



EAGLE UPDATE

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Volume XXXVI, Issue 6

January, 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER



January 5
School Resumes



January 13
School Board
Mtg.
6:30 p.m. in
EPS Lunchroom



January 18
NO SCHOOL

Elgin Defenders

From Mrs. Lindgren



CyberPatriots team members are: (back row, l to r) Shayd Rokahr, Jordan Lindgren, Colton Wright, Joey Getzfred, and William Heilhecker (front row, l to r) Collin Lindgren and Corbin Kinney

The CyberPatriots are at it again! The Elgin Defenders have completed two rounds of competition, and are preparing for Round 3 on January 22nd. They ran into some roadblocks in round two, with their Ubuntu system crashing near the end of the competition!

CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future.

At the core of the program is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, the nation's largest cyber defense competition that puts high school and middle school students in the position of newly hired IT professionals tasked with managing the network of a small company. Through a series of online competition rounds, teams are given a set of virtual operating systems and are tasked with finding and fixing cybersecurity vulnerabilities while maintaining critical services.

Teams can have at most 5 members participating in a round at one time, and in Elgin, we have rotated members in and out as they are available. Each competition round is limited to 6 hours. During those 6 hours, the team must find and fix security vulnerabilities in Windows and Linux (Ubuntu) operating systems, as well as complete a two-part Cisco Networking challenge (an online quiz and a virtual networking exercise) based on specific training materials the team is given access to at the beginning of the season.

CyberPatriots has several divisions: The Elgin Defenders are in the High School Open Division. There are almost 1650 teams in our division from around the world.

The website is www.uscyberpatriot.org.

If anyone would like to try their hand at some coding projects in their free time, you can go to <https://hourofcode.com/us/learn> to select from a variety of types and skill levels.



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

Assembly Line Workers

From Mr. Ostransky

After learning about Henry Ford and his assembly line, the 5th and 6th grade Social Studies classes decided to build to create their own. Their assembly line consisted of crafting and selling snowmen, reindeer, and Santa Clauses out of wooden spoons! All proceeds went towards the Elgin Teammates Chapter.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

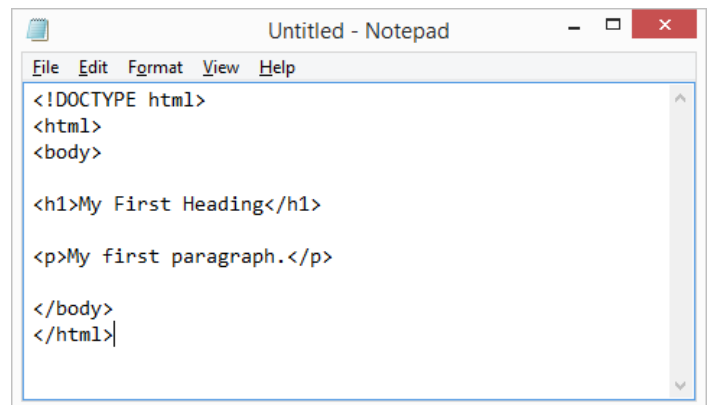
From Mr. Mlinar

Some web pages use a language called HTML. You can think of HTML as the skeleton that gives a web page structure. HTML can be used to add paragraphs, headings, images and links to a webpage. A browser's job (e.g. Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer) is to transform the HTML code into a recognizable web page! It knows how to lay out the page by following the HTML syntax (rules).

HTML stands for **HyperText Markup**

Language. **Hypertext** means "text with links in it." Any time you click on a word that brings you to a new webpage, you've clicked on hypertext! A **markup language** is a programming language used to make text do more than just sit on a page: it can turn text into images, links, tables, lists, and much more.

HTML is the markup language that 9th Graders are currently learning in **Information Technology** class.



