



DATES TO REMEMBER



May 8
 Graduation
 5:00 p.m.



May 11
 EPS School Board
 Mtg. 7:30 p.m.
 in EPS Lunchroom



May 13
 Elementary Spring
 Concert 7:00 p.m.



May 17
 Preschool
 Graduation
 6:30 p.m. in gym



May 17
 Kindergarten
 Graduation
 7:30 p.m. in gym



May 20
 Last Day for
 Students
 Early Dismissal
 11:00 a.m.

Traveling to Omaha Sites



Enjoying the sights of Omaha were: Thomas Warnke, Kali Dworak, Jessica Getzfred, Joey Getzfred, Theanna Dunn, River Romej, Colton Wright, and Jordan Lindgren. Sponsors not pictured were Mrs. Lindgren, and Mrs. Rittscher.

Due to covid restrictions, the Juniors and Seniors at Elgin Public School have been unable to take their East Coast Trip the last two years. This year they were able to take a trip closer to home in Omaha. The students and sponsors enjoyed the Durham Museum, the Joslyn Art Museum, and the Museum of Shadows. They toured SAC Museum, Top Golf, and Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo. Students walked the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge and enjoyed the sites of the Old Market. They also had the opportunity to attend a play, "Fully Committed" at the Omaha Community Playhouse.

Colton Wright commented that he "learned so many new things about Omaha that he didn't even know were possible." According to Thomas Warnke, he "learned a lot about trying new things. It's important to try new things because it can be fun and we can learn a lot about them." Students would like to thank the Elgin School Board and their sponsors for a wonderful trip!

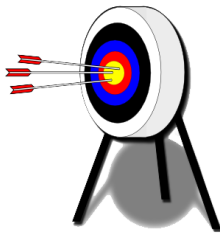


From Mr. Becker

National Archery in Schools Program coming to EPS.

What is NASP®

NASP® is an activity that doesn't discriminate based on popularity, athletic skill, gender, size, or academic ability. It's a different kind of team sport. It's open to any student. Its biggest supporters are professional educators. Teams come together around one thing: Archery. The National Archery in the Schools Program is an in-school program aimed at improving educational performance among students starting in 4th grade. And through it, students are learning focus, self-control, discipline, patience, and the life lessons required to be successful in the classroom and in life.



Archery Curriculum

Units of Study were written by Education, Conservation, and Target archery experts to meet state and national educational standards. This enabled NASP® to speak the language of educators who are intent on teaching core content throughout the school day. These units were designed for inclusion in a school's Physical Education curriculum but in a few NASP® schools these archery lessons are presented by history, language, art, and even Spanish teacher.

Teacher Training

Instructor Training was developed so teachers in every participating school could be certified to present NASP® lessons that are safe for students, instructors, bystanders, and the facility. Teachers have a choice of being certified as NASP® Basic Archery Instructors (BAI – 8 hours) or Basic Archery Instructor Trainers (BAIT–24 hours). To date more than 90,000 people have been certified by NASP®.



Universal Fit

Archery Equipment used in NASP® is highly standardized to be safe, durable, economical, and

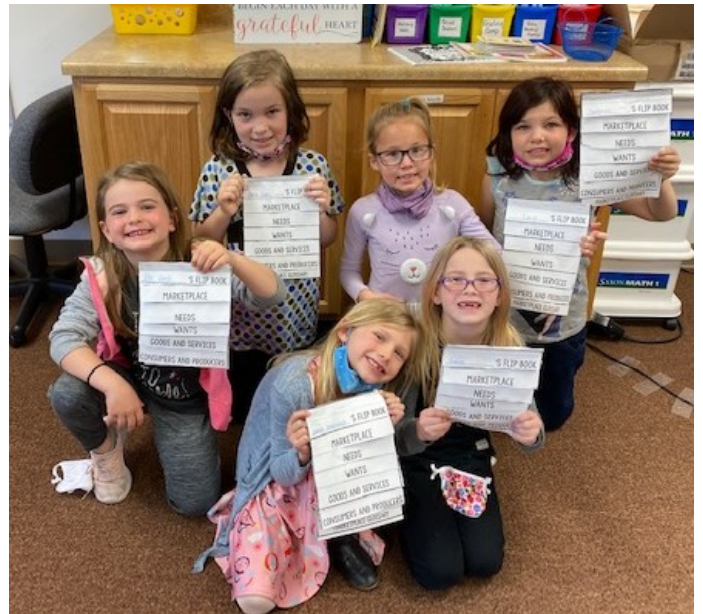
most importantly, universal fit for almost every student. In NASP® learning the "process" of shooting is stressed far more than arrow scores. The only bow used in NASP® is a "Genesis®" compound which has no let-off and is adjustable from 10-20 pounds in draw weight at any draw length. And the only arrow is the Easton 1820 aluminum "Genesis" arrow.

