



# East Elementary School



## January 2018 Newsletter

Lanea DeConcini- Principal

Rene Hart- Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope your holiday was relaxing and filled with memories to cherish with family and friends. We are excited to see what 2018 has in store for our East Redbirds! We would like to wish everyone health and happiness in the New Year.

### Upcoming Dates

- January 5th- Report Cards go home
- January 5th- Science Fair Rough Drafts due
- January 8th- 6:00 pm EEL PTG Meeting (Eunice Smith)
- January 9th- Dine Out Day at Pizza Hut
- January 15th- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday- No School
- January 16th- 7:00 pm School Board Meeting
- January 19th- Science Fair final revised research papers due
- January 19th- Young Authors books due
- January 25th- 6:00 pm- Science Fair at North Elementary
- January 31st- 12:25 pm Early Dismissal Day for Students
- February 2nd- Progress Reports Go Home
- February 5th- 6:00 pm EEL PTG Meeting (Lovejoy)
- February 6th- Dine Out Day at Dairy Queen
- February 16th- Teacher Institute- No School for Students
- February 19th- President's Day Holiday- No School
- February 20th- 7:00 pm School Board Meeting

### Science Fair

With parent support, students are invited to engage in the scientific process to create a Science Fair project. For most students, this is a choice that requires planning and multiple steps over time to complete at home. Additional information about the requirements for projects is available at [altonschools.org](http://altonschools.org) under the Parent Tab. The following dates are important upcoming dates for Science Fair participants.

- Jan. 5th- Rough Drafts of the Research Paper are due
- Jan. 19th- Final revised research paper is due
- Jan. 25th- Alton District Science Fair at North Elementary
  - Doors open for set up at 6:00 pm and activities start at 6:30 pm.
  - Important note for parents: Your student is responsible for taking their completed research paper, safety sheet and project to the Science Fair.

## **Young Authors**

The Alton School District is continuing the tradition of celebrating Young Authors. All student books will be collected by January 19th, 2018. All participating students will be recognized at East. Committees at each school will review all books based on the criteria. Some students will also be selected to represent East Elementary at our district Young Authors' Celebration on March 15th. More information is available at [altonschools.org](http://altonschools.org) under the Parents tab.

## **January Character Trait Word of the Month: Goal Setting**

Each month your child(ren) will be learning about a character trait that we believe is essential to be a good citizen in our society. We suggest you take time to discuss this trait so that they learn it is important both inside and outside of the school setting. Every Wednesday morning, from 8:15-8:45, your child(ren) will take part in Social Emotional Learning lessons within their classroom. During these lessons teachers will focus on the Character Trait of the Month.

Our character trait for the month of January is Goal Setting. A New Year is a wonderful time to discuss goal setting. January is often a time of reflection and new beginnings. As students begin to set personal goals for themselves they will then know what they have to concentrate on and improve. Goal setting gives students long-term vision and motivation. We will celebrate learning, reflect on our growth, and begin to imagine how much we can accomplish when we set our goals high and determine the best plan to achieve them!

## **Winter Weather**

Please remember that the students will go outside for recess if weather permits. Dressing your child(ren) in layers with a hat and gloves will ensure that he/she is comfortable this time of year with the temperature changes throughout the day.

## **General Information and Reminders**

Student Absences- We want to ensure that our students are safe at all times. If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please notify the school (463-2130). If we have not received a call, you will be contacted to confirm the absence.

Visiting the Building- Building doors remain locked at all times for the safety and protection of our students and staff. All visitors must be buzzed in through the front doors and report to the office to sign in and receive a visitor pass. To preserve the learning environment within the classrooms, we require an appointment to be made 3 days in advance for all observations within the classroom. Please see someone in the office to make an appointment and fill out the appropriate paperwork.

Office Hours- Office hours are 7:15am to 3:15pm. If you call after 3:15pm, you will be asked to leave a message.

Morning Procedures- Students should not be dropped off before 7:15am. If you would like your child to eat breakfast at school, they need to arrive by 7:50am. This will allow them to eat as well as make it to class on time. Breakfast will not be served after 8am. If students arrive to school after 8am, they will not receive breakfast. If students are dropped off after 8:00, please make sure that you walk them into the office. Please do not drop them off at the front doors. Students need to be signed in by an adult.

Transportation Changes- Any time you need to make a change in transportation, please contact the main office at 463-2130. If at all possible, we would like to have all changes before 2:00pm. This allows us time to notify the teacher and your child of the change. In order to make sure all children arrive home safely, we must have a written note or a phone call to change a child's transportation.

Parent Drop-Off- Students should not be dropped off before 7:15am. There is no supervision available before this time. If you would like your child to eat breakfast at school, please make sure they arrive by 7:50am. This will ensure they can eat and make it to class on time. When dropping off students in the circle drive please make sure to unload in the area between the light poles in front of the gym lobby doors. Vehicles need to stay in a single file line for the safety of the students. Please do not pass other cars. Please be courteous of the time it takes to unload your students. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parent Pick-Up- Parents picking up students by car will receive a hang tag that is numbered and corresponds with name(s) of child(ren) being picked up. After school, parents and guardians will need to pull around to the back of the building for parent pick-up. Please remain in your car and pull up to the door, which is located toward the building side of the second parking lot. Please wait in line until your child(ren) are escorted to your vehicle by the supervisor on duty. Additional hang tags can be requested if you would like to give permission to someone to pick up your child up from school. If you forget your hang tag, you will need to park and come through the gym lobby doors to sign your child out of school. If you lose your hang tag, you will need to come into the office and request another one. Parents that enter the building to pick-up students will enter through the gym lobby doors. The gym lobby doors will not be unlocked until 2:15 pm. Parents may wait in the gym lobby until dismissal at 2:25 pm.

### **Recycling Initiatives**

East Elementary collects many items for recycling as part of our Madison County Green Schools initiatives. All of these initiatives not only benefit our environment, but they are separate contests that we compete in throughout the year! The following items are recycled at our school. Please consider donating to help our school and our environment!

Used Markers

Soda Tab Tops

New and Gently Used Shoes

Plastic Bags

Box Tops

### **East, Eunice, Lovejoy PTG News**

Our next PTG Meeting is at 6pm on January 8th at Eunice Smith. If you are interested in being a volunteer or want to be involved, please contact our PTG at [eelptgredbirds@gmail.com](mailto:eelptgredbirds@gmail.com).

Please mark your calendars for our next two dine out events. January 9th is our dine out day at Pizza Hut and February 6th is our dine out day at Dairy Queen. Dine outs are a wonderful way to earn money for our PTG. Please consider dining out to support our schools.

## **District Procedures for Winter Weather Conditions**

Weather conditions can change rapidly in the winter months. When weather is potentially threatening, Alton administrators constantly monitor forecasts and the condition of roads, parking lots and sidewalks. With this in mind, we would like to provide parents with information on district procedures in the event of school closures or early dismissals due to inclement weather. In the event that local weather conditions deteriorate rapidly during the school day, the District may be forced to dismiss early in the best interest of the safety of our children.

### **EARLY DISMISSAL SCHEDULE**

East Elementary 12:25 p.m. release time

*Early dismissal notification procedures are as follows:*

\*Parents receive phone call from the automatic dialer.

\*Email notifications are also sent

\*Notification will be posted on the district website (altonschools.org)

### **DELAYED START SCHEDULE**

East Elementary 10:00 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.

### **EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING**

In the event that the Alton School District elects to close schools for the day due to poor weather, information will be provided through the following means: phone call from automatic dialer, district website, Facebook posting, parent email, and through local media including WBGZ Radio – 1570 AM, KMOX Radio – 1120 AM, KMOV Channel 4, KSDK Channel 5 and Fox2now.

*As a final reminder, please contact our East office if you need to update contact information such as phone numbers, emergency contacts or email addresses. Having the correct contact information on file will ensure you receive prompt notification for these events.*