

# PRINCIPAL NEWS

September 14, 2026

## PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dalmatians,

It is hard to believe how quickly the school year is moving! We are well into our routines, and I continue to be impressed by the learning taking place throughout Anne Sullivan Elementary. Our Dalmatians are working hard, our teachers are providing meaningful learning experiences, and our campus is filled with positive energy each day.



As I visit classrooms, I love seeing our students actively engaged in their learning. From small-group instruction and hands-on activities to students working collaboratively and sharing their thinking, there are so many great things happening at ASE. Our teachers are continuing to use student data to identify individual needs and provide both additional support and enrichment opportunities.

Parent conferences begin this week and will continue through October 8. This is another important opportunity for our teachers and families to work together to support student success. We encourage you to take advantage of this time to learn more about your child's progress, celebrate successes, and discuss goals for continued growth. Our partnership with our families is an important part of what makes ASE such a special community.

We also want to continue emphasizing the importance of regular attendance and arriving at school on time. Our doors open at 7:30 a.m., announcements begin at 7:55 a.m., and instruction begins promptly at 8:05 a.m. Every minute of learning matters, and we appreciate your help in making sure our Dalmatians are here, on time, and ready to learn.

A huge thank you to our Watch D.O.G.S. who have been helping us during morning arrival. Your presence and support make a difference! We are still looking for additional Watch D.O.G.S. dads and father figures who can assist us in the mornings. Whether you can help regularly or just occasionally, we would love to have you join us. Those extra helping hands help us safely welcome more than 1,000 Dalmatians to school each morning and keep our arrival process moving.

As we continue through September, I want to thank our families for your patience, encouragement, and continued support. A successful school year truly takes all of us...students, staff, families, and

our community working together. We are off to a wonderful start, and I am excited about everything still ahead for our Dalmatians.

Thank you for being such an important part of our ASE family. Together, we will continue to Learn, Inspire, and Lead while making our mark each and every day!

**ASE students will Learn...Inspire...and Lead...We are ASE!**

## DALMATIAN NATION DRIVE

Dalmatian Nation Drive is LIVE!

PTA's biggest fundraiser is back to help fund our school's activities supporting our students and our teachers!

Now it is easier than ever to donate and share with your family and friends to get us to our \$50,000 goal!

Please donate today! Note that all donations are tax-deductible!



## FAMILY PICNIC DAY

In honor of Grandparents Day, please make plans to join us for our annual Family Picnic on October 8th during lunch time. Please see the following form and we look forward to seeing you on campus.



**Family Picnic ASE 2026.pdf**

**Download**

300.9 KB

## WELLNESS CORNER

September self-care ideas are shared below. This is our monthly action for happiness guide.



**ASE Wellness\_Sep 2026 (002).pdf**

**Download**

499.6 KB

## SPELLING BEE 2026-2027

Students in grades 3-5 are invited to participate in the Anne Sullivan Spelling Bee! This is a wonderful opportunity for students to build spelling skills, expand their vocabulary, and challenge themselves academically.



Parents are encouraged to review the attached Spelling Bee parent letter for important dates and participation information. Students can prepare by accessing the Scripps study materials and downloading the free **Scripps Word Club** app for additional practice and interactive study games. Information, resources, and links will be available in each student's **Schoology Library Course** for easy access throughout the school year. The Scripps National Spelling Bee also offers helpful resources for families on its website.

- Scripps National Spelling Bee Website: [Parents | Scripps National Spelling Bee](#)
- Word Club App: [Word Club | Scripps National Spelling Bee](#)

We encourage all interested students to join the fun and start studying!



**Spelling Bee Letter to Parents.pdf**

**Download**

65.3 KB

## ART CLUB-4TH AND 5TH GRADERS

Attention 4th and 5th graders: If interested in joining the ASE Art Club, sponsored by Ms. Sharma, please see the attached information.

Art Club Details:

Meets two Thursdays each month

Time: 3:25 PM - 4:25 PM



Location: Upstairs Art Room

Starting in October

Please find the Art Club form attached



**Art Club Permission Slip- 2026-27 (4th.5th grade).docx**

[Download](#)

25.3 KB

## PARENTS OF GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

We will hold our annual GT parent meeting *virtually* on September 14th from 5:00-5:45 PM. This meeting is designed for parents of students who are currently identified in our GT program and receiving services from their teachers already at ASE.