To Find Out More

Please check out the website- www.naspschools.org/ for more information on NASP®!

From Mrs. Childers

FIRST GRADE NEWS



The 1st grade made a flip book all about needs and wants, goods and services, and producers and consumers! We came up with so many ideas! Great discussion, 1st grade!

From Mrs. Schwartz



FFA Greenhouse Open

May 3-7, 2021
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

The FFA/Agriculture Greenhouse will be open during the week of May 3-7. Plants include petunias, geraniums, grasses, succulents, a variety of tomato and cucumber plants, and much more. Hours of operation will be from 1:00 - 4:30 pm every day during that week.

From Mrs. Rittscher

NECC Virtual Scholastic Contest



EPS students competed in the Northeast Community Scholastic Contest via virtual platform on April 17. (Back L-R) Colton Wright, Jordan Lindgren, Joey Getzfred, William Heilhecker, Jack Wemhoff, Dylon Lueking, Corbin Kinney, Ethan Hinkle, and Austin Good. (Front L-R) Isabella Smidt, Jessica Getzfred, Riley Vitamvas, Theanna Dunn, Keyera Eisenhauer, Brenna Martinsen, Grace Mace, and Baylee Busted.

Fourth Grade Dioramas

From Mr. Ostransky



The 4th graders have been learning about Native American tribes in Social Studies. They were able to put their learning into a project and recently completed their Native American dioramas!

Year Twenty-five Reflections

From Mrs. Shumake-Henn

Some people were born to be artists; some, musicians; some, teachers, and some, coaches. Me? I think I was born to be a mom. Of course, that wasn't always the case. Shortly after I found out I was having a baby, I was taping up an ankle in volleyball practice when a player asked me: "Um, Coach Shoe . . . so, we think you're going to be a great mom and everything . . . when your kids are teenagers. But what are you going to do with a baby?" At the time, even I didn't know, but I assumed I would figure it out along the way. After all, at least I had Marty, and anyone who knows us knows he's much more of a baby person than I am. Turns out, I was fine, and quite honestly, babies were a breeze compared to teenagers.

After all these years, my children really are the center of my world . . . however, occasionally, they are also my punishment for every time I looked at a student over the years and thought, "What is wrong with your parents?" Seriously, people, karma really is a thing.

In year number twenty-five of teaching, most educators probably feel they have it all figured out. When students ask me if teaching is what I want to do forever, I often respond with, "I've thought a lot about being an education professor and teaching others how to be teachers." When they ask what is stopping me, I explain that I still have to finish learning how to be a teacher first.

Every year in the classroom is unique, and this year has been no exception. This year, I am teaching my own children, and there is nothing quite like that experience. Though it presents a whole new set of challenges, it's also made me a better teacher along the way. It's made me realize the importance of treating every student like he/she is my own. Whether it be in the classroom, in the gym, during speech season, or just in the hall each day, they are all my kids. I also have a whole new understanding of how their lives work when they exit the doors of my classroom. In that hindsight, I'm certain I've made some mistakes along the way. Sometimes I may have been too tough . . . sometimes, too easy. I'm certainly not perfect, and I am still growing and learning each and every day—and so are our students. Watching and being a part of that growth process really is the best part of working in a school environment.

At the age of 48, (okay, students, here's your chance to earn some extra credit by appearing shocked that I'm really this old) I'm still learning some valuable lessons, but as one of my wisest friends always says, "You don't know, until you know." And what I now know more so than during any other year is the importance of treating them all as if they were my own. When we do this, we really can't go wrong.

Egg Hunt Fun!

From Mrs. Beckman

From Mrs. Wemhoff



Mrs. Beckman's second grade class hosted an Easter egg hunt for the kindergarten class on the playground. Pictured are both classes: front row Allie Sheer, Mason Fletcher, Caleb Fangman, Sloane Miller, Shay Morrison, Jenna Beard, Case Romej, McKenna Sauser, and Rylie Beard back row Jackson Evans, Axel Suhr, Ashlyn Tillis, Ryker Lammers, Izaak Lopez, Devorah Frisbie, Jozlyne Mack, Mollie Murphy, Taryn Schindler, Aubree Bellar Scott, Ava Dworak, Chase Young, and Charles Miller.

