

April -2024

# NISSWA NEWS

GO WARRIORS!

Greetings April!

As we step into the vibrant month of April, our excitement knows no bounds! This week kicks off with students joining us on Monday, April 1st for a snow make-up day (no April fools, sorry). It's Paraprofessional Appreciation Week, so please take a moment to express gratitude to those who support your student(s). We're fortunate to have the finest paraprofessionals in ALL THE LAND, so let's make sure to show our appreciation loud and clear (though maybe not literally shouting from the rooftops—that's Raske's job). On Tuesday, we're thrilled to welcome Julia Cook, a renowned children's author and the "Yuppie" to three amazing Nisswa girls, for a special visit. Be sure to read on for details in the flyer (note: there will NOT be a night event). Additionally, we have PTO/Bloom meetings scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 3:30 in the library—your participation is eagerly awaited! Friday brings forth our much-anticipated March Madness celebration, followed by the annual Nisswa PTO Bloom on Saturday. What an exhilarating start!

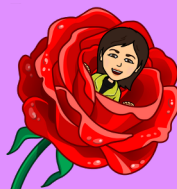
But that's just the beginning—up ahead, we have MCA testing, severe weather preparedness drills, Our 3rd Grade Play, Earth Day festivities, the spring scholastic bookfair, and an array of captivating lessons awaiting us. Whether it's rain, snow, sleet, or sunshine (please ensure your student is prepared with appropriate attire for all weather conditions), this month promises to be an unforgettable journey.

Let's unite in embracing the essence of spring and ensure to mark those significant dates in May and June (read on for dates) on your calendar. Your steadfast support is invaluable to us, as none of these enriching experiences would be possible without you!

Sincerely, *Molly Raske*

## April Dates to Note

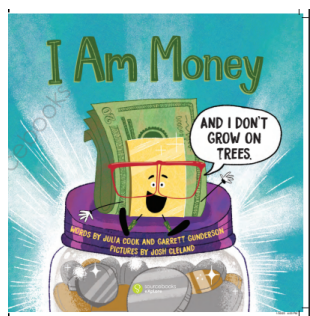
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|---|---|
| 1: Snow Make-Up (students in session)<br>Bloom/PTO Meeting 3:30 p.m. (library)  | 6: Nisswa Bloom at Grandview at 5:00 p.m.                                       |
| 2: All Students wear Green for Financial Literacy<br>Julia Cook Here for Pre-K - 4 Lyceum<br>Bloom/PTO Meeting 3:30 p.m. (library)            | 8-12: Severe Weather Awareness Week   |
| 3: National Paraprofessional Appreciation<br>Kindergarten & 4th Grade Graduation Pictures<br>3rd & 4th Grade Battle of the Books Introduction | 11: Severe Weather Drill- at 1:45 p.m.  |
| 4: Bloom/PTO Meeting 3:30 p.m. (library)  | 16: Nisswa PTO Meeting- 4:30 p.m.   |
| 5: March Madness Celebration 9:30 a.m.<br>School Librarian Appreciation Day   | 19: Nisswa Warrior Way Rally- @ 1:30 p.m.                                       |
|   | 22-26; Nisswa 3rd Grade Story Book Play Week                                    |
|   | 24: Secretary Appreciation Day  |
|   | 26: Nisswa 3rd Grade Story Book Play - 1:15 p.m.<br>rehearsal & 6:00 p.m. show. |
|   | 29-30: Scholastic Book Fair   |





# Nisswa Elementary School is Eagerly Anticipating the Return of Acclaimed Author Julia Cook on April 2nd!

Students in grades 2-4 will engage in an enlightening Financial Literacy Assembly from 10-11 a.m., where Julia will introduce her latest book, "**I AM MONEY!**" Remember to dress in **GREEN** for the occasion!



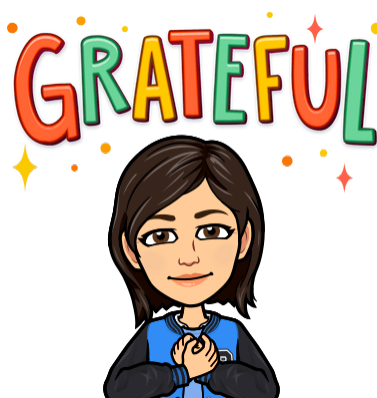
Meanwhile, our K-1 students will enjoy a captivating session featuring one of Julia's other newest books from 9-10 a.m.

Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, First National Bank of Nisswa & Horace Mann (thanks to Dan Germundson), EVERY classroom will receive a copy of "**I AM MONEY**," our community library will be stocked, and lucky students will have the chance to win their own copies!