Please use the following link to login to the meeting.

**Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Join:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/260724104679438?p=rVqhSCcq7XKNE5lbge>

Meeting ID: 260 724 104 679 438

Passcode: zH6PV9nf

## CALLING ALL DADS

Come learn about ASE Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of GREAT Students) and how you can get involved at school!

This is a great opportunity to make a difference, support our students, and be an important part of our school community. ❤️



Location: ASE Cafeteria

Date: September 21

Time: 4:30-5:30 pm

17828 Winding Water Lane

Sugar Lane, Texas 77479

Come join us and learn more! We'd love to see you there! 🐾

Pizza will be provided.

<https://forms.gle/ggjT3zbd7q9LMgtE6>

## UIL

It is **UIL Try Out** Time!

If your child is in **2nd-5th grade** and loves to perform, complete complicated math problems, write, retell stories, or listen to music



critically **please**:

1. View the **PowerPoint** for your child's grade:

1. Use the link or QR code below to sign up for the 26-27 UIL Tryouts. You will be able to sign-up your child from **9/14-9/25**.

**[26-27 UIL Try Outs Sign Up – Fill out form](#)**

1. If your child is trying out, they will stay after school on **Wednesday, September 30th from 3:30-5:30**. (The time that your child will be ready for pick up will vary. An estimation of when each tryout will end will be emailed to you on Monday, September 28. You will pick up your child from the gym on the side of the school with the teacher's parking lot.
2. **Prepare** your child for UIL Try Outs by viewing the links to the event(s) that they want to try out and having them practice.
3. If you have questions, please email: [missy.hochstetler@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:missy.hochstetler@fortbendisd.gov).



**QR code for UIL.docx**

**Download**  
18.8 KB



**2nd Grade UIL Events 2026 (002).pdf**

**Download**  
580.2 KB



**3rd Grade UIL Events 2026 (002).pdf**

**Download**  
474.9 KB



**4th Grade UIL 26-27 (002).pdf**

**Download**  
527.3 KB



**5th Grade UIL 26-27 (002).pdf**

**Download**  
580.2 KB

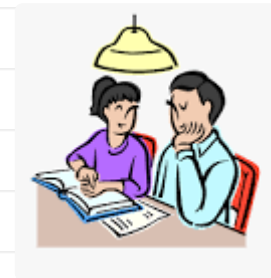
## **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

We want to wish all of these staff members a very Happy Birthday this month of September.



## PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent conferences will be held from September 14th - October 8th. Your child's teacher will reach out to you to set up a time to discuss progress and performance.



## 2ND ANNUAL LIBRARY POSTER CONTEST

We're excited to announce the 2nd Annual ASE Library Poster Contest, celebrating the magic of libraries, the joy of reading, and the power of books!

This year's theme is "Reading Takes You Everywhere", and all PreK–5th grade students are invited to participate.

### Poster Guidelines

- Size: 8.5" x 11" (standard paper)
- Must include the theme
- Use crayons, markers, or colored pencils (no glitter or 3D items)
- Be neat, colorful, and creative!
- Write your full name, grade, and homeroom teacher on the back. Please write neatly!



**Deadline:** Submit your poster to the ASE Library by September 18, 2026. More details can be found in your child's Schoology Library course.

Let's celebrate our love for reading and make this tradition a colorful success!

## FITTEST SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Please mark your calendar for this district sponsored race. Last year ASE won the Fittest School Challenge as we had the most participants from all FBISD schools. Let's do it again!



**FITTEST SCHOOL CHALLENGE 2027.pdf**

[Download](#)

230.9 KB

## START WITH HELLO & TURN IT GOLD WEEK

September 21st-25th is *Start with Hello & Turn It Gold* week.

*Start With Hello* was implemented to raise awareness and educate students and the community on ways to reduce isolation and increase connectedness.

*Turn It Gold* spreads awareness about childhood cancer.



Please see the information below and the student dress theme days.