Preschool News

From Mrs. Vanis

As we get closer to the end of the school year the Preschoolers are excitedly awaiting warmer weather, our Spring Concert and Graduation! The Spring Concert will be Thursday, May 13th at 7:00 p.m. with Graduation on Monday, May 17th at 6:30 p.m.



Morning Class Back Row: Aubree Meis, Selene Lopez, Adaleese Kinney, Gabe Schindler, Cayson Bottorf, Thomas Suhr, Taysom Bottorf. **Front Row:** Elijah Jacobs, Sofia Frisbee, Callie Mlinar, Mason Vanis, Chase Boschen and John Hemenway.

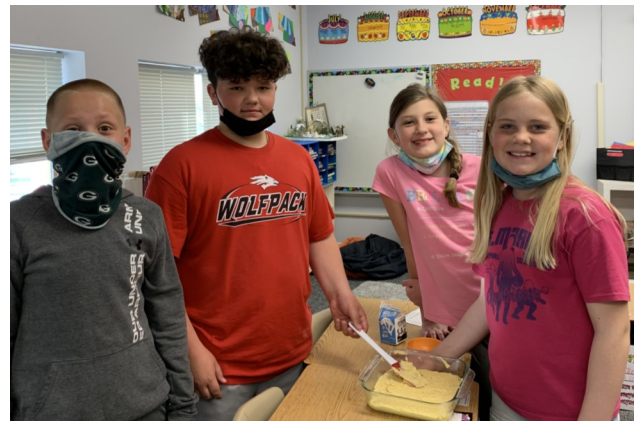


Afternoon Class: Back Row: Scarlet Sanne, Ainsley Beckman, Jack Stoltz, Judd Schindler, and Owen Sauser **Front Row:** Brycen Pelster, Lillian Whitney, Hayley Selting, Lorenzo Lopez, Ryleigh Young and Leighton Engle. **Not Pictured:** Kayson Evans and Chase Veik



Pioneer Cornbread

From Mr. Ostransky



Pictured with their cornbread are: (l to r) John Zwingman, Jayvin Erickson, Macy Rokahr, & Kinley Miller.

After learning about pioneers and the first homesteaders, the 4th graders put themselves in pioneer's shoes and made their own cornbread from scratch! The students did a terrific job in working together and the cornbread was very delicious! Pictured above are (l to r) Kynlee Tillis, Madison Nichols, Anna Dworak, & Gentry Zwingman.



Pictured with their cornbread are: (l to r) Xander Braband, Jael Lammers, Braedon Hinkle & Sophia Burke.

JH Real World Money

From Mrs. Druke

From Mrs. D. Heithoff



On Wednesday, April 14, 2021, the 7th and 8th graders attended the Real World Money workshop presented by the UNL Extension Office. The students were accompanied by Mrs.

Rittscher, Mrs. Druke, and Mrs. D. Heithoff.

The first part of the program led the students in a discussion of different money concepts such as wants versus needs, atms, debit cards, and credit cards.

For the second part of the program the students were divided into groups of 2 or 3. They then were given jobs with salaries. Working with their partners, they had to decide what kind of housing they needed, what transportations costs they would have, clothing needs, etc. After they made those decisions, the groups then had to budget how they would pay for these necessities and wants. Students also learned how to fill out a check blank and check register properly.

This was an excellent opportunity for the students to get some hands on experience with budgeting money.

Science Fruit or Science Vegetable?