Helping Youth Manage Disappointment



As communities across Nebraska continue to feel the weight of the pandemic, it is important to acknowledge the distress that our youth may be experiencing as their lives continue to be disrupted. Specifically, youth are having to learn to deal with a number of losses that are hitting them all at one time. Missed opportunities to participate in extracurricular events such as sports or music competitions, cancelled homecoming dances and winter formals, postponed family trips, being unable to gather to celebrate important milestones like birthdays, and changes in holiday traditions with families may lead youth to feel an increased sense of sadness, frustration and disappointment. Even missing out on regular activities like going to the movies with friends, sleepovers or going on a fieldtrip can be upsetting for many kids. Considering everything individuals and communities have lost as a result of the pandemic, missing out on events, milestones and activities may seem like a small sacrifice, however, this doesn't make the feelings of disappointment less heavy or easier to process for youth. While many adults are dealing with some of the same let downs, they have more experience in processing challenges as well as a greater number of skills to cope with such difficulties. Parents and caring adults can help youth walk through their disappointments by offering compassion and empathy, while offering support to help kids manage their feelings and emotions. Dealing with change and loss is an inevitable part of life but during a time when life seems increasingly unpredictable, experts recommend having more frequent discussions about coping with disappointment and overcoming obstacles. The below tips can help guide adults to help youth deal with feelings of disappointment and loss.

Listen Empathetically: Avoid minimizing feelings. For example, saying, "I am sorry your basketball season is cancelled, but at least you are healthy", may not be helpful in the moment. Instead, actively listen to how your child/teen is feeling and acknowledge their experience.

Validate: Validate feelings of disappointment. For example, you might say, "I know what you are going through is really hard." or "You'll get through this, but it doesn't make it any less difficult right now". Let them know it is okay to feel disappointment and to grieve their loss.

Provide Perspective: Remind youth that they are not alone in their disappointment. Emphasize that there are youth across the community who understand their feelings because they are sharing in similar experiences. Encouraging kids to talk about what they are going through with friends can provide opportunities to bond over their shared disappointment and help kids put things in perspective.

Provide Encouragement: Avoid giving false reassurance but emphasize that, while we don't know when or how it will happen, eventually our current circumstances will change. It might be helpful to share with your child/teen past experiences of change or uncertainty that you have gone through and how you dealt with the challenges.

Practice Coping Skills: Share with kids how you cope with disappointment and change. This is also a good time to have kids reflect on their own coping skills. For example, you might ask, "What has helped you feel better during hard times in the past?" Support kids in exploring new coping strategies such as journaling, taking care of a pet, seeking support of friends/family, exercising, engaging in a hobby or starting a new project.

Encourage Self-Care: Now, more than ever, it is important for adults to promote mental health hygiene for our youth. This includes getting good sleep, eating wisely, exercising, getting fresh air, nurturing support systems and utilizing coping skills. Above all else, encourage kids to ask for help if they are feeling overwhelmed with feelings of loss and disappointment.

While this has been a tough year for many, it can also serve as a time of personal growth. According to the American Psychological Association, "the losses and missed milestones from COVID-19 can build youth resilience and their ability to cope with future challenges". Building resilience isn't always an easy process, but it can help us move forward in times of adversity. Learning how to navigate disappointment can lead to emotional growth and foster skills to help recover from future setbacks. Check in with youth often during this time to assess how they are doing. If you are worried that a youth may need extra supports or professional guidance, reach out and ask for help. A family doctor, school social worker or counselor or a licensed mental health provider can offer guidance.

Kindergarten Gingerbread Cookies

From Mrs. Wemhoff



Run, run, run as fast as you can. You can't catch us because we're the Gingerbread Kids! All kindergarten students took home a Gingerbread Cookie to decorate with their families. Pictured are front row: Aimelyn Moscoso, Izaak Lopez, Shay Morrison, Sloane Miller, Grant Blecher, Rylie Beard, Mason Fletcher, and Case Romej. Back row: Jackson Evans, Taryn Schindler, Presley Richardson, Jozlynn Mack, Chase Young, Caleb Fangman, Elly Boschen, and Cora Beckman. Merry Christmas from Mrs. Wemhoff's Class!

You Crack Me Up!

From Mr. Eisenhauer



HAL students getting ready to do their egg crate experiment. Pictured are (l to r) Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Dannyka Smidt, Gavin Harkins, Gemma Miller, Kaidynce Schrad, Justice Blecher, Ruby Durre.

Elementary HAL students meet during lunch on Fridays and are given a challenge. This week they had to create a protective carton for an egg! Students were supplied with paper, tape, straws, and popsicle sticks. No wings or parachutes were allowed. Students were given 30 minutes to create 2 cartons. Although we had a few cracks in the eggs, we learned a lot!