**Start With Hello and Turn it Gold 2026.pdf**

[Download](#)

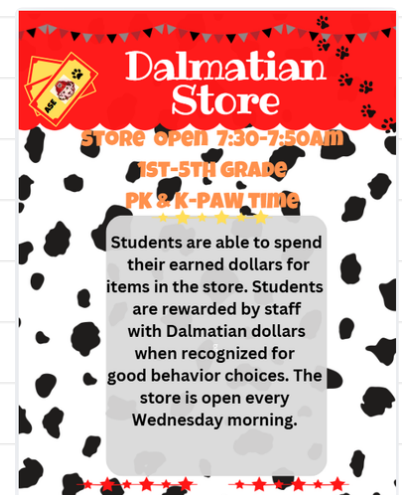
4.7 MB

## DALMATIAN DOLLAR STORE

The Dalmatian Dollar Store will have its grand opening on Wednesday, September 16th. We will monitor the store's hours and activity and make necessary adjustments, if needed, during the year.

1st-5th graders can shop from 7:30-7:50 a.m.

PK and Kinder students will shop during their PAW time, under the supervision of a grade-level paraprofessional.



## GT TESTING

If you are interested in submitting your child's name for GT testing, please refer to the information contained in this link.

Fall Testing Window:

Universal Screener (2nd graders)

10/26-10/30

Fall GT Testing

11/2-11/13

The deadline to submit a parent request for testing is September 30th.

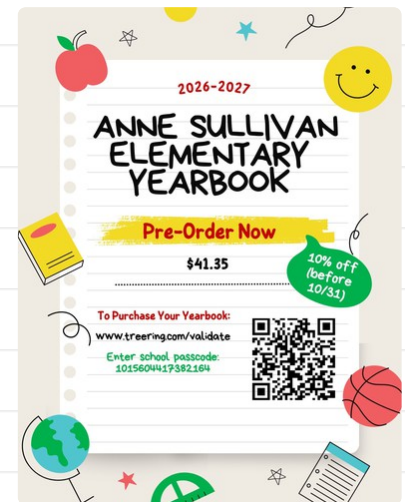
<https://www.fortbendisd.gov/departments/gifted-talented>

## YEARBOOK INFORMATION

The 2026–2027 yearbook is now available for purchase.

Families can save 10% by ordering by October 31.

This Early Bird Special will be the only yearbook discount offered this school year, so we encourage families to take advantage of the savings and reserve their copy early!

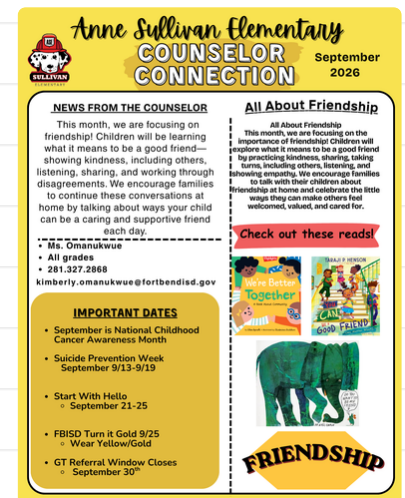


## COUNSELOR CORNER

September: FRIENDSHIP

Week 1 - Encourage Kindness and Inclusion

Parents can help children build strong friendships by teaching them the importance of kindness, sharing, taking turns, and including others. Encourage your child to notice when someone is being left out and to invite them to participate. Simple actions, such as saying hello, offering to share a toy, or asking someone to join a game, can make a big difference. Children who learn to be welcoming and considerate are more likely to develop positive and lasting friendships.



## STUDENT EVENT

Calling all aspiring volleyball players to attend Elementary and Middle School night at Elkins High School Tuesday, September 15!

K-8 students get free pizza!



## SPIRIT NIGHT

Bounce Bounce Spirit Night - Friday, September 18 | 4-8PM

School has been in for a few weeks! Grab some of your new and old friends and have a blast at Bounce Bounce! Waivers must be signed online to jump and socks are required! Please mention ASE PTA at checkout so our school can receive 20% of all sales!



## MONTHLY WRITING CHALLENGE

In an effort to grow future authors and develop the love of writing in our students, each month we will pose a writing topic for our PreK-5 Dalmatians to respond to as an optional activity. A child who completes the Challenge can submit his/her work to Ms. Roach electronically or in the yellow bus located near the front office.  
[stefanie.roach@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:stefanie.roach@fortbendisd.gov)



Pieces submitted will be displayed on our Writing Challenge hallway bulletin board, along with recognition in this Smore. Creativity is encouraged and grammatical errors are forgiven!