This groundbreaking book is poised to become a New York Times Best Seller, so be sure to secure your copy. These invaluable lessons in financial planning and responsibility are essential for everyone, and starting our students early sets them on the path to success.



A heartfelt THANK YOU to our sponsors for making this event possible and providing books for our community!







Dear Friend of Education,

On behalf of Nisswa Elementary School, it is with great excitement that we announce the *19th Annual Bloom Auction & Fundraiser for Nisswa School*. **This unique fundraiser will be held April 6, 2024, remaining at the historic Grand View Lodge in Nisswa.**

Throughout its 19 year history, money raised at the Bloom event has provided students at Nisswa Elementary with additional art and science education, technology updates, active classrooms, field trips, family nights, classroom educational needs, books and SO much more! These donations are of vital importance to Nisswa Elementary students and have provided so many special opportunities for this wonderful community school.

**Please consider making a donation to support this event by completing and returning the enclosed Donation Form.** Your donations are tax deductible and will help support a great cause....**CHILDREN!**

We also invite you to attend this very special event in person and celebrate "masquerade" style. This year we will be hosting a Masquerade Ball themed event, complete with interactive entertainment, delicious food, live and silent auctions as well as many of our favorite classic fundraising activities. Come in full or partial masquerade fashion or just show up as you are! It truly is such a fun tradition and allows us to come together for a common cause. **Please follow Nisswa PTO on Facebook for more information on what you can look forward to and on how you can attend.**

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of Nisswa Elementary School!

Sincerely,

Shaylea Obeidzinski, PTO President [nisswapto@gmail.com](mailto:nisswapto@gmail.com)





## 19th Annual Nisswa Bloom Auction & Fundraiser Donation Form

Please return this completed form along with your donation(s) to:

Nisswa PTO  
5533 Lakers Lane  
Nisswa, MN 56468  
TAX ID: 20-3389487

### DONOR INFORMATION:

Company/Individual Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name, if different than above: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) would like to make the donation(s) listed below for the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bloom Auction & Fundraiser. Please include relevant information such as expiration date, exclusions, redemption contact information, etc. on the *DETAILS* line.

Donated Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Details for online listing: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Details for online listing: \_\_\_\_\_

### I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION:

\_\_\_ I (we) would like to make a monetary donation to the Bloom Fundraiser. Please return with this completed form the Nisswa PTO prior to March 8, 2024, with complete Donor Information above.

### I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND AND PURCHASE SPONSOR A TABLE:

\_\_\_ I (we) would like to attend the Bloom and sponsor a table of 10 for the event. Sponsorship tables are available for \$800. All sponsor tables will be labeled clearly and featured throughout the event in our presentation, signage and program. Please include payment with completed Donor Information above. If you have further questions about this option, please contact Shaylea Obeidzinski or Kari Jay at [nisswapto@gmail.com](mailto:nisswapto@gmail.com).

For all other questions about donations or if you need additional information, please contact Shaylea Obeidzinski at [nisswapto@gmail.com](mailto:nisswapto@gmail.com).

Thank you for your tax-deductible donation!





# HOW TO BLOOM...



If you would like to sponsor a table, please contact Shaylea Obeidzinski at [nisswapto@gmail.com](mailto:nisswapto@gmail.com). A table seats 10 people for \$800. All sponsor tables will be labeled clearly and featured throughout the event in our presentation, signage, and program.



**Act Now!**  
**Tickets are on**  
**sale NOW!**



## WHY WE BLOOM...

Throughout the 18 year history, money raised at the Bloom event has provided Nisswa students at Nisswa Elementary School with additional art and science education, technology updates, active classrooms, field trips, family nights, classroom educational needs, books and SO much more! These donations are of vital importance to Nisswa Elementary students and have provided so many special opportunities for this wonderful community school.





# SO MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO...

**DATES TO NOTE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):**

## April:

- 1: Snow Make-Up (students in session)  
Bloom/PTO Meeting 3:30 p.m. (library)
- 2: All Students wear Green for Financial Literacy  
Julia Cook Here for Pre-K - 4 Lyceum  
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- 3: National Paraprofessional Appreciation  
Kindergarten & 4th Grade Graduation Pictures  
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rehearsal & 6:00 p.m. show.
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## May:

- 1-3: Scholastic Book Fair
- 1: 3rd and 4th Grade Track and Field Day @ 12:00
- 3: Nisswa Grandparent's Day (Kindergarten-Grade 2)- 1:30
- 6: School Nurse Appreciation Day
- 6-10: Teacher appreciation week  
Fastbridge Benchmark Period
- 9: Nisswa PTO Meeting- 4:30 p.m.
- 15 & 16: Benchmark Assessment Testing Rotations 1-4
- 17: Nisswa 4th Grade Graduation at 1:15 p.m.
- 20: SUPERSTAR MILE 1:30 p.m.
- 21: Nisswa Turtle Races K-1 from 12:30-1:30 & 2-4 from 1:30-2:30)
- 22: Nisswa Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony 1:00 p.m.
- 23: Nisswa Rain date for Turtle Races
- 24: RAIN DATE SUPERSTAR Mile 1:30
- 27: Memorial Day (No School)
- 28: Report Cards Due
- 29: Fourth Graders vs. Guardians Kickball Game 10:00 a.m.  
Fourth Grade/Guardian Picnic 11:00 am.  
Fourth Grade vs. Staff Kickball Game 1:30 p.m.
- 30: Kinderfriend Day at BHS  
Kindergarten Bus School-Wide Send off 8:45 a.m.  
Variety Shows 8:45 & 1:15 (could change)
- 31: Last Student Day



# THE WARRIOR WAY...

Students showing the **Warrior Way** during the school day have the opportunity to be recognized for their efforts by receiving a Warrior Way ticket...awesome!

## What is a Warrior Way TICKET?

Warrior Way Tickets are put into the student's classroom Warrior Way bucket and each month at our rally, tickets are pulled from the bucket for a chance to choose a prize.

We also have weekly "Shout Outs" where students are nominated for showing great character and doing great work!

## WARRIOR WAY RALLY DETAILS

These "Shout Outs" are mentioned on our daily announcement and the slips are sent home after.

## At each rally the following happens:

- ▶ A class showing the most Warrior Pride in our common areas (hallways, outside, lunchroom, etc.) is awarded the **Traveling Trophy**...it is a trophy that is highly sought after and so the kids work really hard as a class to be awarded the Traveling Trophy!
- ▶ Two students from each class are given the **Character Award** for showing the most Character in relation to the character word of the month.
- ▶ **Warrior Prizes** are chosen from the names pulled out of the Warrior Way Ticket classroom buckets.
- ▶ We do our **Warrior Way Chant**!

## WARRIOR MONTHLY CHARACTER WORDS...

SEPTEMBER: Helpful

OCTOBER: Trustworthiness

NOVEMBER: Respect

DECEMBER: Responsibility

JANUARY: Fairness

FEBRUARY: Caring

MARCH: Leadership

APRIL: Creativity

MAY: Patience



Traveling Trophy





## WATCH DOG VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



What better way to give back than to your child's school? **We are in need of Watch Dog volunteers...**what are Watch Dogs? They are dads, step-dads, grandfathers, or positive male role models in the life of a Nisswa Student who is willing to come in for a day...or more, and volunteer throughout the school. Every child benefits from positive interactions with male role-models. Please think about volunteering in this way.

**What does a day in a life of a Dog look like?** You will come into the school and be greeted by our famous and beautiful Mrs. Jill Ostendorf, otherwise known as Nisswa Elementary's Secretary. She will take a picture with your little Warrior for our Watch Dog Wall of Fame and then you will go about your scheduled day of volunteering. We even have on your scheduled time to spend time in your student's classroom, lunch and recess time with your little Warrior, and much more!

If you wish to volunteer, call our office to schedule a day to be our Watch Dog!

### NISSWA PTO

IF YOU SEE A PTO BOARD MEMBER, PLEASE THANK THEM FOR THEIR WORK AND DEDICATION TO NISSWA STAFF, SCHOOL, STUDENTS, AND COMMUNITY! THEY DO EVERYTHING FROM ORGANIZE EVENTS, TO FUNDRAISING, TO FINDING VOLUNTEERS, TO ORGANIZING COMMUNITY EXPERTS, TO YOU NAME IT...THEY DO IT! THANK YOU ALL!!!!

Our Board:

Shaylea Obeidzinski: President

Kari Jay: Vice President

Marit Moberg: Treasurer

Sarah Waletzko: Secretary

### Upcoming Meeting Dates (Dates and times are subject to change)

April 1: PTO/Bloom meeting 3:30

April 2: PTO/Bloom meeting 3:30 .