Happy Holidays From Elgin Early Learning Center

From Mrs. Vanis

The Preschoolers have finished their first semester of school and are excited to see what January will bring. We hope that everyone had a very Merry Christmas.. The students are pictured with the ornaments they made for their parents for Christmas.



Morning Preschoolers:

Back Row: Cayson Bottorf, Aubree Meis, Gabe Schindler and Taysom Bottorf
Middle Row: Mason Vanis, Thomas Suhr, Callie Mliner and Adaleese Kinney
Front Row: Chase Boschen, Selene Lopez, Elijah Jacobs and John Hemenway



Afternoon Preschoolers:

Back Row: Kayson Evans, Henry Lodge, Judd Schindler, Hayley Selting, Jack Stoltz, Owen Sauser, and Ainsley Beckman
Front Row: Leighton Engle, Lillian Whitney, Brycen Pelster, Lorenzo Lopez, Ryleigh Young and Scarlett Sanne

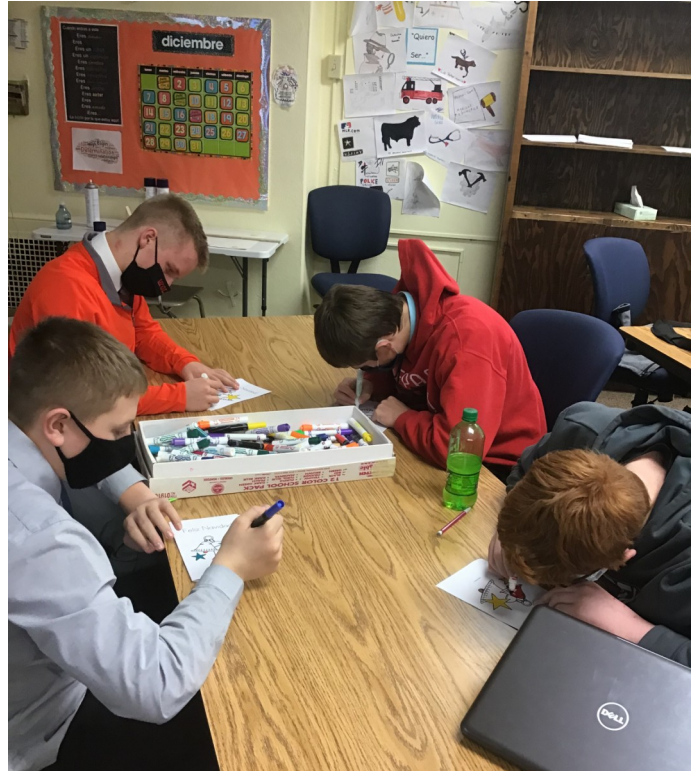
Spanish Christmas Tradition

From Ms. Guenther



The Spanish students learned about the National Christmas Lottery that happens each year on December 22nd in Spain. Many people who live in Spain buy tickets and give them to family and friends as a gift. This is a Christmas tradition for many families. Each year the commercial of the National Christmas Lottery is a video that promotes generosity and this year especially was to show a connection between people even though we are living through a pandemic. The Spanish students showed their generosity this year by making cards for someone who has helped them through the past year.

¡Feliz Navidad y feliz año nuevo!



No Two Are Alike

From Mrs. R. Heithoff



January will start off with the traditional snowflakes for the elementary students. Snowflakes, also known as radial designs, are created by folding paper and cutting triangles and half circles out to form the design. The students have to be careful of wrong turns or they end up with squares or doilies as we like to call them.

K-2 students make a simpler design while the 3-6 grades have a more complicated version. 3rd and 4th grades will get to try their hand at an 18" version while 5th and 6th grades get to make a 36" snowflake!

Parking Reminder:

When you attend events at the EPS gym, please keep in mind that there is a parking lot east of the gym and an entrance to the gym hallway is on the northeast corner of the building. We always have a ticket taker at that door so you are welcome to use that entrance during ballgames or other events.

Not only are snowflakes fun to make but we also discuss that January is one of the few months we don't have a holiday to decorate for so snowflakes fill the void left after the Christmas decorations come down. Radial designs are a design that "radiates" out from the center. It is one triangle shaped design that is repeated several times to form the final circle. Examples would be a kaleidoscope, hubcaps and the large rose window on the front of the Raeville church. Students are encouraged to hang their snowflakes in their front windows so everyone who drives by may enjoy them.

