

Edgewater Elementary

Providing a quality education for every children every day.

OWL NEWS



December 1, 2017

A Note from Mrs. Chumacero

Dear Edgewater Families,

I hope you had a wonderful and peaceful Thanksgiving break. I am sure thankful for each and everyone of you! Our second Math Family Night is on Tuesday, December 5 from 5:00-6:00. We have put a lot of effort into planning this event to make sure that our families have a fun learning experience. The way our children learn math today, is VERY different than the way many of us learned. Come and see how we are teaching students, and learn some strategies to support your student at home. We have created activities that you will be able to take home to have fun and practice with your student!

The District's Family School Partnership Survey will be sent to families again this school year. Surveys are included in this Friday's folder, and we are asking you return it to school by Monday, December 6. One survey per family, please. Survey is anonymous, so please respond honestly. Your feedback and suggestions will be reviewed by our staff and School Accountability Committee to celebrate our successes and discuss challenges. We take these results very seriously and will work hard to improve in areas of need. Once the district shares survey results with the school, I will publish the information in the newsletter.

Assessment Days will be on Thursday, December 14th and Friday, December 15th. Teachers will be sending a scheduled time home to test your students during one of these days. It is imperative that your child is here during the scheduled time to complete assessments. There are many mid-year tests, and want to take advantage of these days to get them done. We do not want students to loose instructional time during the week because of testing.

Please, do not hesitate to stop by or call if you ever have questions or concerns. Like we would say in Mexico, "Mi casa es su casa". My doors are always open for you.

With respect,

Katherine Chumacero

December Events

- 5- Family/Community Math Night
- 6- City Strings Concert
3rd grade 4:00-4:30
- 8- PTO Meeting
8:30 AM
- 12- Talent Show
5:00 PM
- 14 & 15- Book Fair
- 14 & 15- No School
Assessment Days
by appointment
- 19- Parent University
4:30-6:30
- 21- Jan 8- Winter Break



Office Hours: 7:30-3:45

School Hours

(M, T, W, F) 8:10-3:15

(Th) 8:45-3:15

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kindergarten students are really working hard. We are learning that being kind and helpful allows us all to cooperate and be happy.

Most students are now using letters sounds to write stories and some are beginning to read!

Language development is the key to success in school. Asking your child questions about their experiences is a good way to help them learn. If your child struggles with language you can model how to answer in a complete sentence.

Then have them repeat what you say. Reading books together is another great way to help your child build vocabulary.

Number sense is the focus in math. We are learning to; recognize numbers 1-20, understand that numbers represent different amounts, how to count different groups of objects with accuracy, and solving simple story problems. We are having fun and learning a lot every day!

Mrs. Hillstrom,
Mr. Graham and
Mrs. Prsbrey



1ST GRADE NEWS

We hope that everyone had a restful Thanksgiving Break. Thank you to all of the parents who were able to make the "Small Moment Party" a big moment for our kids! Students were so excited to share their writing.

Here is what first grade has been up to:

Math: We are still working on solving addition and subtraction problems. Students will still have to find the unknown number in an equation. For example $5 + _ = 9$ Please make sure your child is completing their math homework.

Reading: We are still working on different reading strategies. We are working on being able to retell a story. Please use this strategy at home when you read with your child. They should be able to tell you about the beginning, middle, and end of a story. Please make sure that your child is reading at least ten minutes every night and that you are signing his or her reading log nightly.

Writing: We are now working on how-to writing! Students will be able to explain how to make something so that others can learn from them. You can make learning fun at home by having students look at recipes, or have them build something by explaining the steps.

Social Studies/Science: We are learning about the states of matter! We will be doing some fun activities in class. Students will get to do an ice cream experiment to see how a liquid can turn into a solid. We will also launch soda rockets to see gas in action!

Sincerely,
Ms. Poole and Mrs. Najera



2ND GRADE NEWS

It's hard to believe that December is already here. We are working hard on writing an All About Book. We are writing like authors and creating a table of contents, chapters, how to page, and glossary. This is going to be a lot of work but worth our final product will be worth it. In math we are measuring for the first time with rulers. We currently have been working with the centimeter ruler but will be moving to the inches in a few days. In Social Studies, we are studying parts of a map. We have learned the cardinal directions. Last year they learned North, West, South and East. This year we added on Northwest, Northeast, Southwest and Southeast. In reading we are studying SWBS (Somebody wanted, but so) which is finding what the character wanted, what problems they faced and how the problem was solved. Before we know it, Christmas will be upon us. Thank you for all your support!

2nd Grade



3RD GRADE NEWS

We hope you and families had a safe and happy Thanksgiving break.

Thanks for attending the 3rd Grade musical Bugz! It was a success! If you have access to technology, Download the app -Google Classroom and click the plus sign to join the class: Use the code eblgq1 to view pictures and video of the performance.

