



# EAGLE UPDATE

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## HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM ELGIN EARLY LEARNING CENTER



The Preschoolers entertained all at this year's Christmas Concert. We hope everyone had a memorable Christmas season! We are excited to see what 2020 will bring for us.

*1st row: Sofia Frisbie, Mason Vanis, Nathan Beckman, Elijah Jacobs, John Hemenway, Gabe Schindler, Chase Boschen, Selene Lopez, Carson Funk. Middle Row: Cayson Bottorf, Ely Boschen, Shay Morrison, Mason Fletcher, Taryn Schindler, Cora Beckman, Ruth Thomas, Sloane Miller, Aubree Meis, Chase Young. Top Row: Taysom Bottorf, Cole Niewohner, Presley Richardson, Jozlynn Mack, Owen Childers, Jackson Becker, Izaak Lopez, Rylie Beard, Grant Blecher (Absent from picture: Jaxon Haddix, Case Romej & Briggs Heying)*

### DATES TO REMEMBER



Jan. 6  
School Resumes



January 15  
School Board Mtg.  
6:30 p.m. in  
ITV Room



January 20  
NO SCHOOL



## Too much technology to figure out after Christmas? Here's some help!

With Christmas over and presents opened, parents are most likely trying to get acclimated to their kids' new technology. This month I'm sharing some information that SCIP sent to share with parents. It is a guide for parents about video games, parental controls, and online safety. I'm sharing in this newsletter an excerpt from a blogger whose handle is GamerDad. Feel free to check out his blog, YouTube channel, or podcasts.

I'm also including a link to the step-by-step directions to set up parental controls for video games:

- \* Mac OS X Leopard [www.apple.com/macosx/features/parentalcontrols.html](http://www.apple.com/macosx/features/parentalcontrols.html) Microsoft Windows Vista [www.gamesforwindows.com/isyourfamilyset](http://www.gamesforwindows.com/isyourfamilyset) Microsoft Windows XP [www.windows-help-central.com/parental-controls-in-windows-xp.html](http://www.windows-help-central.com/parental-controls-in-windows-xp.html) Microsoft Xbox 360 [www.xbox.com/isyourfamilyset](http://www.xbox.com/isyourfamilyset)
- \* Nintendo [www.nintendo.com/corp/parents.jsp](http://www.nintendo.com/corp/parents.jsp)
- \* Sony PS2, PS3 and PSP [www.us.playstation.com/support](http://www.us.playstation.com/support)

### Taken from "Advice from GamerDad About Playing Video Games Online"

By Andrew S. Bub

Because playing games online can sometimes expose players to inappropriate content, behavior and language, there are several precautions you can take to help make sure your child's experience is one in which you are comfortable. Parents should seek out games and online services that offer the ability to:

**Block.** You can block out strangers and restrict the people your children can play with online to only a select group of approved friends, kind of like a gamer buddy list.

**Mute.** The "mute" feature allows you to disable the ability to chat with other players during a game, whether it's typewritten text or voice chat over a headset.

**Monitor.** Certain online services provide parents with the option to log into the child's account and view a list of players their children have interacted with during an online session, which can be helpful in determining whom they can and cannot play with.

**Speak Up.** In addition to blocking a player who behaves in an inappropriate manner, you can also notify a game's publisher or online service about the offender. Check the online service's or game publisher's Terms of Service for instructions on how to file a complaint about another player, and be sure to include as much information as possible about the player in question.

## Book Fair

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

Thanks to everyone that came and bought books at our EEA Book Fair. Getting kids books can be a great gift but also help them become better readers and students in all subjects!



