



EAGLE UPDATE


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Volume XXXV, Issue 5


December, 2019


DATES TO REMEMBER

 Dec. 6
Muffins With Mom
7:30 a.m.

 Dec. 11
School Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m. in ITV
Room

 Dec. 12
Elementary
Christmas Concert
7:00 p.m.

 JH & HS
Christmas Concert
7:00 p.m.

 Early Dismissal
1:00 p.m.

 End of 2nd
Quarter



"The Emperor's New Clothes"

From Mrs. D. Heithoff



Pictured (from left to right): Joey Getzfred, Colton Wright, Corbin Kinney, Ethan Hinkle, Adam Dreger, William Heilheckler, Austin Good, Jack Wemhoff, Jordan Lindgren, Camryn Pelster, Cory Romej, Araceli Palmer, Theanna Dunn, Olivia Lindgren, Talena Woodard, Kadance Dworak, Keyera Eisenhauer, Baylee Busted, Jessica Getzfred.

The Elgin Public One Act cast and crew have been very busy preparing for their presentation of "The Emperor's New Clothes" by Karen Boettcher-Tate. Their first performance was on November 19 in Ewing for the Niobrara Valley Conference Competition. They placed 5th and the following members received special recognition: Austin Good, Jack Wemhoff, Ethan Hinkle, Adam Dreger, Jordan Lindgren, Cory Romej, William Heilhecker, Araceli Palmer, Theanna Dunn & Olivia Lindgren.

They also performed for the students of EPS on November 26 before they were dismissed for Thanksgiving vacation. The public is invited to attend a performance on Tuesday, December 3 at 7:00 pm in the EPS gym. This will be their final performance before they compete at the NSAA District Competition in Elba on December 4. The Elgin Public One Act is directed by Mrs. Sonia Rittscher. She is assisted by Mrs. Dorothy Heithoff.

*For the most current news and calendar,
go to www.elgineagles.org.*



Mouse Trap Cars

From Mr. Childers



Integrated science designed and built mousetrap cars as part of a physics unit. Pictured are: (l. to r.) Cory Romej, Tyler Iburg, and Talena Woodard. All three designs ultimately did not work, but the students had a lot of fun with this project!

Veteran's Day



Keyera Eisenhauer & Olivia Lindgren perform "Taps" at the Veteran's Day Program on Nov. 11th



Microsoft and Google create many similar software products.
 Microsoft Word = Google Docs
 Microsoft Excel = Google Sheets
 Microsoft PowerPoint = Google Slides

From Mr. Mlinar

Historically, Microsoft has been the go-to provider for software in both the business and education worlds. Microsoft is still the leader, but Google is making a strong effort in both realms. At Elgin Public, students are taught how to use software from both companies. In 7th grade, students learn about the Google Suite of Apps. In 9th grade, students learn about Microsoft Office. These class offerings will help EPS students become career-ready.

From Mrs. Borer

Paper Mache

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

Red Ribbon Week



Fifth Grade Students were "too bright for drugs" during Red Ribbon week so they dressed up in their nerdiest clothes.
 Back row: Justice, Lillie, Braelyn
 Middle: Gavin, Kierstyn, Tristen, Rylen, Libby
 Front: Megan, Liz, Ruby



The 3rd grade Art class has been busy creating paper mache fish. This was their first paper mache project and they did a great job!

FFA Livestock Judging Teams

From Mrs. Schwartz



Elgin FFA Livestock Judging Teams.

Back row left to right: Jack Wemhoff, Paiton Hoefler, Colten Wright, Adam Dreger, Camyrn Pelster, David Durre, Jordan Lindgren. Middle row left to right: Norman Grothe, Cory Romej, Ethan Hinkle, William Heilhecker, Sharon Bartak, Ally Selting, Taylynne Charf, Harlie Bode, Austin Good, Kali Dworak. Front row left to right: Carter Beckman, Cale Kinney, Cade Heithoff, Talena Woodard.

