

Turner Times Newsletter

March 2026

1st & 4th Grade Music Program

Let's give another *huge* round of applause for our 1st & 4th grade students for such an amazing performance! Thank you, families, for packing the house to celebrate their hard work, talent, and joy for music.

We are so grateful for our amazing music teacher, Mrs. Wright, for planning yet another memorable performance! Your hard work does not go unnoticed, and we cannot thank you enough!





🌍 Save the Date! Turner Family Academic Night! 🌍

Join us for Turner's Family Academic Night on April 22 from 6:00-8:00 PM at Turner!

After a brief welcome and overview, families will be able to explore a variety of Earth Day Themed activities for all ages to enjoy! We're especially excited to introduce raffle baskets this year for both students **AND** parents, along with the return of our popular photobooth. Perfect for capturing special memories from the night!

We hope you and your family can join us for this special event. As always, please reach out with any questions!

Turner Family Academic Night Save the Date

Upcoming Dates to Remember!

Turner Music Club, Monday Mornings (7:45-8:30 AM)

4/7 & 4/9: 5th Grade ISA Testing

4/20: Trimester 3 Midterm

5/11-5/19: Spring MAP Testing

4/22: [Turner Family Academic Night](#) (6:00-8:00)

4/22: No Impact Kids/Clubs - ONLY CAPE IS IN SESSION

4/23: 3rd Grade Field Trip (9:00- approximately 2:00 PM)

4/27: Candor Health Visits (4th Grade)

4/27: YWCA Presentation (3rd Grade)

5/4-5/9: Staff Appreciation Week
5/5: Candor Health Visits (5th Grade)
5/7: 2nd Grade Field Trip (9:15-approximately 2:15 PM)
5/7: BOE Meeting (7:00-9:00 PM)
5/8: Kindergarten & 2nd Grade Music Program
5/12: Kindergarten Roundup at Turner (5:30-6:30 PM)
5/15: NO SCHOOL - School Improvement Day
5/20: 5th Grade Field Trip (9:15-approximately 2:35 PM)
5/22: No Impact Kids/Clubs - ONLY CAPE IS IN SESSON
5/21: BOE Meeting (7:00-9:00 PM)
5/22: 5th Grade Track Meet, Students and 5th Grade Teachers (9:00-approximately 1:00 PM)
5/25: NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
5/28: Turner Field Day **More Information to Come**
6/2: Turner Kindergarten Registration **More Information to Come**
5/29: NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
6/4: BOE Meeting (7:00-9:00 PM)
6/4: Last Day of School & 5th Grade Clap Out 1/2 Day (Dismissal at 11:45 AM)
6/4: End of Trimester 3

25-26 District 33 School Calendar

Turner PTO Meeting Dates

Location: Turner Elementary School Library

Time: 3:45-4:30

April 9

May 7


June 4

Wellness Month!

April is Wellness Month in District 33! Keep an eye out for activities and events that promote wellness throughout the month. Save the Date:

- [Everyday Hero Community First Aid Training](#) - Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:00 PM
 - D33 Annual Wellness Walk on Friday, April 24th
-

School Hours

 **School Hours:** 8:40 AM – 3:25 PM

1/2 Day Dismissal Time: 11:45 am

Office Contact Information

Turner Main Office: 630-293-6050

Attendance Line: 630-293-6050 ext. 7207

Morgan Efrom, Principal: 630-293-6050 ext. 7201

Kelly Reinmann, Assistant Principal: 630-293-6050 ext. 7205

Connie Michiels, Secretary: 630-293-6050 ext. 7200

School Nurse: 630-293-6050 ext. 7202

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

🚗 Student Drop-Off/Arrival

- Students may be dropped off starting at **8:15 AM**.
- *With safety as our number one priority. Please do not drop off your student before 8:15, as supervision of students begins at 8:10.*
- Students arriving **after 8:40 AM** are considered tardy. **A parent/guardian must walk them into the front office to sign them in.**

🚨 Important Safety Reminders

- Stay in your car during drop-off and pick-up.
- A staff member will assist your child in getting in or out of the car if needed.
- Always watch for staff walking through the parking lot to and from their cars.
- Maintain a safe speed and stay off your cell phone at all times while on school grounds.
- Staying in your vehicle and being alert helps keep everyone safe and keeps the car line moving efficiently.