In science, we are studying, Rocks and minerals, “a Recipe for Earth's Materials”.

They will investigate how each type of rock and soil has different properties that determine its use.

In Reading, we are moving on to using nonfiction to generate main ideas. Students understand how to closely examine a variety of nonfiction text, using text features and organizational structures to decipher the most important information provided by the author.

In writing, we are focusing on informational writing to explain. Students understand that authors craft a variety of informational writing pieces to explain their thinking, knowledge, or understanding.

In math, our focus will shift to measurement, time, and graphs. Students will understand how to measure attributes of objects and create data displays, and how this information supports solving a variety of real world word problems involving time, liquid, volume, and mass.

Please have students continue practicing their multiplication tables, as it is a focus all year long.

Assessment days are quickly approaching, any extra time spent helping students meet their reading goals of 86 words per minute with 96% accuracy and 26 word retell would be greatly appreciated.

As always, thank you for your continued communication and support!

Third Grade Team

Denise Meyer

Melissa Mckibben



4TH GRADE NEWS

5TH GRADE NEWS

Can you believe we have just finished 3 months of our school year? That's 3 out of 9 months which is a third of our 5th grade year. In math, we're working on multiplying and dividing fractions using models. Our science unit is all about matter which includes various experiments. In writing and reading, we're reading and writing expository text using text features. It's our privilege to teach your children. Thank you for going over their homework. Have a Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends. Also, we hope you have a safe and restful break.

As the holidays approach, please remember to have your child read everyday and try and keep as to a regular schedule as possible. It really helps the students when they return to school. In math, we have just begun our division unit. Students will be working on long division and division word problems. Working on division facts at home will help students comprehend long division. In writing, we are writing informative pieces of write on topic of student's choice. Have a great winter break.



6TH GRADE NEWS

Sixth graders have been very busy! The current math unit is quite long and involves using all mathematical operations to solve problems involving whole numbers, decimals and fractions. Some of the concepts are review from fifth grade. The students have been working collaboratively to research cultures of the western hemisphere. To present their research to their peers they designed a website on their assigned culture. A new Science unit was started on density and the students are involved in hands on investigations. Sixth graders are working hard on interpreting an author's point of view and purpose. In writing, students are learning about critical attributes of procedural writing. They are excited about trading their recipes and trying to follow the steps their peers wrote. It's an experiment we are all excited to try! In December, the sixth grade students will be making a trip to Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School to explore and learn about all the opportunities available to them when they transition to seventh grade.

Y	E	O	T	N	I	M	T	W	I	C	Y	N	S	G
O	T	Y	L	C	L	E	I	C	C	O	B	B	N	N
S	K	S	I	J	K	L	E	T	D	L	L	Q	O	I
X	C	C	O	C	U	S	A	Q	T	D	O	G	W	D
R	L	A	A	R	K	D	C	B	B	E	N	N	I	D
E	S	J	R	A	F	O	V	C	W	I	N	K	N	E
F	Y	B	T	F	A	I	K	S	Z	O	S	S	G	L
Z	Z	I	B	T	L	W	E	E	D	S	N	T	T	S
S	N	O	W	M	A	N	E	V	F	L	D	S	V	I
G	C	M	X	Z	W	R	I	R	E	T	N	I	W	D
F	P	X	I	X	F	Y	A	V	J	U	W	J	V	S
E	K	A	L	F	W	O	N	S	C	H	I	L	L	Y

WINTER WORD SEARCH



CHILLY	COAT
FREEZING	FROSTY
ICICLE	JACKET
SCARF	SKI
SNOWBALL	SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN	WINTER
COLD	MITTENS
ICESKATING	SLEDDING

From the A.M.P.s Team



Music News

In 6th and 5th grade this month we are working on playing and performing on the handbells. In 4th grade, we have started working on our musical, "Colorado!", which will be happening in February. Congratulations 3rd grade on a fantastic musical performance! 3rd grade will now be working on identifying lines and spaces of the treble clef. 2nd grade has started identifying instruments and their families by sight and sound, and first grade is working on identifying rhythms and keeping a steady beat. Finally, Kindergarten is working on loud and quiet and slow and fast. Happy December!

Mrs. Loew

Staying Active

Indoor activities to keep kids active during our Colorado cold days.