CyberPatriots

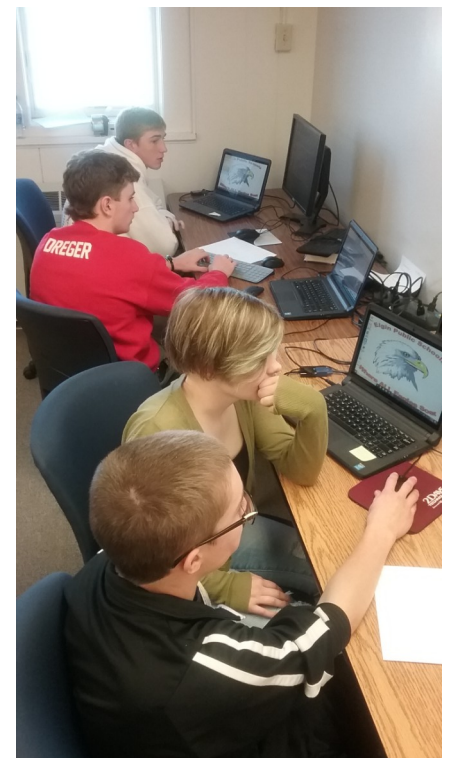
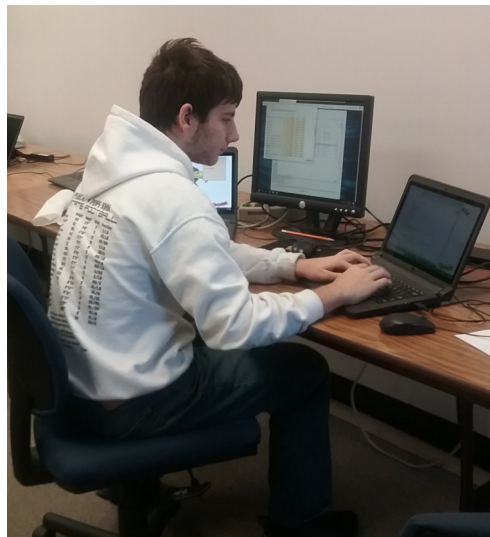
From Mrs. Lindgren

CyberPatriots is done with Round 2, We competed much better this year than last year in the first two rounds, thanks to the return of Adam, Jordan, Joey, Riley, and Trinity. We welcomed a new member, Colton Wright, who jumped in and worked well with the team.

In the pictures, Joey is contemplating problems with Windows10, Colton and Adam were trying to find an open back-door port on Ubuntu14. Riley and Jordan were hunting for vulnerabilities in Windows Server 16.

During the day, they also had to answer questions about Cisco networking (lots of research done for that part) and had to try to make a virtual network run.

If we did well enough, we will be in the State Round on December 6th.



Screen Time and Technology: How much is too much?

From Mrs. Rittscher

Youth today are immersed in a digital world. Smartphones, the internet, social networks and gaming draw youth of all ages into the ever-growing online world of communication and entertainment. According to a study by Pew Research Institute:

- 95% of all teens have access to a smart phone.
- 45% of teens say they are online “almost constantly”.
- YouTube, Instagram and Snapchat are the most popular online platforms amongst teens ages 13-17.
- The average teenager has 18-24 apps on their phones.
- 90% of teens say they play video games of any kind (whether on a computer, game console or cellphone).



Additionally, many of our schools are tapping into the technology of electronic devices for educational tools. The internet has opened doors to avenues of learning that include online research, assignments, tests and digital presentations and projects. There is no doubt that technology comes with many benefits but it also comes with risks. As technology advances and accessing electronic devices becomes more necessary for children and teens, knowing how much is too much can be challenging for parents and educators.

Adults can help prevent excessive screen time and over use of technology by guiding children and teens to find a healthy balance. Just as we spend time teaching our kids how to ride a bike or drive a car, we also need to teach them the rules of safe social media, internet use, electronic communication and gaming. This is a new reality for educators and parents alike. Helping youth develop a healthy balance of screen time without using technology as an escape from real world challenges, emotions and socialization can be challenging. So how much is too much?