New Year's Resolutions

From Mrs. Eisenhauer

The third graders came up with New Year's resolutions for 2021! Here is what each student is going to improve or work on for 2021:

Cael- I am going to slow down on my work and check it over before handing in.

Aurora- I am going to listen better to directions and in class.

Brayden- I am going to slow down and write neater on all of my assignments.

Dominic- I am going to check my work over before handing in.

Braxtyn- I am going to read more in my A.R. book at home.

Victoria- I am going to read more in my A.R. book at home.

Sheamus- I am going to take my time and write in neat cursive.

Lily- I am going to practice multiplication facts.

Xander- I am going to read more in my A.R. book at home.

Rylee- I am going to practice multiplication facts.

Cara- I am going to work on getting better grades in Math.

Levi- I am going to slow down on my assignments and write neater.

Tenley- I am going to take my time on my A.R. quizzes.

We wish everyone a great and prosperous new year in 2021!

Mrs. Eisenhauer and the third graders



Musical News



From Mrs. Jones

Welcome 2021! We are so glad that you have arrived. 2020 was indeed a year of challenges for everyone. I'm sure we are all anxious to start exciting new times and get back to a sense of normalcy.

Despite all the changes, our Christmas concerts went very well. The talent your children have was evident in their performances. Now to journey into the next chapter in the music room.

As we all know, many events have had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. The Boone Central Choral Clinic and the UNK Band and Choir Concerts will NOT take place this year. However, there is one bright spot looking ahead. At this stage, the Niobrara Valley Conference Band will be held in Orchard on March 22, 2021. Our students (grades 9-12) will participate and there will be an evening performance. More info to follow.

Hoping 2021 brings hope, brighter days, happiness, health and music to us all!!!



Students and staff at EPS were busy decking the halls for the holiday season. Junior high and high school competed in the annual door decorating competition, while the elementary battled it out in the tree decorating contest.

5th Grade Tree

From Mrs. Borer



For the tree contest we decorated our class tree with the theme, "Christmas as a Kid." They decorated it with stuffed animals, hot cocoa, stockings, and presents.

Pictured left to right: Cylus, Riker, Molly, Max, and Donm. Sitting in front: Kipp and Evin Not pictured is Kaidynce

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.

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 2021-2022, 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.

Wolfpack Volleyball Post Season Honors

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher

Cteam ended 7-3
JV ended 12-8
Varsity ended 19-10

New records were set by Lexi Bode & Taylynn Charf. Lexi now has the most kills in a 4 set match with 21. The most sets in a 5 set match with 138, a 4 set match with 106, & a 3 set match with 103 all belong to Taylynn Charf

Academic All-State was awarded to Allyson Selting and Marissa Preister

All Conference Awards:

Honorable Mention: Skyler Meis

2nd Team: Kirsten Krebs and Ashlynn Charf

And making 1st team NVC is Allyson Selting, Lexi Bode, and Taylynn Charf

Norfolk Daily News:

2nd Team: Ally Selting

Honorable Mention: Lexi Bode, Kirsten Krebs, & Taylynn Charf

Omaha World Herald:

Honorable Mention: Ally Selting, Lexi Bode, Kirsten Krebs, Taylynn Charf, & Ashlynn Charf

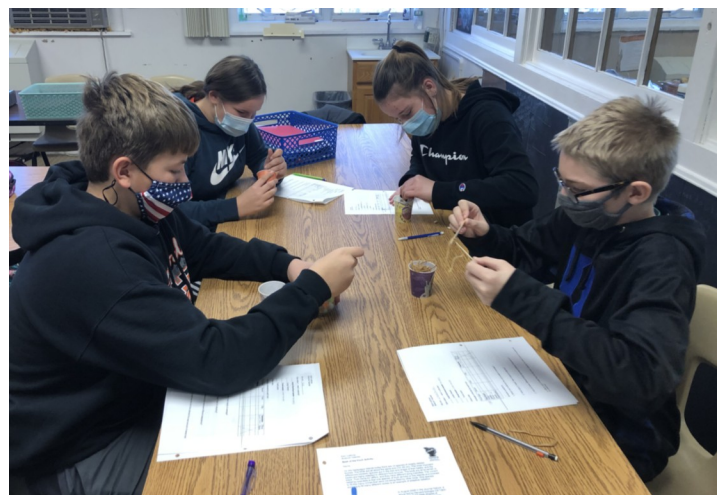
Lincoln Journal Star:

Honorable Mention: Ally Selting, Kirsten Krebs, Taylynn Charf, & Lexi Bode

Check our website for the most current news and calendar!