**MANY KIDS AGES 6–17 HAVE TROUBLE FINDING BOOKS THEY LIKE**

**57%** OF INFREQUENT READERS  
HAVE TROUBLE FINDING BOOKS VS.  
**26%** OF FREQUENT READERS

**STRUGGLE TO FIND BOOKS THEY LIKE**



**45%**  
BOYS



**36%**  
GIRLS

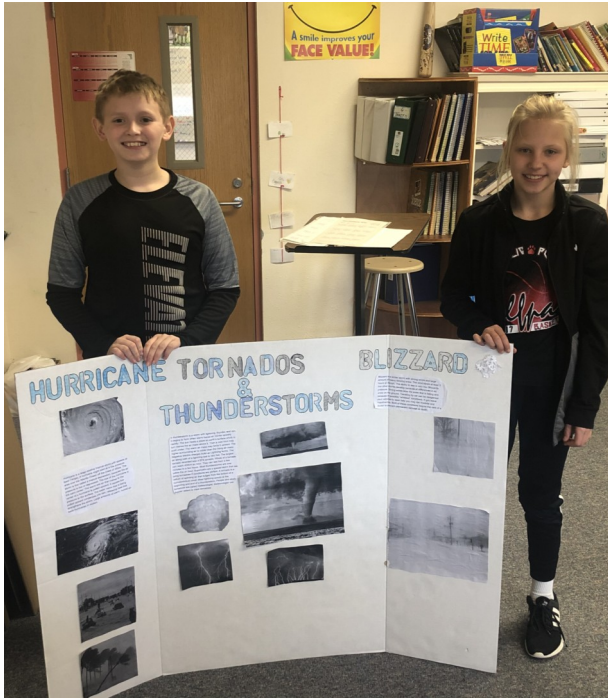
Kids & Family Reading Report™: 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

#KFRR | [scholastic.com/readingreport](http://scholastic.com/readingreport)

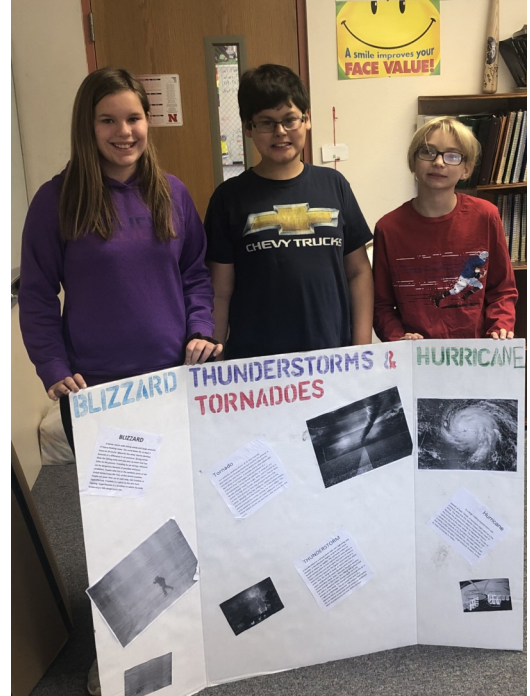
**SCHOLASTIC**

# 6th Gr. Science Projects

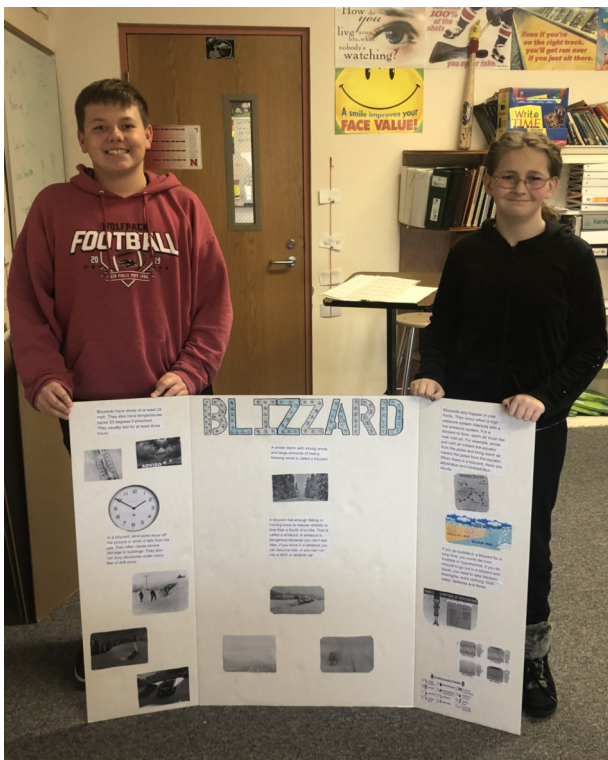
Sixth Grade students worked on severe weather for the last couple of weeks and made a tri-fold with many different facts about each storm.