A healthy allotment of screen time is one that doesn't disrupt developmentally important parts of a child/adolescent's life including:

- Seeing friends and interacting with them in real life
- Participating in extracurricular activities they're excited about
- Keeping up with academic classes and doing homework
- Building positive relationships with family members
- Getting enough sleep

Without adult guidance, it can be easy for kids and teens to let their electronic use get out of control. Parents can positively influence children by educating youth about healthy screen time and technology use. Do your research and engage in regular conversations about phone use, apps, social media and gaming. Other strategies include:

- Creating “technology free zones”- the dining room can be a great place to establish a technology free zone, reserved for meals and family conversation. For children, keeping electronics out of bedrooms is also recommended to improve sleep habits.
- Establish times to unplug- meal times, an hour before bed, during family activities, etc.
- Role model healthy habits- youth often learn more by what you do than what you say. Parents can teach youth to create healthy habits by monitoring their own use and screen-time behaviors.
- Encourage physical activity- Help your children/teens find physical activities that they enjoy that enforce time away from their screens.

For additional tips on developing healthy technology use, tap into the resources below:

- <https://www.common sense media.org/>
- <http://www.connectsafely.org/>
- <http://www.cyberwise.org/>
- <https://cyberbullying.org>

References: The American Academy of Pediatrics; www.cyberwise.org; www.common sense media.org; www.connectsafely.org; Pew Research Institute

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

Reading is an important skill!

A Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Elgin Public School on Thursday, December 12th. What a great opportunity to do some Christmas shopping or maybe just to buy some books for fun! We are inviting you to be a part of our Book Fair Family Event. It is

When children have a home library, as little as **20 books** of their own, they achieve **3 more years** of schooling than children who don't have any books at home.

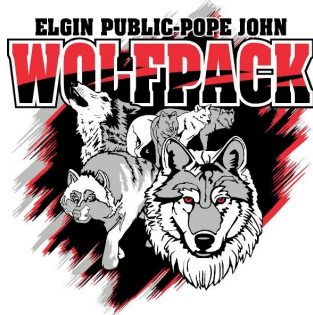


taking place on December 12th at 3:45 til 6:45 and then it will re-open after the Christmas Concert. The Book Fair will be in the lunchroom in the Gym building. You can shop the books for your entire family! However if for some reason you

can't make it or you want to continue shopping from an expanded selection, you can visit the Fair online - see our home page closer to the date of the fair! Please feel free to share this website with family and friends too. The Book Fair purchases will benefit our school and our students. Thanks for helping get more kids reading & kids reading more. If you have any questions feel free to contact the school at 843-2455.

From Mr. Rossman

JH Wrestling



The junior high Wolfpack wrestling season is in full swing. So far, we have had two tournaments. The team members of this year include 7th grader Brendan Hubbard and 8th grader Samuel Hemenway. We are getting better every day, and the guys

come in every day willing to work, learn, and get better. Our theme for this year in both junior high and high school teams is "Always Earned, Never Given". I believe in this theme because not only in wrestling, but in life, everything that you accomplish in this life is earned. Nothing will ever be handed to you. I am excited for this upcoming season, and the future looks bright for the EPPJ Wolfpack Wrestling Program.

From Mrs. Borer

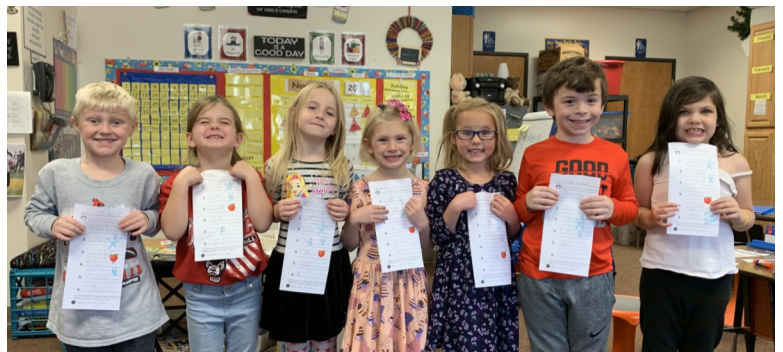
FCCLA Officer



Talena Woodard was inducted as the Vice President of National Programs at the district FCCLA leadership conference at Northeast Community College.

From Mrs. Wemhoff

100% Spellers!