Natural Selection

From Mrs. Druke



The seventh graders are wrapping up a chapter on natural selection. They have been learning about how genetic variations drive adaptations.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



Amazing, one semester is in the books, half the 2020-21 school year is in the books, and what a challenging semester it has been. I appreciate all the support and cooperation throughout the semester to make it work. It is not perfect but because of everyone working together we are making it. We got this.

The first semester was great. Of course, we had a few (a lot of) bumps in the road here and there, but for the most part things went very well. We have a very good school system here at EPS. It takes a lot of work from everyone involved to have a successful school system. During my time in education, I have discovered three components that are necessary in having a successful school. Good teachers, good students and involved parents equal success.

1. I truly believe that we have teachers at Elgin Public who sincerely care about the students they teach. Teachers are willing to go the extra mile to help students reach academic success. I also believe that the teachers care for the students beyond the classroom and want them to be successful in the game of life. The teachers have high expectations of each and every student and will do what it takes to help students reach their full potential. I appreciate the extra work the staff has put in during the pandemic. Once again, their dedication to the schools system has allowed education to continue and our students to be successful and safe. Thank you all.
2. I believe that we have great kids here at Elgin Public. This is my 8th year here at EPS and each and every day I am impressed with the behavior of the student body. I get the opportunity to see all the students at lunch each day and I am always impressed with their manners and respect. I have also received several compliments from other administrators on the behavior of our students at the many different activities. That makes me proud! One thing that is very evident is the resilience of our student body. It has been scary, confusing and frustrating for all of them but the students continue to push on. They are a "gritty" group. Keep it up. We got this.
3. Parents play a very important role in the success of any school. Parent involvement in the student's academic life is an essential ingredient to the success of the student. I would encourage parents to continue to be involved in your children's academic lives. Please take advantage of our information system (JMC) to monitor your children's academic progress. If teachers, parents and students are all on the same page, achieving academic success is a very attainable goal. This year parent(s) roles have been more important than ever. Thank you for your support during these uncertain times. You have done a tremendous job!

WE GOT THIS!!



Follow us on
TWITTER!

@elginpublic

Our twitter feed is also on our website:

www.elgineagles.org.

Interesting fact:

Have you heard about a Palindrome Number? It is a number that reads the same backwards and forward, e.g.

12421. January 20th is a palindrome

[1-20-21 = 12021]



Christmas season is "Among Us!" Merry Christmas from the 4th Graders!

From Mr. Ostransky

Administratively Speaking . . .



By Mike Brockhaus
mike.brockhaus@elgineagles.org

The first semester of the 2020-2021 school year is in the books and it seems like our family just moved to Elgin last week! It has been an interesting first semester to say the least with the terms of Covid, virus, DHM, Risk Dial, quarantine, isolation, and vaccine becoming part of the everyday conversation for our students, staff, and community. I'm proud to be part of the Elgin Public School system and to be able to say that we have worked hard to help our students and staff through this tough time that includes all these previously mentioned terms. It hasn't always been easy but we were able to start the school year on time and not close for any length of time.

We are looking forward to the next semester and the positive moments along with the challenges it will bring. The second semester will begin on Tuesday January 5 with a regular start time to the day. Elgin Public Schools will continue to work hard to bring the quality of education to the students that they have in the past and present times. We are always looking at ways to improve the instruction for the students so they are prepared for their futures after graduation, whatever those futures may hold.

We can now take a break and enjoy family and friends during the holidays. Please remember to take the time to appreciate what we have in this great community and the school district. We have great kids and a great staff that has the best interests of the students in mind. Elgin Public Schools wants to wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season!!



Want to watch an event in the EPS Gym? Go to the EPS Live Stream YouTube channel to watch. Live broadcast will start a few minutes before the event starts.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC96ie96Wxp3scMgHuV3oiUQ>
Don't forget to hit the subscribe button! Our goal is to reach 1,000 subscribers this year!



Happy Holidays!
School resumes January 5th



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