1. **Have a dance party-** crank up the music and get moving.
2. **Exercise together-** do jumping jacks or push ups, run in place, or try sit ups
3. **Play Simon Says** and make it as active as possible
4. **Create a fun indoor obstacle course**



Art News

Kindergarten is wrapping up a unit on contemporary artist Jasper Johns. We had a great time using bright colors and a variety of painting techniques to make



patterns with letters. First graders are finishing up our unit on the first artists. We learned how stone age artists mixed powdered pigments and used charcoal to tell stories about their lives. Second graders have learned about drawing still life objects from observation and are finishing their beautiful artworks with warm and

cool watercolor resist. Third graders have been learning about properties of color. We have learned some of the scientific properties of color and how the color spectrum is connected to rainbows and the color wheel in art. Now we are applying that knowledge in an expressive way in connection with the school learning garden. Fourth graders have been learning about abstraction. We have been applying visual problem solving and will be concluding our unit by choosing a method of abstraction: distortion, exaggeration, simplification or cubism to depict a guitar after studying art works by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque. Fifth graders have been learning about composition and design principles.

We will be applying the concept of unity by working together to reproduce Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night* and analyzing our own mini landscape works for strongest visual communication. Sixth graders are finishing up their Tessellation based on the artwork of M.C. Escher. We will be creating personal symbols in order to include them in a self portrait mandala.

Emmy Wood
Elementary Art Specialist
Edgewater Elementary School

From Our SEL Specialist

Social Emotional Learning in Kindergarten through 2nd grade:

In Kindergarten through 2nd grade, our students are working with Cierra Pierce, JCMH Prevention Specialist. They learning to solve problems with our Brainwise program.

Everyone Has Problems: Problems come in different sizes and we have to know when help is needed to solve problems wisely. Currently, students are focusing on **Wise Way #4: Exit (or stay low) on the Emotions Elevator.** The Emotions Elevator is an analogy for the intensity of our emotions. In BrainWise, our elevator can travel 10 floors. The lower floors represent less intense feelings of emotions, while higher floors represent stronger and more intense emotions. When we are high on our emotions elevator, it is very hard to think clearly, stay in control and use our wizard brain and we are much more likely to react with our lizard brain. Therefore, we want to recognize our red flag warnings and where we are on our elevator before trying to solve any problems. Problems cannot be solved wisely when one or both people are high on their elevator and it is always important to be lower on your elevator than the person or people you have a problem with.

Students learn ways to calm down when they are high on their elevators. Strategies such as Self Talk, Zip your Lip and Walk Away, Do Something Else, Deep Breathing and Relaxation Exercises are helpful ways to lower your emotions elevator.

Social Emotional Learning in 4th through 6th Grade

In 3rd-6th grade, students are working with Jessica Riley, SEL Specialist using Second Step curriculum. Students are developing ability to have empathy for others and express compassion, as well as building student's skills for learning to be successful in school. They are learning to understand their own feelings, take others' perspective, and show compassion for others by saying or doing something kind and helpful. They are also learning to listen with attention, and be assertive, as well as show respect for others, and learning to disagree respectfully. Make sure to join Second Step.org with the following grade-level activation key to watch videos about the Step Program and get information about what your student is learning. (Activation Keys: 3rd Grade: SSP3 FAMI LY73; 4th Grade: SSP4 FAMI LY74; 5th Grade: SSP5 FAMI LY75; 6th Grade: SSP6 FAMI LY12)



From Our Social Worker

Adapted from: “Fostering an Attitude of Gratitude: Tips for Parents”, National Association of School Psychologists and Fishful Thinking Partnership and is adapted from work by K. Reivich, PhD and J. Froh, PsyD, 2009.

The following are ways to help our children practice simple gratitude every day!

Model practicing gratitude. Emotions are contagious. Express thanks to your families, friends, neighbors, and strangers, and ensure that your children see you behaving gratefully. Encourage “gratitude” thinking. For example, if your child wins the spelling bee, help her identify all those who helped along the way. Suggest she say “thank you” in person or by writing a note to someone who made a particular difference.

Share gratitude daily. Make time in the morning or at dinner for the family to share at least one thing for which each person is grateful. This can be balanced with one thing that was difficult that day, but starting with gratefulness reinforces positive connections and resources.

Reinforce grateful behavior. Watch for grateful behavior or language in your child. Identify it when it happens and reinforce him for it. For example: “That was thoughtful of you to thank your friend for helping you with homework. Good for you. I’m sure it made him feel good and made your friendship stronger.”

Keep a Good Stuff Journal. Most people spend far more time thinking about how they can correct something that has gone wrong, worrying about something that is about to go wrong, or simply replaying a failure or setback, than they do basking in what has gone right. You can help your child notice what goes well in his/her life and build gratitude by keeping a Good Stuff Journal. Every night, set aside a few minutes with your child and write down three positive events from the day. These things can be relatively small in importance (“My mom made my favorite dessert tonight”) or relatively large in importance (“My leg has finally healed and my cast got taken off”). The positive events can be things that your child brought on (“I got an A on the test”) or that she witnessed in others (“My sister helped my brother with his homework”). The positive events can also be things noticed in nature (“A cool looking bird was sitting outside my window”).

Write thank you notes. Encourage children to write thank-you notes after receiving gifts from relatives and friends and to include why they are thankful for the gifts.