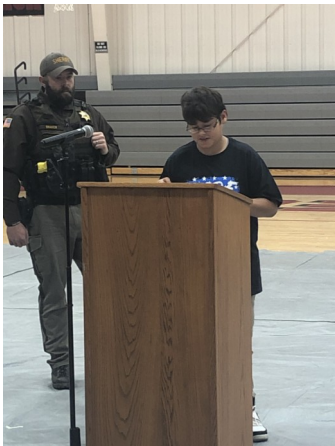
All Kindergarteners scored 100% on their first Spelling test! Pictured with their perfect papers are: (l. to r.) Caleb Fangman, Ellie Vanis, Paislee Braband, Hannah Hemenway, Laney Mlinar, Synclaire Mack, and Symphony Hernandez

DARE Graduation

From Mr. Eisenhauer



Congratulations to the 5th & 6th Graders graduating from the DARE program on Nov. 12th . DARE Graduation Program was held in Elgin Public School gym to honor 5th & 6th Graders from St. Boniface and EPS. Pictured are: (l. to r.) (Standing) Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Jarek Erickson, Lillie Kinney, Halle Lueking, Megan Wright, Gemma Miller, Sadie Thiessen, Kyndal Busteed, Breanna Waldrop, Elizabeth Miller, Justice Blecher, Officer Shaver, Trey Rittscher, Tristen Mortensen, Wyatt Paul, Devin Sully (Front) Libby Evans, Ruby Durre, Kayton Zwingman, Braelyn Martinsen.



Speakers at DARE graduation were Devin Sully (left) and Jarek Erickson.

JMC MESSAGE CENTER

Are you receiving the messages from our JMC Message Center? Please check that you are receiving the messages on the phones and email addresses that it needs to go to. If changes need to be made, please log in to the JMC Parent portal and make the changes necessary. If you need help logging in, please call the office and we can help you.



From Mr. Heithoff

Music News

Elgin Public students participating in the NVC Choral Clinic on Nov. 14th at Niobrara were: (l. to r.) Corbin Kinney, David Durre, Kristopher Moreno, Jack Wemhoff, and Austin Good.

Principles of Science

Mrs. Druke



Eighth graders Brian Heithoff, Dylon Lueking, and Myles Kittelson use Play Doh to model the Principles of Relative Age Dating in Science 8. We will be wrapping up the semester with more Earth science and then reviewing vocabulary and procedures for our annual science fair that takes place in the spring.

From Mrs. Childers' sub

Tricks & Treats



Mrs. Jones had "tricks" and yummy "treats" with the First Grade on Halloween. It was a "spooktacular" day!
Front L-R: Devorah, Ava, Allie, Jenna, McKenna.
Back L-R: Ryker, Ashlyn, Sawyer, Charles, Axel, Mollie.



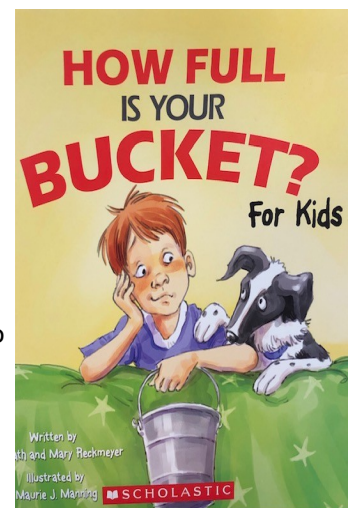
Muffins with Moms
Friday, December 6th, 2019
at 7:30 AM
Please join us in the gym for
juice, milk, muffins and
some reading before
school.
**** If Mom cannot attend you can**
find a substitute **

Make someone's
day amazing!

From Mrs. Eisenhauer

How Full is Your Bucket?

The 3rd graders celebrated National Kindness Day on November 13th. We listened to a book titled, *How Full is Your Bucket?* by Tom Rath and Mary Reckmeyer. We learned about choices we can make and things we can do to help fill other's buckets with kindness. We also learned about how to keep our bucket full and not to become a bucket dipper by making wrong choices that empty other's buckets. The 3rd graders set a goal to work on kindness in our classroom and will be able to fill other's buckets by writing down bucket filler notes/ compliments for their classmates. They hope to extend these bucket filler notes to others outside the classroom in the near future.