Dismissal Changes

If Your Child Has a Bus Route

- If your student has an assigned bus route but will be a **car rider** this year, please notify our **Secretary, Mrs. Michiels, at 630-293-6050 ext. 7200** as soon as possible so we can update our records.
- **Important:** Any student with a bus route will be placed on the bus at dismissal unless we have received different instructions from you.

Changing Dismissal Plans

- If you need to change your child's dismissal for a particular day, please call the **front office no later than 1:30 PM**.
- This ensures we have enough time to notify teachers and get your child to the correct location at dismissal.

Arrival & Dismissal Information/Procedures

Monthly Team Updates

Here is a space where Turner staff will offer families a glimpse into classroom activities, special projects, and important milestones, fostering collaboration and communication between home and school. This dedicated space allows parents to stay informed about their child's learning environment and the exciting developments taking place throughout the school.



Mrs. Goolish's Class

In life skills, we continue to review our classroom rules, including keeping our hands to ourselves, keeping a quiet voice, following directions, and using a respectful voice. We have been starting to talk about how to act within the community and using a map.

In phonics, the students continue to work on recognizing and identifying all letters and sounds, blending sounds, and correctly writing each letter. We have been working on learning trick words (high-frequency words). We have been working on using our trick words in writing simple sentences.

In ELA, we work on listening and reading stories to answer simple wh-questions. This current unit explores natural and human-made features found on a map, as well as jobs related to those features in a community. Students will also learn about the differences between land and water on Earth's surface.

In math, we work on patterns, one-to-one correspondence, simple addition and subtraction, place value, telling time to the hour, and identifying basic coins. Some students have moved into double-digit addition and subtraction with regrouping. We did focus on shapes and their attributes.

We look forward to attending our first CBI (Community-Based Outing) later this month.



Kindergarten

Math:

Count to 100, Teen Numbers, Addition and Subtraction

Kindergarten students are continuing to practice counting to 100. Students should be able to say a ten number is 'ten ones and some more ones'. As well as completing simple addition and subtraction problems. We are using number bonds and ten frames to complete addition problems, like $3+4=7$. Students should be able to fluently add and subtract numbers 0-5 by the end of kindergarten.

Writing:

Sentence Writing

In writing, we are working on parts of a sentence and being able to correctly write our letters. Students are working on spelling CVC

words such as: cat, run, bed, hit, hot. Students are working on writing simple sentences such as: Tom is on the. The cat can run.

Reading:

Decodable Words and Sight Words

- Students read and spell CVC and CCVC words:
 - clap, trip, flip, spot, slid, skip, frog, plug
- Students should be able to read 60 or more high frequency words by the end of the year. (Fry Word List)
- Students can read simple sentences.

Sample Reading Passage:

Trip to the Pond

Tim and his six dogs are on a trip to the pond.

The dogs do flips in the mud and spin in the sand.

Next, Tim and his six dogs jump in the pond for a swim. Tim said, "I see a disk."

The dogs swim to get the disk.

Tim and his dogs are wet.

Drip! Drip! Drip!

"The trip to the pond was fun," said Tim.

"Yip, Yip," said the six dogs.

Please have your child read the books that go home for 15 minutes a night.

Science:

Weather and Seasons

Kindergarten students are learning all about the different weather in the four different seasons.

Spanish:

In Spanish, students are working on reading 2 to 3 syllable words, like "camisa" or "elote" with the previously taught open syllables (ma, me, mi, mo, mu, pa, pe, pi, po, pu, etc...).



1st Grade

Literacy:

We are working in our unit on the Earth. Students are learning about the composition of the Earth, how it is studied, and how it changes. Students are practicing writing about what they have learned, and this will be part of their assessment as well. Our next unit will be about animals and their habitats. We will be learning about various habitats and endangered species.

Math:

We are completing Module 4, where we are adding, subtracting, and comparing numbers up to 40. We are shortly beginning Module 5, where we are learning to tell time with both digital and analog clocks to the hour and half-hour. We will also be learning about 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes, in addition to using shapes to construct other items.



2nd Grade

Literacy:

We completed our unit on insects. The students learned all about what makes an insect an insect. We also learned about their special adaptations and the difference between social and solitary insects. Our next unit is about The U.S. Civil War. We will learn about important historical figures in the war and the reasons why the war took place.

