



East Elementary School
1035 Washington Ave. • Alton, IL 62002
(618) 463-2130 • Fax (618) 463-2132
Mrs. Lanea DeConcini, Principal
Mrs. Natalie Gordon, Assistant Principal



October 30, 2023

Dear **East Elementary** Families,

Happy November! We have so many things to be thankful for at East. We are certainly thankful for our amazing students, staff, and our families that make each day better! We also would like to thank all of you who were able to make it to Parent/Teacher conferences. We value your input and appreciate the support you have to give. We hope you have a great fall! Also note that with the changing weather it will be important that when you send your child to school they are dressed for the weather.

Upcoming Dates

- **October 31st - Early Dismissal for Students - East Dismissal at 12:25 pm**
- November 6th - Picture Retakes
- November 8th - Mystery Reading Night at East - 5:30-7 pm
- November 15th - BOBO's Pizza Delivery
- November 17th - Deadline to sign up for the Science Fair and proposals due ([flier](#) - to sign up click [HERE](#) for important dates)
- November 21st - Progress Reports
- **November 21st - Early Dismissal for Students - East Dismissal at 12:25 pm**
- November 21st - School Board Meeting
- **November 22-24 - Thanksgiving Break - No School**
- November 27th - School Resumes
- December 4th - 3rd Grade Program in East gym 6:30 pm
- December 5th - Band, Orchestra and Chorus Concert 9:30 am
- December 19th - School Board Meeting
- December 21st - End of 1st Semester
- **December 21st - Early Dismissal for Students - East Dismissal at 12:25 pm**
- **December 22 - January 3 - Christmas Break - No School**
- January 4th - School resumes
- January 5th - Report Cards Issued

Attendance

Absences are excused for:

1. Illness Of A Student
2. Death In The Family Or Of A Close Friend
3. Critical Illness Of A Near Relative (Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Grandparent)
4. Dental Or Medical Appointment When Prior Arrangements Have Been Made
5. Absence Due To Bus Problem Beyond Students' Control
6. Mental Health Days - May use up to 5 for the year - Someone from the school will be in touch after the 2nd day

Absences Are Unexcused For:

1. Running Errands For Family
2. Staying Home To Care For Younger Children
3. Working At Or Away From Home
4. Visiting Friends Or Relatives

5. Shopping With Parents
6. Minor Aches And Pains (Persistence May Indicate A More Serious Problem)
7. Ordinary Weather Hazards
8. Vacations, Day Trips, Or Other Days When A Parent Electively Decides To Remove Their Student From School During Attendance Days

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.

[Young Authors](#)

This year the District will continue the tradition of Young Authors. If your child is interested in writing a book, please click [HERE](#) to view the flier. Click [HERE](#) for a list of important dates. Our building representatives this year are Stephanie Hellemeier, Shelley Cowan and Kathy Stevenson if you have more questions. Books are due January 29, 2024 and the celebration will be on March 6, 2024.

[Science Fair](#)

If your child is interested in participating in Science Fair this year, please click [HERE](#) for more information or to sign your child up. Science Fair permission slips are due along with proposals on November 17th. Click [HERE](#) for a list of important dates.

[Transportation Changes](#)

Anytime you need to make a change in transportation, please contact the main office at 463-2130. To ensure the safety of our students, family members will be required to contact the school before 11:00 am to make a change to their child's transportation for the school day. Should families encounter an unexpected emergency after this time on a given day, please call the school to discuss other transportation arrangements. Thanks for understanding as we work to ensure the safest dismissal and transportation process possible.

[Morning Procedures](#)

Please remember that parent drop-off begins at 7:30 am through the gym lobby doors. Please note that the doors will be closed promptly at 8:00 am. If your child is dropped off after 8:00 am, please drop them at the main lobby doors. If your child is going to eat breakfast at school they need to be here by 7:55 am.

[Parent Pick-Up](#)

Parents picking up students by car will receive a hang tag that is numbered and corresponds with the 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 do not arrive **prior to 1:45pm**. 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) is 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 from school.

[PTG - BOBO's Pizza Fundraiser](#)

This is a fundraiser for East, Eunice Smith and Lovejoy PTG. The profits from this fundraiser will be used to directly benefit students at all three schools. Pick up for your items that were ordered will be on Wednesday, November 15. There are prizes available based on the amount of items sold. We will send a flier closer to the pick up date with the times for pick up.

[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! Please consider donating to help our school and our environment! We will be collecting paper, plastic bags, and new/gently used shoes. Please just send them with your child and there will be bins to place them in our gym lobby. You can also drop them off at our main office. Thanks for your support.

[November Character Trait Word of the Month: Service](#)

Each month your child/ren will be learning about a character trait that we believe is essential to being 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 8:15-8:40, 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.

Arbor Management - District Food Service

- [November Breakfast Menu](#)
- [November Lunch Menu](#)
- [Food Allergy Form for Doctors](#) to fill out - We have a new food service provider this year, so if your child has any food allergies they ask that you have your child's doctor fill out this form for their system.

Social Media

Please keep an eye out for our emails, but you can follow us on Facebook.com/East.Redbird or Instagram @East_Redbirds for important information.



Facebook.com /East.Redbird



@East_Redbirds

We are excited to serve you and your family! Our door is always open, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or to share ideas.

Sincerely,

Lanea DeConcini
Principal

Natalie Gordon
Assistant Principal