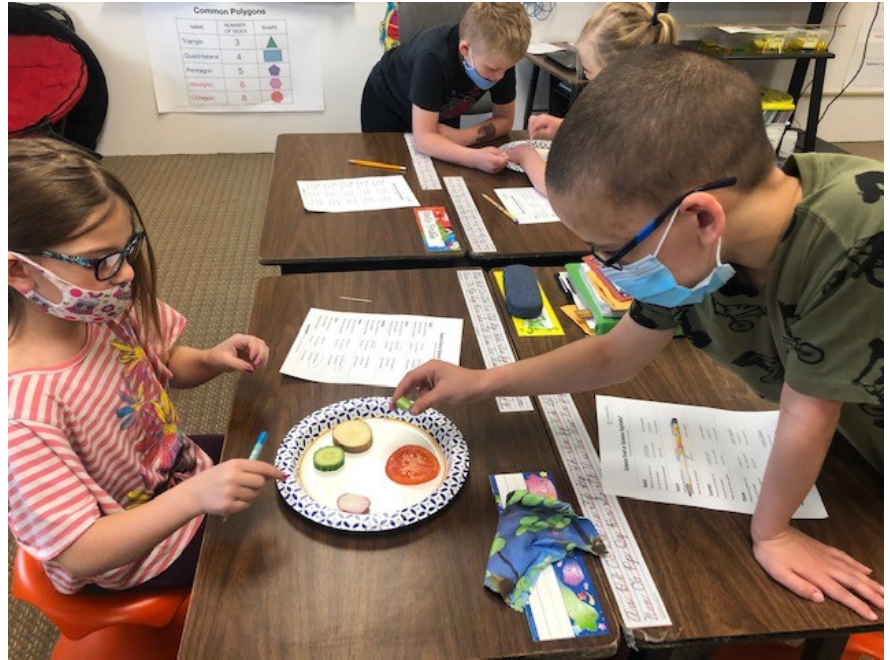
From Mrs. Eisenhauer

Science fruit or science vegetable? This is the question the 3rd graders had to answer as plant scientists in Science class.

The students learned about why plants grow fruit. In the activity, Science Fruit or Vegetable, students examined common grocery produce and predicted if each item was a science fruit or science vegetable. Then they took a closer look at slices of the produce and searched for seeds.

Students made the connection as to why some argue whether a tomato is a fruit or vegetable. When speaking as a plant scientist, a tomato is a fruit. But when speaking as a grocer or cook, a tomato is a vegetable.

Next students will be learning about different varieties of apples to study traits of plants.



#BeKind

Could a Plant Survive Without Light?

From Mrs. Beckman



The second grade did a science activity sprouting radish seeds. Half of the class kept their seeds in the dark and half put them in the sunlight. The picture shows Riker Lammers, McKenna Sauser, Charles Miller, Allie Scheer, Ashlyn Tillis and Ava Dworak showing their sprouted seeds.



Music News

From Mrs. Jones

Music Mews! As the year is winding down, the music department has been busy. The band and choir just finished their journey to District Music Contest and a finale concert featuring all the groups and solos that performed at the contest. I'm proud of all their efforts and performances.

The elementary classes are getting ready for their final performance of the school year. Our concert will be Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in our gym. It's been a fun year for me coming back to teaching music for the year and I've loved working with the talented musicians. We all wish Mr. Heithoff a full recovery so he can have a fantastic 2021-22 school year! A reminder for the concert band students: we have a Memorial Day performance on Monday, May 31 at the cemeteries. More info to follow. We hope you will join us for our final performance. Mrs. Jones thanks everyone who has helped make this a fun, smooth musical experience. Enjoy summer!!!



From The Math Room

From Mrs. Lindgren



As the school year winds down, I am thankful to be in Nebraska where I could be in the classroom with my students. Thank you to everyone for supporting the school as we adjusted to this very different school year! Thank you to all students for your patience and perseverance through cancelled

events, mask-mandates, and social distancing in the school. We made it through!! This spring almost felt normal with the activities transitioning from virtual to in-person events. May you all learn something new this summer!

To the seniors: Congratulations, and best wishes as you step into the world chasing your future!

To the school board, Thank you for giving the junior and senior class students the opportunity to take a class trip. Even though it wasn't Washington and New York, I think the students appreciated the chance to get away!

KINDNESS CO\$T\$ NOTHING

Wolfpack Volleyball Hosts Lil Netter's Camp

From Mrs. Thiele-Blecher



The Wolfpack Volleyball Coaches and players recently held a volleyball skills camp for students in grade 3 – 8th. We had 36 girls throughout the week that had a lot of fun, worked on volleyball skills and look forward to the future of Wolfpack Volleyball!!

Egg Hunt Helpers

From Mrs. Borer



EHCC helped out with the Elgin egg hunt. It was a big success with a great turnout despite the cold weather. Pictured (l to r): Blake, Austin, Jarek, Taylor, Chloe, Kayton, and Jaidyn.



Thank You to all who have submitted stories and pictures throughout the year for our school newsletter! It would not be possible to produce a monthly newsletter with out your help!

Mrs. Jensen



Art Shows

From Mrs. R. Heithoff

**The 7-12 Art students competed at the NVC Art Show hosted by Atkinson-West Holt this year. Check the school website under "Activities-Art" to see the results.