Math:

We finished module 5 and learned different strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems with regrouping. We are working on module 6, which is about arrays, repeated addition, and the foundations for multiplication. The last two modules cover many topics: graphing, measurement, telling time, counting money, and geometry.

Homework:

Please continue reading for 15 minutes every night and complete the homework pages.



3rd Grade

Reading: We have finished reading *Stella Díaz Has Something to Say*. The students enjoyed the story and engaged in meaningful discussions and writing about the character and their voice. Our next unit is about astronomy. Students will explore the universe through a variety of nonfiction texts and learn what life aboard the International Space Station is like. This unit will build scientific knowledge and nonfiction reading skills.

Math: We are in the middle of our unit on fractions. Students are learning to place fractions on a number line and to compare fractions both visually and numerically.

Social Studies: Students are learning about economics, including imports and exports. We have discussed how the economy connects to their everyday lives and how using money involves making decisions.



4th Grade

Literacy:

Students have finished Unit 7: The Revolutionary War. In this unit, students learned about the causes, key figures, and major events that led to American independence from Britain.

We are now beginning Unit 8: Treasure Island. In Amplify CKLA Grade 4 Unit 8, students explore the adventure fiction genre through an abridged version of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic novel. Students will analyze character motivations, plot development, and

setting as they follow Jim Hawkins' journey with pirates, including Long John Silver, to find buried treasure.

Math:

We are finishing Module 5: Fractions, which focuses on fraction equivalence, ordering, and operations. Students extend their understanding of unit fractions as they explore, compare, add, subtract, and multiply fractions and mixed numbers.

We will soon begin Module 6: Decimals, which introduces decimal numbers by exploring their relationship to decimal fractions (tenths and hundredths). Students will use metric measurements, tape diagrams, and number lines to represent and compare decimals as they transition from fraction form to decimal form.

Lectoescritura / English Language Development (ELD):

Students are strengthening their reading and writing skills through Lotta Lara lessons and dictados, focusing on spelling, fluency, and comprehension. Dual language students complete these activities in Spanish, while monolingual English students complete them in English.



5th Grade

At this time, the fifth graders are putting in great effort during IAR Testing. The first week was math with ELA the second week. We appreciate supporting your students in their success and dedication.

For 5th-grade math, we are starting our measurement and data unit, which comprises volume and area. These are two topics we have covered previously this year for exposure, but now we are delving further into the concepts and developing a deeper understanding of both. Furthermore, students are using their knowledge from fraction and decimal operations to solve for both whole numbers and mixed numbers. Finally, some math classes are doing a "March Madness" tournament for fact fluency. We started with addition and will cover all four operations. We are excited to see the growth and effort students have made.

For literacy, we are completing our Shakespeare unit. All three classes are working on different projects to discuss key concepts, like characterization, and to empower students to integrate more oral presentations by acting out different scenes from the abridged version in Amplify.

As we get closer to the end of the year, please note that we have one last field trip left: St. James' Farm. The cost is \$5 per student. Please feel free to reach out to your student's homeroom teacher for further details.



Art

Kindergarten - students are continuing to learn about rainbow order
1st grade - students are learning about texture in art.

2nd grade - students are continuing to work on a clay fish, focusing on textures.

3rd-5th grade - students are learning about fiber arts and are starting a sewing project.

Connect to Artsonia and engage in the art room!

Artsonia is an online platform for student art portfolios- a digital museum where students, teachers, and families can celebrate creativity!

Families can view and comment on artwork, join fan clubs, and even order custom keepsakes featuring their child's masterpieces.

Go to www.artsonia.com/parents and enter this Parent Code:

STJ65SC5



SEL/Health

Kinder-Students are still working through the unit on disease and illness prevention, focusing on how to take proper precautions to stay safe and prevent the spread of illness.

1st-Students are still working through the unit on disease and illness prevention, where students are working on identifying healthy habits one should develop to keep safe and prevent illnesses and diseases.

2nd-Students are still working through the unit on disease and illness prevention, where students are working on identifying healthy habits one should develop to keep safe and prevent illnesses and diseases.

3rd-Students are still working through the unit on disease and illness prevention, where students are learning that preventive health measures can help protect us against illness and disease, leading to better overall health and wellness.

