



# East Elementary School



## October 2017 Newsletter

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Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that it is already October! During the first month of school, students were assessed on reading and math skills in order to provide appropriate groups and services to our students. Title 1 support services have started for additional reading instruction. As a school we are working hard to strengthen our instructional practices in reading, math, and writing to give our students the foundation they need in these areas. You can help our efforts by practicing reading and math facts at home. This partnership between school and home will help increase the skills needed to help our students academically.

### Upcoming Dates

- October 2nd- 6:00pm EEL PTG Meeting at Eunice Smith
- October 3rd- Dine out Event- McDonalds McTeacher Night- Homer Adams Parkway
- October 6th- No School- Madison County Institute for Teachers
- October 9th- No School- Columbus Day Holiday
- October 16th- Picture Day
- October 17th-20th- East Elementary Fall Book Fair
- October 20th- End of First Quarter
- October 20th- 6:00-7:30pm- East Haunted Reading Night
- October 20th- Dine Out Event- Firehouse Subs
- October 23rd-25th- Red Ribbon Week- more information to come
- October 26th-1:00pm-7:00pm- Parent Teacher Conferences- No School for Students
- October 27th- 8:00am-1:00pm- Parent Teacher Conferences- No School for Students

### 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 remained 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.

### 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.

### **School Pictures**

School pictures will be taken on Monday, October 16, 2017. The retake day is scheduled for Friday, November 17, 2017.

### **Fall Weather**

Please remember that even though the weather will be getting cooler, the students will continue to go outside for recess. Therefore it is important to continue to dress them appropriately.

### **October Character Trait Word of the Month: Responsibility**

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 October character trait is Responsibility. We teach students that responsibility means being accountable for what you do, for your actions and behavior. Throughout this month we will be discussing different ways students can show responsibility at school and at home. Some ways students can show responsibility are: attending class ready to learn each day, managing time wisely and taking responsibility for words and actions. Please talk to your child about how to be responsible at school and at home.

### **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 October 2nd at Eunice Smith Elementary School- 2400 Henry St. 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).

Thank you all so much for your support during Homecoming Spirit Week! Our students and staff had a fabulous time and our families were very supportive. We are proud to be named "Most Spirited Elementary School" in the Alton School District!

Also, thank you to all of our families that supported our Card Fundraiser. This fundraiser was very successful. We do have more cards, if anyone would like to make another purchase. Please see the office secretaries or a PTG representative to get more cards.

We have two dine out days in October. Dine outs are a wonderful day to earn money for our PTG.

- October 3rd is our McDonalds McTeacher Night at the location on Homer Adams Parkway.
- October 20th is our dine out event at Firehouse Subs. This is also our Haunted Reading Night. Please feel free to support our dine out event and bring your Firehouse Subs. The cafeteria will be set up for you to enjoy your dinner prior to enjoying our Haunted Reading Night.

### **Science Fair**

With parent support, students are invited to engage in the scientific process to create a Science Fair Project. The district Science Fair is on January 25th, 2018. 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 the projects is available at [www.altonschools.org](http://www.altonschools.org) under the Parent Tab. After reviewing the expectations together, please return the permission slip that was sent home if you would like your child to participate in the Science Fair. Permission slips are due back to school by October 13th, 2017.