**The ESU #8 Virtual K-12 Virtual Art show is still available for viewing on the ESU #8 website.

Elgin Public ALUMNI BANQUET - Not Scheduled for this year!

From the Principal's desk . . .

by Greg Wemhoff
Greg.wemhoff@elgineagles.org



Social Media Assembly

School Lawyer, Karen Hasse, presented to grade 5-12 on April 13th on the importance of being responsible on Social Media. She shared a lot of great and helpful information!



Stock Market Game

From Mr. Mlinar

Students in Economics participated in The Stock Market Game. The competition ran from January to April. The results are in! Colton Wright had the best portfolio. In the state of Nebraska, Colton ranked 23rd out of 349 participants.

The following is a sampling of some of the companies Colton researched and owned...Apple, Microsoft, Square, Tesla, Google, FuboTV, Nio, AMC Theatres, Johnson & Johnson, Spotify, Discovery Networks and more. His portfolio ended with a profit of \$10,575.12. Good job Colton!

This year, Theanna, Joey, Jordan, Riley, Blake and Colton experienced some of the most crazy stock market action in years. Notably, Gamestop. Gamestop shares skyrocketed on an EPIC short squeeze. It made the national news for weeks! I highly recommend reading about it.

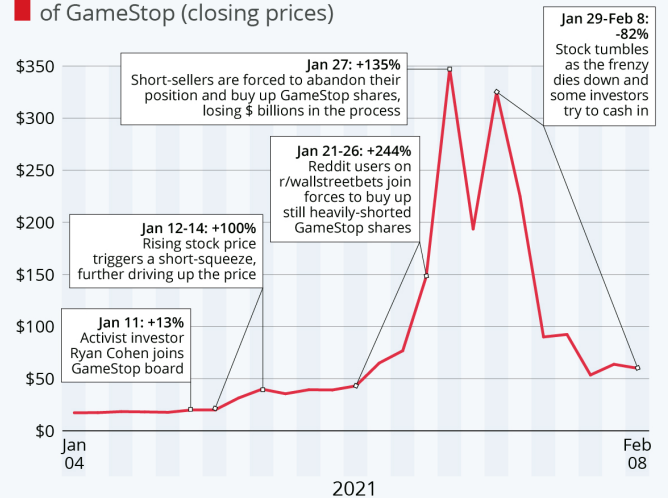
The Stock Market Game is a great experience. Although the competition only covers a few months and is short-term oriented, I always advise that students should think long-term when investing. Not days or months, but years. A long-term investment horizon should help lead to sustainable lifetime investment returns. Avoid day-trading. Save and invest continually throughout life. Buy great companies, hold great companies, and enjoy the rewards.

For those unaware, The Stock Market Game is an online simulation of real-world investing. Students can buy or sell stocks, mutual funds, and/or bonds. Each participant starts with a \$100,000 balance. It is a competition that lasts about 3 months.

The GameStop Saga: To the Moon and Back



Year-to-date stock performance of GameStop (closing prices)



Source: Yahoo! Finance



statista

Administratively Speaking . . .



By Supt. Mike Brockhaus
mike.brockhaus@elgineagles.org

Where has the year gone?! It is unbelievable that we have arrived to the May 2021 Newsletter, the last for the year. We have had a challenging year with the maneuvering within the Covid-19 restrictions throughout the year and I believe we are headed in the right direction and hopefully the 2021-2022 school year will look different on that front.

I want to wish the Graduating Seniors Good Luck in their futures whether it be college, the work force, or military service. They will undoubtedly do some very good things in their lives and I hope for them, they enjoy every step of the way.

I want to Thank and wish Good Luck to the outgoing staff that are retiring, moving onto new positions, or joining new ventures outside of the education world for working with our students. You will all be greatly missed. I also want to Thank the staff that is remaining for their hard work and look forward to working with you in the future to help the Elgin Public School students become successful stewards in our community. May you all have a very well deserved and restful summer!!

We will be welcoming the following members to the Elgin Public Schools staff for the 2021-2022 school year: Mrs. Jenna Lordemann in the Special Education Department, Mr. Logan Douglas in the Special Education Department, and Mr. Dylan Kaup in the Spanish Department. We are excited to have them join our staff and look forward to working with them.

We also have many summer projects in the works and we are looking forward to them being finished up by the time school starts again in August.



Enjoy your Summer break!
School resumes
August 12, 2021

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NEWSLETTER
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