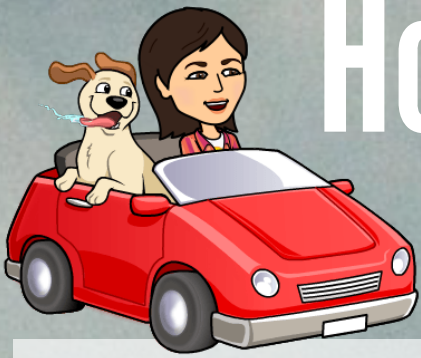
April 4: PTO/Bloom meeting 3:30

APRIL 16: PTO meeting 4:30

MAY 9: PTO meeting 4:30



# How Do We Do This...



## STARTING THE DAY

**CLASS STARTS:** 8:15 A.M.(students should be in the classroom & ready at 8:10 A.M.)

**PARENT DROPOFF:** Our recommended student arrival time is 7:45 A.M. Students can not be dropped off any earlier than 7:30 A.M. For safety purposes, student drop off will take place in the parking lot in front of the main entrance door (look for the B) until 8:10 A.M. Please do not park your vehicle, this is a drop-off area only. We also need all users of the drop off area to always pull forward as far as possible so more vehicles can unload. Students arriving after 8:15 A.M. should enter through the main doors and must be checked in at the office by an adult.

**BUSING:** Buses start dropping off at school as early as 7:30 A.M. (If they are on a morning transfer, we have them come into school instead of transferring). If you have not gotten your bus pass, please call 218-454-6900. If there is an issue with or on the bus, the first call is to Reichert's Bus Company at: 218-829-6955.

**WALKING MY CHILD INTO SCHOOL?:** In order to foster independence and monitor all persons entering the building, we do not have parents/families walk their children to the classrooms. If you are volunteering, you must have the required background check paperwork completed/approved and check in at the office.

## ENDING OUR DAY

**School Ends at:** 2:50 P.M.

**Parent Pick-up:** All student pick up will be curbside in the parking lot (by the library doors). Unless you are picking up early, there will be no entering the building during pickup. If you are picking up early, enter the office by the big B, have your license ready and we will call your child down to the office.

**BUSING:** Buses start picking up at 2:50 P.M. If a student is set to have a TRANSFER, they will stay at school, in the gym, until the buses return. By keeping at school, students are on the road for a shorter period of time. They will then get on the bus around 3:35 P.M. when the buses come back for transfer. If they only have one time listed on their bus card (no transfer) they go right on the bus. If you have not gotten your bus pass, call 218-454-6900. If there is an issue with or on the bus, the first call is to Reichert's Bus Company at: 218-829-6955.

**DEPARTURE CHANGES:** Must be called into the office by 2:20 P.M. to be sure we get the message to the classroom. Main office: 218-961-6860

**OFTEN LATE TO PICK UP:** No problem (as long as there is space available)! Please sign your child up for Fun'n Friends so you have a quick solution. We do not have staff to stay after hours to monitor students. Thank you for your understanding!



## WHEN IS YOUR CHILD TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

**Antibiotics:** If a child has started an antibiotic, they should wait 24 hours before returning to school.

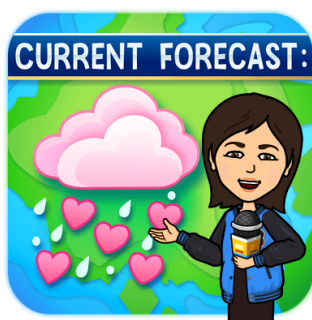
**Diarrhea:** Please do not send your child to school for 24 hours after the last episode.

**Doctor recommendation:** Always rely on what your doctor recommends and please ask them for a note to bring to school if your child's condition required an office visit.

**Fever:** If your child has a temperature of 100 degrees F or more, they should stay home for 24 hours after the fever has broken (without the assistance of medication).

## WEATHER CHANGES...

SPRING is here...we think! This time of year brings a lot of unpredictability in what mother nature delivers. Please pay attention to the weather forecast, dress your child in layers, and err on the side of caution as we go outside for recess for 30 minutes each day unless it is raining. Therefore, students are needing to be dressed appropriately for safe play. When it has been wet or we are recovering from a snow storm, we have students wear snow pants to keep them dry. If there is a hardship and you are needing support, you may contact our collaborative worker, Brenna Bair at: (218) 961-6888.



## ATTENDANCE...

Daily school attendance is required by the State of Minnesota, and is critical for students to be successful in school. If your student is going to be late or absent, please call 218-961-6860 or or BETTER YET enter the absences on Skyward Family Access. If you call prior to 7:30 a.m., when leaving a message, be sure to state your child's full name, their teacher, and the reason for the absence. If your student is going to a doctor's appointment, please bring a note from that practitioner when the student returns. If your student has been sick for three consecutive days, the district asks that a doctor's note be provided following that fourth day to be excused. Failure of an adult to call in or send a note the following day will result in an unexcused absence. Guardians are asked to refer to the district calendar (can be found on our Nisswa School Website) to plan family trips. During statewide testing weeks, it is extremely important to have your children well rested and in school.

## HOMEWORK:

We ask that you take some time to support your student by encouraging them to come to school prepared for the day. Your help ensures that your student learns great work habits, are successful in their school work and continue the year on a positive note. Together we can make the school year a successful and positive experience.

