer. In this position, my top priorities are student safety, education, and mentorship—helping guide our young people toward success and being a responsible community member.

I am excited to work with the students, staff, and families of Oscoda County and look forward to making a positive impact in our schools and community.

-Deputy Todd Easterday



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