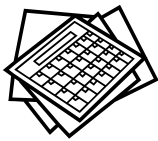
Music News

From Mr. Heithoff



Attending the Junior High choral clinic at Elkhorn Valley Schools were: (back row, L to R) Myles Kittelson, Dylan Lueking, Nick Anderson, Blake Henn, Keyera Eisenhauer, Chloe Henn, Sara Bode, Sonni Suhr, and Emma Kinney. (front row, L to R) Brian Heithoff, Gage Thiessen, Taylor Beckman, Austin Hinkle, Brenna Martinsen, Kate Furstenuau, Baylee Busteel, Callie Heithoff, Samantha Durre, Trissa Russell, and Jaidyn Schrad.

The band and choir have been busy with performances at the JH Elkhorn Valley Choral Clinic, NVC Choral Clinic, and EPS Veteran's Day Program. Make sure to come see our elementary performers on December 12th and our 7-12 performers on December 16th for their Christmas Concerts!



ACTIVITIES CALENDAR ON WEBSITE

This is the time of year when calendar events change frequently! Often JV games get added or deleted and that changes the starting time for the other games. Postponements for weather and illness can make some big changes in the calendar. Please check the daily bulletin and the website calendar for any changes!

Halloween Fun!

From Mrs. Beckman



Our Lunch Program
accepts online
payments.

If you have questions,
contact

aney.beckman@elgineagles.org
for more details.

The second grade had a great time dressing up for Halloween and walking the hallway for the Halloween Parade!

Administratively Speaking .

By Dan Polk
dan.polk@elgineagles.org



We are proud and happy to have some northern parking at our campus. The area east of the Water tower is connected to the sidewalk that goes down near the gym building and ALSO connects via sidewalk to the preschool building. This parking is to be utilized by any patrons at any-time and ESPECIALLY for parents who have students they have to WAIT for; for instance if I have an elementary student and a junior high student this would be a great place to park and wait for both. It is also to be used for people who wish to take their students personally all the way into, or all the way from their classroom during drop off and pick up times. This will make things safer for all involved with less street congestion and vehicle activity near the main gate.



The next picture, is of the DRIVE-through pick up and drop off area north of the preschool. Notice I didn't say drive through "parking" J. Please do NOT park in this area with the orange chains UNLESS you are early for dismissal, otherwise there should be NO parking at any time in this area as it is meant to continually flow allowing parents to drop off and pick up students right at the safety of the gate. Thank you SO MUCH for your understanding and cooperation! Any questions or concerns regarding anything relating to the Elgin Public Schools please feel free to call and talk to whomever you wish.



F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



NEBRASKA STUDENTS SCORE AMONG THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY ON NATIONAL MATH AND READING ASSESSMENTS

Nebraska's 2019 fourth- and eighth-graders scored higher than the national average and higher than most other states across the country in math and reading scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

The NAEP math assessment measures both mathematics knowledge and students' ability to apply their knowledge in problem-solving situations. The NAEP reading assessment measures reading comprehension by asking students to read selected grade-appropriate materials and answer questions based on what they have read. More than 4,900 Nebraska students were sampled for the exams.

Nebraska's average math score is 244 for fourth-grade, four points higher than the national average of 240, and 285 for eighth-grade, four points higher than the national average of 281.

Nebraska's average reading score is 222 for fourth-grade, three points higher than the national average 219, and 264 for eighth-grade, two points higher than the national average 262.

Only four states and jurisdictions outscored Nebraska in fourth-grade reading and math. Similarly, in eighth-grade only nine states and jurisdictions scored higher than Nebraska in reading and only five in math.

The following are among other key findings from this year's Nebraska NAEP math and reading assessment data:

- Nationally scores were down in 3 out of four tests. Only fourth-grade math showed an increase.
- While Nebraska scores showed a small decline in all four tests, students continued to score above the national average in each test.
- Black students in Nebraska scored 31 points below white students in fourth-grade math, 42 points lower in eighth-grade math, and 31 points lower in both fourth- and eighth-grade reading.

The gap in score averages was similar for Hispanic students with a difference of 19 points in fourth-grade math, 26 points in eighth-grade math, and 20 points in fourth-grade and eighth-grade reading compared to white students.



***December 20 -Early Dismissal at 1:00 p.m.
School Resumes January 6th***

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NEWSLETTER

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