4th-Students are working on the unit "Healthy Practices and Hygiene," where they are investigating how developing an understanding of the circulatory and respiratory systems relates to keeping them safe and healthy.

5th-Students are nearing the end of the Botvin Life Skills unit with Officer O'Neil, which helps students understand positive ways to handle stress and communicate with others.



Music

March is Music in our School Month! Students have been able to learn about different genres of music and share what kind of music they enjoy! We will also have a music spirit week the week before break! See the March calendar for details and a flyer will also be sent home!

Kinder: Students are starting to learn about high and low sounds and exploring that with body movement. Students will be performing on May 8th, 2025 at 2:00 pm. Ticket information will be coming soon!

1st: students are learning about high and low sounds!

2nd: students are learning melodic patterns of Sol-mi and La. We have been learning a song called Bounce the Ball and using boomwhackers to play the song! Students will be performing on May 8th, 2025 at 2:00 pm. Ticket information will be coming soon!

3rd: Students are learning the melodic patterns of Do-Re-Mi-Sol and La. We are learning how to sing and play these melodic notes on the barred instruments using the March is Music Month song. Students are also starting to learn about the instruments of the orchestra and will receive information soon about joining orchestra lessons next year if they are interested!

4th: we are learning how to play the Recorder using recorder techniques and learning their first note "G." Students will be getting information soon about joining band lessons next year if they are interested!

5th: We are continuing to play and review notes B-A-G on the recorder and recorder playing techniques. We have started to learn how to play using both left and right hands now with the note "E." 5th Grade students have been learning how to play "E" while playing along to the 12 bar blues.



Physical Education

(Grades K-2) We are currently in our volleyball/striking unit.

Students are working on striking different types of objects with either one or two hands, such as an oversized volleyball, a beach ball, a big Walmart ball, and a regular-sized soft volleyball. They are practicing hitting it up in the air, down to the ground, or off the wall, and catching it. Students are starting to see success with keeping the ball up in the air and volleying it multiple times.

(Grades 3-5) We are currently in our volleyball/striking unit.

Students are working on striking different types of objects with either one or two hands, such as an oversized volleyball, a beach ball, a big Walmart ball, and a regular-sized soft volleyball. Students have learned and practiced the different hits in volleyball, such as the bump/pass and the overhead pass/set. Now we are playing 4v4 or 5v5 volleyball games over the net with an oversized ball and an Eclipse ball. Eclipse ball has been a fun game that allows a bounce in between each hit, which gives students more success than a standard volleyball game.



Library

Total checkouts so far this year: 10,263 books

New books added to the collection so far this year: 408

Top 5 Checkouts this month:

The Book With No Pictures by B.J. Novak

Pocket Peaches: Game On by Dora Wang

Troubling Tonsils! by Aaron Reynolds

Unsettling Salad! by Aaron Reynolds

Creepy Pair of Underwear! by Aaron Reynolds

Reading at Home Tip:

Make Reading Part of the Daily Routine

Even just 10–15 minutes of reading together each day helps build strong reading habits. Bedtime, after dinner, or right after school can be great times to make reading a regular family activity.



MLL Instructional Coach, Instructional Coach, & Instructional Technology Coach

[Coaches Corner](#)



Math - Ms. Thompson

This month in my math classes, we are celebrating the amazing power of **number patterns**. Patterns help children see structure in math, **strengthen number sense**, and build the confidence to predict, analyze and create.

I am inviting families to explore number patterns together at home.

Kindergarten:

Goal: Recognize and create simple repeating patterns

Try this at home: Use objects, numbers, or drawings to make a repeating pattern.

Examples:

- Objects: Red, blue, red, blue...
- Numbers: 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2...
- Ask your child: "What comes next?"

Grade 1:

Goal: Extend and describe number patterns

Try this at home: Make a number pattern using addition or subtraction.

Examples:

- Start at 2, add 2 each time: 2, 4, 6, 8...
- Start at 10, subtract 1 each time: 10, 9, 8, 7...
- Ask your child: "What comes next and why?"

Grade 2:

Goal: Identify and analyze growing patterns

Try this at home: Create a pattern with larger steps.

Examples:

- Add 5 each time: 5, 10, 15, 20...
- Subtract 3 each time: 20, 17, 14, 11...
- **Challenge:** Create your own number pattern and write out a rule for your number pattern: "Start at __, add/subtract __ each time."