September submissions:

*5th:* Avi Panchal

*5th:* Kabir Sarao

*4th:* Azil Tariq

*2nd:* Zayna Smith

*2nd:* Fiora Long

*2nd:* Daniel Balderrama Brondani

*2nd:* Phoebe Lee

*2nd:* Aiza Falak

*2nd:* Olivia Zhou

*2nd:* Azia Momin

*1st:* Athena Halageri-Rao (multiple submissions)

*1st:* Gracie Lau

*Kindergarten:* Olivia Balderrama Brondani

*Kindergarten:* Milan Prakash

Please refer to the September Challenge Menu.



**September Writing Menu.pdf**

[Download](#)

1.7 MB

## RAINY DAY DISMISSAL

Rainy Day dismissal pertains only to those families whose children walk or ride a bike to school each day. Each parent of a child who walks or rides a bike is required to notify the homeroom teacher of a Rainy-Day alternative plan. At 2:45 p.m. a Blackboard Connect notice will be sent to parents informing the community of a Rainy-Day Dismissal.



Walkers/bikers will either become a car rider or remain a walker. If your child remains a walker, he/she will meet you at the normal pick-up location. Parents are not permitted to come to the building doors or encroach on the campus sidewalks to get their children in the rain. This can lead to an unsafe dismissal. All other students going home on buses, in cars, or daycare vans will not have a change in dismissal.

## TUTORS

Here is a list of both current and former ASE staff members who privately tutor students throughout the year. Please reach out to them if you desire extra academic support for your child.



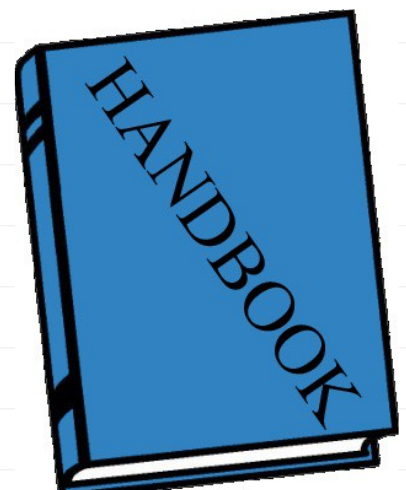
**Tutor List ASE 9.8.26.xlsx**

[Download](#)

14.3 KB

## ASE PARENT HANDBOOK

This handbook is full of information for ASE families to reference throughout the year. Changes or updates to the document will be noted here in the Smore.





Parent Handbook 8.24.26.docx

Download

307.7 KB

## STAFF

Principal: Donna Whisonant

[Donna.Whisonant@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Donna.Whisonant@fortbendisd.gov)

Assistant Principal: Stefanie Roach (K,2,4)

[Stefanie.Roach@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Stefanie.Roach@fortbendisd.gov)

Assistant Principal: Dr. Veronica Roberson (PK, 1,3,5)

[Veronica.Roberson@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Veronica.Roberson@fortbendisd.gov)

Executive Assistant: Michelle Mitchell

[Michelle.Mitchell@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Michelle.Mitchell@fortbendisd.gov)

Registrar: Ashley King

[Ashley.King@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Ashley.King@fortbendisd.gov)

Front Office Receptionist: Donna Allotta

[Donna.AltamuraAllott@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Donna.AltamuraAllott@fortbendisd.gov)

Counselor: Kimberly Omanukwue

[Kimberly.Omanukwue@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Omanukwue@fortbendisd.gov)

Campus Compliance Coordinator: Vanessa Browning (Special Education, 504, STAAR)

[Vanessa.Browning@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Vanessa.Browning@fortbendisd.gov)



## SAVE THE DATE

9/18: Bounce Bounce spirit night

9/21: Watch Dog Dad Night, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

9/24: Early Release for students, 12:10 p.m.

9/25: Professional Development Day for teachers, No school for students

9/30: Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

10/8: Family Picnic Day during lunch time



**Donna Whisonant**

Donna is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters