



East Elementary School



March 2018 Newsletter

Lanea DeConcini- Principal

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Dear Families,

Third quarter is flying by! It is that time of year again when our students will be taking the PARCC assessment. This is the state assessment that all third, fourth, and fifth graders will take this spring. Our school will be taking the test March 19th-March 27th. Attendance is very important these days. Please try to avoid taking your child from school for appointments during this time. This will give East Elementary an opportunity to show what we know!

Upcoming Dates

- March 6th- Dine Out Day McTeacher Night at McDonald's on Homer Adams 4-8pm
- March 9th- End of 3rd Quarter
- **CALENDAR CHANGE:** March 9th- Early Dismissal for Students 12:25pm
- March 12th- 3:00-5:00pm TJ's Pizza pick up (East Gym)
- March 12th- 6:00pm EEL PTG Meeting (East)
- March 15th- 6:00pm District Young Authors at East
- March 16th- Report Cards Go Home
- March 19th-27th- PARCC Testing
- March 20th- 7:00pm School Board Meeting
- March 30th- No School- Good Friday Holiday
- April 2nd- No School- Spring Break
- April 3rd- School Resumes
- April 9th- 6:00pm EEL PTG Meeting (Eunice Smith)

TJ's Pizza Fundraiser

Thank you to all of our students who sold TJ's pizzas. Students will earn one free item for every 10 items sold. A Kindle Fire will be awarded at each one of the participating schools.

Delivery will be on Monday, March 12th from 3:00-5:00pm in the gym at East. Please be prompt, the products are frozen.

East, Eunice, Lovejoy PTG News

Our next PTG Meeting is at 6pm on March 12th at East Elementary. If you are interested in being a volunteer or want to be involved, please contact our PTG at eelptgredbirds@gmail.com.

Trivia Night will be Saturday, April 21st at Pete's Lounge Banquet Hall (100 Big Arch Rd. Godfrey). Doors open at 6:00pm and trivia starts at 7:00pm. Tables cost \$120 for a table of 8 adults. You may

bring in your own food. There will be a basket raffle and a 50/50 drawing. Please send in a reservation form and payment to reserve your table.

Our PTG is also looking for people to partner with for our Trivia Night. There are two ways to help partner with us.

1. Donate something: Volunteers, products or services to raffle, games or activities for the children to play
2. Be a vendor at the Trivia Night: Share your free information, materials, opportunities, demonstrations, giveaways, or products

If you wish to donate, please drop off at East Elementary, mail to the school, or contact Jen Herring and we can arrange to pick it up.

Our Book Fair is also right around the corner! Book Fair is the week of April 9th-13th. This book fair will be Buy One Get One Free. Please email eelptgredbirds@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer at our book fair.

Mark your Calendars! We will have a Mini-Art Night on Thursday, April 12th from 6:00-7:30pm. This will be an opportunity to view your child's year long art projects, have refreshments, and make your own book.

East Elementary School Store

Our school store is open Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:15am-7:55am. We offer pens, pencils, highlighters, notepads and much more! Students are able to purchase items during their morning routine on these days. Prices range from \$0.25 to \$2.00.

March Character Trait Word of the Month: Courage

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 March is courage. During this month we will be teaching students that courage is the ability to do something you know is difficult. Students will be discussing times they were courageous as well as historical people who have shown courage.

East Elementary Optimist Student of the Month

Deon Harrington was recognized at the February School Board Meeting as East's Optimist Student of the Month. Deon was chosen as our Optimist Student of the Month because he embodies all of the characteristics of an exemplar student. Deon is responsible, motivated, organized, and respectful towards others. Congratulations Deon!

Illinois Math and Science Academy Invention Convention FUNshop!

In partnership with the Alton School District, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA) is pleased to announce an upcoming FUNshop! FUNshops are 2 ½ hour evening programs taught by local school teachers who are hired and trained by IMSA. Student learning activities focus on discovery, exploration, and problem-solving skills. Invention Convention!

Anyone can be an inventor, designer, or engineer! You just need an imagination and a few materials. Students will put this to the test in a fun, hands-on session. After an introduction to the science of circuits, they will explore the world of littleBits (modular circuitry parts) and use them to complete an open-ended design challenge. Come think, create, and explore with us!

Program Details:

- Who: Youth in Grades 3-6
- When: Friday, April 20th 6:00-8:30pm
- Where: East Elementary School
- Cost: \$30 per student (includes pizza, fruit, and beverage)
- Pre-registration is required. Registration Deadline is April 14th. [Click Here](#) to register and pay.

For additional questions please contact: Dawn Waller, Metro East Field Office Coordinator, IMSA at (618) 791-3855 or dwaller@imsa.edu.

4th and 5th Grade Music Program

Fourth and fifth grade students will be performing their spring music program on April 30th. Fourth grade will begin at 6:00pm and fifth grade will begin at 7:15pm. Please mark your calendars. More information will be coming out soon!

Alton District #11 Truancy Guidelines

In an effort to provide your child with the greatest opportunity for success, please find a reminder of our Truancy Guidelines below and the importance of school attendance.

1. Regular attendance is CRUCIAL to every student's success.
2. It is important that your student be at school on time. This does not mean dropping your child off right at the time school starts or after. Being late means your child is missing important instructional time.
3. Please be proactive in calling your student's school to report an absence. Schools request a phone call before 9:00 a.m. on the day of absence.
4. please refer to your Alton School District calendar (pages 3 & 4) for guidelines concerning excused and unexcused absences. A calendar copy is also available at altonschools.org.

IF YOU TAKE YOUR STUDENT TO THE CLINIC, DOCTOR OR EMERGENCY ROOM, PLEASE ASK FOR A SIGNED EXCUSE. THE EXCUSED SLIP SHOULD BE SENT TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR STUDENT ON THE DAY HE/SHE RETURNS. MEDICAL OFFICES CAN ALSO FAX IT TO (618) 463-2121.

Most importantly, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the Truancy Office at (618) 474-2244.

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- Anytime 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