November 2026 Lake Ann Elementary Newsletter



When I began at Lake Ann in September 2024, I continued my practice of recording a video of morning announcements that teachers could play when it was most convenient in their classroom and not interrupt learning by using the intercom.

One thing I did at Betsie Valley I learned from Muriel Summer, principal of A.B. Combs Elementary in Raleigh North Carolina. This is the school that is highlighted in the book “Leader In Me” by Stephen R. Covey. At some point during the announcements, I would tell all the students that I love them.

This seems natural at Betsie Valley. When I became the BV principal I had most of the students as Kindergarteners and so it was known that I did love them. When I came to Lake Ann, I actually wondered if the students would react with something like, “Who is this and why is she saying she loves us?”

Something in the back of my head said, “Go ahead - tell them!” So, I did tell them and continue to tell them I love them during each day’s announcements. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. Students hug me and tell me they love me multiple times every day.

I am so grateful for the parents who have reached out to express their support for me and for our school since I started here at Lake Ann. I am also grateful for the parents who have expressed their concern about what we do and how we can do it better.

The students know I love them. They know their teachers love them. It is important that we respond in a way that lets all stakeholders know we are willing to look at our practices and improve what we can do so that they know we love their children too.



PTO News!

- Friday, November 6th, last day to submit wreath orders!
- Monday, November 9th, 4:15-5:15 pm – PTO meeting in the cafeteria.
- Popcorn Friday's – every full day of school.
- Next Bake Sale – Wednesday, December 2nd, treats provided by 4th and 5th grade classes!

The **2026 Festival of Trees** auction takes place from **November 20 to November 22, 2026**. [1]

Benzie Area Historical Museum

6941 Traverse Ave, Benzonia, MI 49616

Lake Ann Elementary Classrooms will be creating and decorating trees for the festival and will be available for viewing and purchase through the auction



November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 No school students RSDD -	3	4	5	6 Report cards go home	7
8	9 PTO meeting 4:15 in the Cafeteria	10	11 Character Cafe 9-9:30	12 Kindergarten field trip to Incredible Mo's	13 Lockdown drill	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 No School - Thanksgiving Break	26 Thanksgiving Day	27 Thanksgiving Break	28
29	30					