Share your math work with Miss Thompson!

Grade 3:

Goal: Extend patterns with multiplication or mixed operations

Try this at home:

- Multiply by 2: 2, 4, 8, 16...
- Mixed: 1, 2, 4, 7, 11... (add 1, then 2, then 3...)
- Ask your child to predict the next numbers and explain the rule.

Grade 4:

Goal: Analyze patterns with larger numbers or decimals

Try this at home:

- Add 25 each time: 25, 50, 75, 100...
- Multiply by 10: 10, 100, 1,000...
- Ask your child to describe the pattern out loud. Have a mathematical conversation.

Grade 5:

Goal: Explore patterns with fractions, decimals, or multi-step rules

Try this at home:

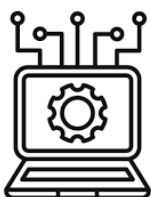
- Fractions: $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, 2... (add $\frac{1}{2}$ each time)
- Decimals: Multiply by 1.5: 2, 3, 4.5, 6.75...
- Ask your child to identify the rule, predict the next numbers, and explain their thinking.

You can't skip the hard part! It is what makes you grow. -Miss Thompson



Reading - Ms. Lyons

Stay tuned for next month!



Technology

This month, our main focus was testing.

Stuhttps://drive.google.com/file/d/1pQX16tmu_HWCeip28TdPEo9ad-iGW9kf/view?usp=sharing dents in **3rd-5th grade** completed the **IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness)**. We are proud of how hard they worked and how focused they were throughout the testing period.

Even while testing was underway, our tech activities continued! We were still able to record our **school news show**, and our **2nd-grade students stepped in to take over the show for a week** while the older students were testing. They did a fantastic job and really enjoyed the opportunity.

Our **Kindergarten students** also had a chance to shine by recording a **fun video to promote Kindergarten registration**. They did an amazing job and had a lot of fun being on camera.

It was a busy month in the tech lab, and we are proud of all the creativity and teamwork our students showed!

West Chicago Elementary School District #33, in compliance with federal and state mandates, is interested in obtaining your opinions regarding the availability and quality of special education services. This data helps inform West Chicago #33 administration about the perceptions of special education supports and services, identify areas for improvement and identify professional development needs. Your support with this effort is very appreciated.

Follow the instructions and answer the questions as completely and accurately as possible. The Needs Assessment should be completed to the best of your ability before March 27th, 2026.

Distrito Escolar Primario #33, en cumplimiento con los mandatos federales y estatales, está interesado en obtener sus opiniones acerca de la disponibilidad y calidad de los servicios de educación especial. Esta información ayuda a la administración de West Chicago #33 informarse sobre las percepciones de los apoyos y servicios de educación especial, identificar áreas de mejora e identificar necesidades de desarrollo profesional. Su ayuda en este esfuerzo es muy apreciada.

Siga las instrucciones y responda las preguntas de la manera más completa y precisa posible. La Evaluación de Necesidades debe completarse lo mejor que pueda antes de Marzo 27, 2026.

[2025-2026 Needs Assessment](#)

[La Evaluación de Necesidades](#)

West Chicago School District 33 Wellness Policy: Supporting Healthy Students

D33 Wellness Policy

Our district is committed to creating a positive and healthy learning environment where every student can succeed. The Wellness Policy guides our efforts to promote healthy nutrition and regular physical activity before, during, and after the school day. This includes offering nutritious meals that follow federal guidelines, providing free access to safe drinking water, and integrating nutrition education into our curriculum.

To support student health, we will no longer allow food to be brought into school for birthdays or classroom celebrations. This means items like cupcakes, pizza, cookies, juice boxes, and other treats sent for birthdays will be sent back home with the student. Instead, we encourage non-food alternatives such as stickers, bookmarks, small toys, or craft and activity-based celebrations.

November Wellness Newsletter - English

November Wellness Newsletter - Spanish

December Wellness Newsletter - English

December Wellness Newsletter - Spanish

January Wellness Newsletter - English

January Wellness Newsletter - Spanish

February Wellness Newsletter - English

February Wellness Newsletter - Spanish

March Wellness Newsletter - English

March Wellness Newsletter - Spanish

April Wellness Newsletter - English

April Wellness Newsletter - Spanish

Morgan Efrom

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