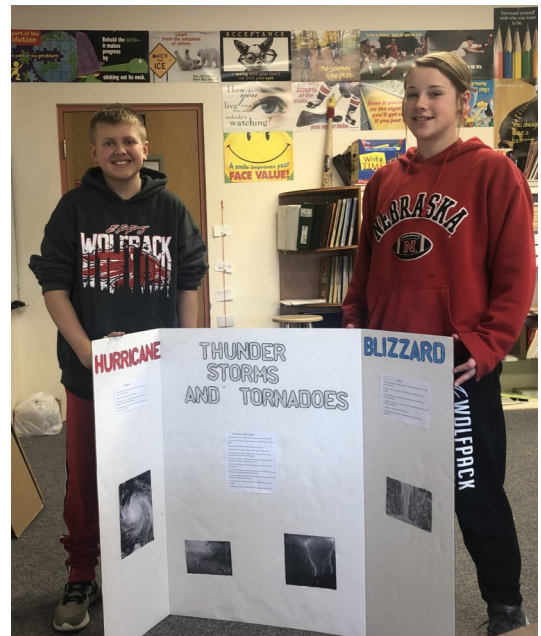
*Aiden Chiles & Kayton Zwingman*



*Kyndal Busted, Devin Sully & Creighton Harkins*



*Jarek Erickson and Alison Kirstine*



*Trey Rittscher & Halle Lueking*

**Check our website for the most current news and calendar!**



**WHEN YOU CAN'T FIND THE SUNSHINE, BE THE SUNSHINE!**

# Christmas Music Concerts!

The elementary and high school students performed their annual Christmas Concerts on December 12th and 16th. Grades 2-6 performed the mini-musical Elflandia! and the grade 7-12 premeried our new African percussion instruments and the World Music Drumming curriculum with Bobobo, Kuimba!, and African Festival. Great job everyone!



*Concert Band Grades 7-12*



*Vocal Choir 7-12*



*8th Grade World Music Drumming*



*Elementary Concert*



*Colton Wright presents to the kindergarten class about the Persian Cat breed.*

From Mrs. Schwartz

## Veterinary Science

Vet Science students have been busy learning about various small animals that last month in class. Recently, they have been studying about dogs and cats, including anatomy, nutrition, and diseases. On December 17th and 18th the students presented to the kindergarteners about unique, purebred cats. Talena Woodard brought her cat. It was a great experience for the students to present in front of an excited crowd!

From Mr. Ostransky

From Mrs. Zwingman

# Merry Christmas from the 4th Graders



Showing off the 4th Grade Coca-Cola Tree are: (back l to r) Donmetrious Dredge, Vivienne Miller, (2nd row) Molly Thiessen, Kaidynce Schrad, (3rd row) Riker Suhr, Keegan Hightree, Joslyn Gil-Rodriguez, Kipp Polston, Cylus Braband (front) Max Henn, Evin Pelster.



Think  
Positive,  
Be Positive!



# Upscaling Chairs

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

The high school Art class has been busy upscaling old chairs. The students gave the chairs a background coat of gesso which is a white primer. They then chose a design to paint onto their chair. Blake is creating a flag design while Araceli works on her sunset.



Olivia, Riley, and Jessica prepare their chair for their design.



Blake and Araceli have begun their design

# FCCLA Elves

From Mrs. Borer



*Pictured (l to r): Blake, River, Callie, Jaidyn, Sara, Lauren, Chloe, Trissa, Sam, and Sonni.  
Front row: Austin and Taylor*

Originally scheduled for Sunday, December 1st, the Elgin Kids Shopping Day was postponed due to weather to Wednesday, December 4. Some of our members were gone to district One-Act so the members that were left made merry work of helping kids shop for their family members, wrap their gifts, play games, soup and sandwich supper, and the best part- visit Santa!

From Mrs. Eisenhauer



The third graders came up with New Year's resolutions for 2020! Here is what each student is going to improve or work on for 2020:

- Xander- I am going to write neater on all of my assignments.
- Sophia- I am going to stand up for myself more.
- Trey- I am going to take my time on math assignments and check them over.
- Anna- I am going to slow down and write neater on all of my assignments.
- Jayvin- I am going to read more in my A.R. book at home.
- Braedon- I am going to take my time and write neatly in my planner.
- Jael- I am going to take my time on all assignments/tests and writeneatly.
- Kinley- I am going to take my time on math assignments and check them over.
- Madison- I am going to take my time and do better on my math assignments.
- Kynlee- I am going to take my time on my math assignments and do better.
- Gentry- I am going to remember to raise my hand and not interrupt in class.
- John- I am going to listen better in class.

