



Lake Ann Elementary Newsletter February 2026

Consistency matters

January has certainly been a bit tough to navigate. One or two days of school, followed by a snow day, a weekend, and an illness. A regular schedule is hard to maintain. But consistency matters!

Every school day is a building block in a student's education. Concepts taught in math, science, and language arts build on previous learning. Complex ideas build on a solid foundation of previous learning and experiences. Students begin learning as soon as they get to school. Arriving late, leaving early, and missing even a few lessons can lead to gaps in understanding that result in missing concepts and difficulty learning down the road.

But, school isn't just about academics; it's a social environment where students develop interpersonal skills, build friendships, and learn teamwork and conflict resolution. Regular attendance provides opportunities for meaningful interactions that help build a student's self-esteem and emotional well-being. Prolonged absences, however, can lead to isolation and a decline in social confidence, which may further discourage attendance.

Regular Attendance Equals Better Grades: Students who attend school consistently outperform their peers in core subjects like math, science, and reading. Missing just two days a month can significantly impact academic performance.

Attendance Builds Life Skills: Beyond academics, consistent attendance fosters essential skills like time management, responsibility, and organization—qualities that are vital for success in higher education and the workplace.

Adapted from "School That Lead", 219 Ohio Ave., Wilmington DE 19805 www.schoolsthatlead.org

- Little Caesar's Fundraiser continues through February 16th. **Online link:** <https://fundraising.littlecaesars.com/login/join-fundraiser/89a08e7a-f5de-4758-b9ae-344a68cd7962>
- Family Nights with dinner will begin again in March in conjunction with Reading Month! Tentatively set for March 25th 5-7 pm.

VISION

**Benzie Inspires Greatness
Connects Community
Cultivates Learning
Shapes Tomorrow**

Beliefs About Students

- **We believe each child can thrive in a positive, safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment that nurtures their growth and curiosity.**
- **We believe each student has the right to learn, achieve their personal greatness, and become responsible citizens.**

Beliefs About Staff

- **We believe our staff are dedicated professionals who build strong relationships through effective communication, collaboration, and care.**
- **We believe that our commitment to collective responsibility fosters a culture where everyone feels valued, supported, challenged, and inspired to reach their full potential.**

Beliefs About Community

- **We believe effective communication and collaboration with families and the community build trust and strengthen our schools.**
- **We believe a strong Benzie School Community supports student success through partnerships, engagement, and shared responsibility.**

Attendance Goal

Benzie Central fosters belonging and engagement by partnering with families and the community to remove barriers and ensure every student is present, supported, and inspired to achieve greatness.

Communication Goal

Benzie Central cultivates strong partnerships among students, families, staff, and community through timely, clear, consistent, and transparent communication that builds trust, celebrates success and inspires collective responsibility.

Instruction Goal

Benzie Central delivers robust instruction in all content areas, so every student receives high-quality, standards-aligned, engaging core instruction that meets their needs and improves outcomes.

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3		5	6 4th grade Crystal Mt Trip 9-11:30	7
8	9 PTO meeting 4:30 in the cafeteria 7:00 pm Benzie School Board meeting	10	11 Brayton XC skiing CMT, 10:50-2:00 Benzie School Bus	12	13 Early release 11:50 - Foundation Friday Bake Sale K/1st	14
15	16 No School - President's Day Last day of Little Caesar's Fundraiser	17	18	19	20 Coffee and Conversation 9-10 am	21
22	23	24	25 Lockdown Drill	26 Character Cafe 9-10 am	27 4th grade Crystal Mt Trip 9-11:30	28

"You cannot dream of becoming something you do not know about. You have to learn to dream big. Education exposes you to what the world has to offer, to the possibilities open to you." —Sonia Sotomayo