We wish everyone a great and prosperous new year in 2020!

**Mrs. Eisenhauer and the third graders**

From Mrs. Beckman

## Busy Time of Year

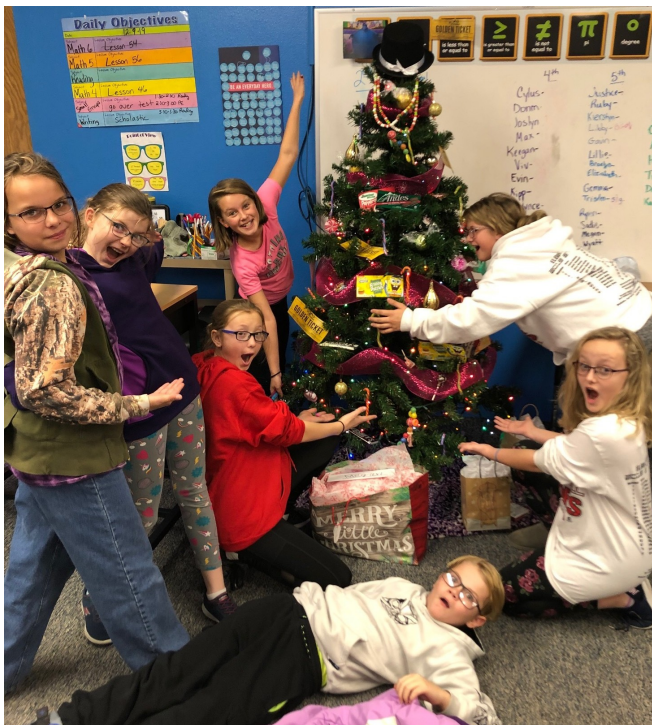


The second grade have had a busy December. Besides our regular school work we have been busy making gifts for our parents, writing letters to Santa, and bringing food for the school food drive. We are excited for our holiday break.

*For the most current news and calendar,  
go to [www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org).*

From Mrs. Borer

# Willy Wonka Christmas



For the Christmas tree decorating contest, fifth grade chose to do a Willy Wonka tree. They had purple decorations along with candy ornaments and pictures printed from the movie. Pictured clockwise are some of the students that decided to jump in for a photo op: Ruby, Lillie, Braelyn, Megan, Liz, and Tristen.

*For the most current news and calendar, go to [www.elgineagles.org](http://www.elgineagles.org).*

## Snow Days



CALLING SCHOOL OR ACTIVITIES OFF DUE TO WEATHER is a very difficult and somewhat controversial decision sometimes. Please be advised that if you EVER disagree with the decision and wish to keep your children home or have them come home that is completely within your discretion. Just let the school know.

# Math News

From Mrs. Lindgren



## Math

I hope the holidays were enjoyable for everyone! As we prepare for the new semester, take some time to relax so that you are ready to start this year off with a bang. We covered a lot of material during the fall semester in math classes. The Pre-calculus students finished their class before Christmas, and I start statistics this semester. Both classes are offered for dual credit through Northeast College.

My geometry and algebra classes earned their break by working through their last chapter during the short span between Thanksgiving and Christmas, even though there were lots of interruptions. However, due to a pesky little program that we couldn't get to run, my computer science class has a lot to do during the spring semester. If you want a challenge, I can give you the instructions!

From Mrs. Wemhoff

## 4th Annual K-1 Thanksgiving Feast



The Kindergarten and First Grade joined together for a feast to celebrate Thanksgiving. Students dressed up like Pilgrims or Native Americans. Items on the menu were donuts, muffins, and a juice box. It was a great way to celebrate the things we are thankful for!

# F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff  
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



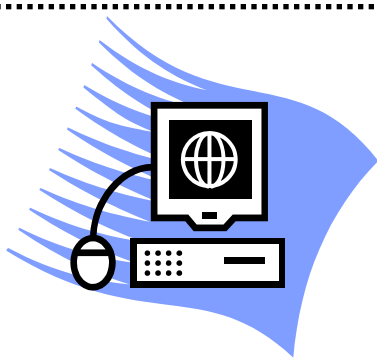
## Perfect Attendance So Far!



*JH/HS students with perfect attendance so far are (l to r) Brian Heithoff, Blake Ofe, Kristopher Moreno, and Theanna Dunn*

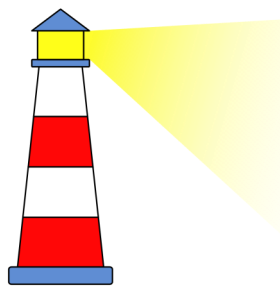


*Elementary students with perfect attendance so far are (back row l to r) Charles Miller, Megan Wright, Sadie Thiessen, Gavin Harkins, Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Tristen Mortensen, Gemma Miller, Brayden Clark (Middle row l to r) Xander Richardson, Garrett Busteed, Braxtyn Eisenhauer, Trey Dredge, Aurora Burke, Molly Thiessen, Cael Bottorf, Creighton Harkins Front row l to r) Taryn Schindler, Elly Boschen, Sloane Miller, Brigham Heying, Mason Vanis*



### The 5 Main Internet Safety Rules:

- \* Don't give out personal information
- \* Never agree to get together with someone you meet online.
- \* Don't believe everything you read online.
- \* Only use your first name.
- \* Don't give out your account password



Remember, you might be the lighthouse in someone else's storm!



### **SCHOOL PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF REMINDER:**

The area north of the preschool is not a "parking" area. Please drive in a single file line (from west to east) and pick-up or drop-off your students. If you need to leave your vehicle to walk your student to the classroom you should park east of the water tower and use that gate. Our pick-up and drop-off system eliminates backing your vehicle which could put our students in danger. Thanks for your help in making our campus a safe environment



# Administratively Speaking . . .



By Dan Polk  
dan.polk@elgineagles.org

There are MANY, MANY things that go into making the call to alter the school schedule due to weather. Some of them include, when is the storm rolling in, what is the storm supposed to be as far as long term affects, would it be safer to have busses running before it comes, during its early stages or maybe after it is over as well as the decisions of other districts. We do NOT want to put people out in storms during the worst of them if we can help it.



Just this year there was a day I wanted to get in half a day or maybe more than half a day before a storm came; but all districts on all sides of Elgin chose not to. It would not be prudent for Elgin to be surrounded by other districts that made a different decision; even though I would have been correct in the end and we could have gotten that time in. Just a few weeks later a snow skiff and 50 mph winds rolled in right before morning routes and we were one of only three schools to run a late start. Those districts west of us had the skiff earlier and those east of us were already in school. You just never know how it all plays out or where the line is between lighter and heavier ice or snow; but be assured I place importance in going to school but also try and balance that reasonably with safe travel and expectations of attendance.

Also, please remember that if you feel the call that was made was “wrong”, especially when it comes to having school in weather you think too difficult, you have every right to let us know that and keep your children at home. It will not be counted against them in relation to homework or grades. As always if you have questions or concerns about anything at the school please feel free to give the school, staff member involved or myself a call.



Follow us on  
**TWITTER!**

**@elginpublic**

Our twitter feed is also on our  
website:

***www.elgineagles.org.***

## **OPTION ENROLLMENT DEADLINE**

Are you interested in sending your students to Elgin Public School? If you live outside of District 18 and would like to enroll for the fall semester 2020-2021, you must file the option enrollment application before March 15th. If you file after that date your resident school district determines whether they will allow you to opt out of their district. For further information or to request an option enrollment application, please contact the school office 843-2455.

**Look For Something Positive  
In Each Day,  
Even If Some Days You Have To  
Look A Little Harder**

## ***PUBLIC NOTICE***

Residents of District 18, Elgin, are notified that School District 18, Elgin, NE participates in all required Special Education Services for all resident students, ages 0-21. If you know of any student not currently being serviced by an appropriate educational program or have questions concerning the Special Education Program, contact the Superintendent's office at Elgin Public School.

Elgin Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. Further, the school complies with all Title IX and Equal Employment Opportunity guidelines as determined by Federal directives.

# Deck the Halls

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn

Throughout December, EPS students and staff were busy decking the halls at EPS. Doors and trees were decorated, the campus tree was put up, and ornaments were made to adorn it. Great job of getting everyone into the spirit of the season. Happy Holidays!



*Happy Holidays!*  
*School resumes January 6th*



ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NEWSLETTER  
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