



March - May 2018

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Elm Creek Elementary  
9830 Revere Ln N  
Maple Grove, MN 55369  
Phone: 763-425-0577  
Absence Line: 763-315-7692  
Fax: 763-315-7690  
School Hours  
8:50AM - 3:20PM  
Office hours  
7:30AM - 4:00PM

### Calendar:

March 2

3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trip to Mill City Museum

March 5

Birthday lunch w/Mrs. Ness  
(for Feb & Aug)

March 6

4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Science Museum

March 9

No School - Mark Reporting Day

March 12

Tri III begins

March 16

Student Council Spirit Day -  
Rainbow Day

March 16 & 17

Elm Creek/Stages Theatre  
Performance at OSH

March 20

Kindergarten Orientation

March 22

Birthday lunch w/Mrs. Ness

March 26-30

NO SCHOOL Spring Break

# Elm Creek News

## Notes from Mrs. Ness

**Alice in Wonderland performances:** Stages Theatre has been offering a community education after school opportunity for EC students. Students enrolled in this class will be performing Alice in Wonderland at Osseo Senior High School Auditorium (use door #4) on **Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** and **Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.** Admission is FREE and the show is about 1 hour long. I hope to see you there!

**Conferences and Book Fair:** Winter Conferences were on February 1<sup>st</sup>, February 6<sup>th</sup> and February 7<sup>th</sup>, both before and after school. If you were not able to make your conference, please reach out to your child's teacher to reschedule. Thank you to Emily McMullin for providing meals during evening conferences. They were delicious!

**District 279 Foundation:** Elm Creek was awarded funding for three grants. Thank-you District 279 Foundation!

- One grant provided 8 Breakout EDU kits. Breakout EDU supports learning in critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and communication.
- First grade teacher Gloria Collova's grant allowed the purchase of building kits, Magnashapes, consumable art supplies, tubs for organization, hand tools, etc. The grant has enhanced the creation of a makerspace in her classroom, which is used for both individual creativity/problem solving and to support S.T.E.A.M. lessons in which students follow an engineering process to accomplish specific challenges.
- The third grant provided partial funding to purchase Social/Emotional Learning and Bullying Prevention curriculum for each grade level. PTO provided the additional funding of \$799 needed so each grade level will have one classroom kit.

**Elm Creek Elementary Twitter:** Please follow us on twitter, <https://twitter.com/ElmCreekElem>.

**Author visit:** Elm Creek Media Specialist, Joan Magnuson, has arranged for John Coy, Minnesota author of numerous fiction and nonfiction picture books, to meet with Kindergarten- 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes on March 23rd. We look forward to hosting him at Elm Creek Elementary!

**Spring testing is coming soon:** We will begin MCA testing for Science in March and Reading & Math in April. Watch for communication from your child's teacher on testing dates. Please try to avoid scheduling appointments, vacations, etc. on these dates if possible. Also, remember the importance of a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast on testing days!

Calendar cont.:April 6

ECTV field trip to KARE 11

April 104<sup>th</sup> grade Recorder ConcertApril 20Student Council Spirit Day -  
College/Career DayApril 20

School Carnival

April 27

Birthday Lunch w/Mrs. Ness

April 30No School - Licensed Staff  
WorkshopMay 15<sup>th</sup> grade Band Concert at  
OMSMay 95<sup>th</sup> grade Orchestra Concert  
at OMSMay 9

National Bike to School Day

May 10

PTO Meeting

May 17Family Reading Night &  
Scholastic Book FairMay 18Student Council Spirit Day -  
Wacky DayMay 22Kindergarten field trip to  
Eastman Nature CenterMay 23 or 242<sup>nd</sup> grade field trip to  
Eastman Nature CenterMay 28

No School - Memorial Day

May 30

Birthday Lunch w/Mrs. Ness

May 303<sup>rd</sup> grade fishing field tripMay 31Field Day for grades K - 2  
(makeup date June 5)

## Volunteer Coordinator



**Thank you** to all of our school volunteers who have helped out in one way or another this year! As of this month, we have just over 300 parent, grandparents, youth and community members who have volunteered almost 2000 hours. **We appreciate the time and support you give to Elm Creek!**

Special thanks to former EC parent and volunteer, Barbara Alldaffer, for presenting **Art Adventures**, a program offered through Minneapolis Institute of Arts, to each of our classes during the month of January. Barbara shared artwork from the "*Dressed for the Occasion*" art set and our students were reminded that our clothing not only protects us from the weather and elements, but it also reveals something about our personalities and traditional customs that are important to our families. In response to discussing the art, each student created a self-drawing and we hung them together to show our very artistic and diverse student body!



**Coming Soon...** Our annual school **Carnival and Silent Auction** are coming in April...there are LOTS of ways to get involved and volunteer at this fun event!

Thank you again for all of your help, support and participation in the volunteer program at Elm Creek. We couldn't do what we do without you!

Sandy Lindberg // Volunteer Coordinator // 763.315.7354

Calendar cont.:

5<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Fort Snelling

May 31

4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Children's Theater

June 1

All School BBQ

Field Day for grades 3-5 (makeup date June 4)

June 5

5<sup>th</sup> grade Bike Hike/BBQ

June 6

Birthday Lunch w/Mrs. Ness

June 7

Last day of school!

ABSENCE REPORTING

If your child will be absent from school please call the school before 9:00am by calling the message line: 763-315-7692 or call the office: 763-425-0577 Select option 1 for the attendance line



# Student Council



Student Council THANKS YOU!

Thank you to everyone who has helped in our first two community service projects! We collected almost 400 items for the Food Drive and donated them to CROSS in the fall. There were over 125 hats and mittens donated for our Hat and Mitten drive in December and those were donated to CEAP.

Pennies for Patients campaign is running now, Feb. 26-March 2.

Coming Up:

Project Linus (Tie Blankets) April 2018

Spirit Days:

March 16 - Rainbow Day

April 20 - College/Career Day

May 18 - Wacky Day



# Music Notes

Save the date!

4<sup>th</sup> grade recorder program

Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

6:00 p.m.

Daytime performance time TBD



# Lost & Found

The lost & found is over flowing with lots of sweatshirts, jackets, hats and gloves. Please encourage your student to check the lost and found if you are missing items. Parents are welcome to come in and check the lost and found during regular office hours 7:30 - 4:00pm. **Unclaimed items will be donated on March 23rd at 3:30pm.**



## Media Center News

Save the Date! Family Reading Night will be held on May 17th. There will be a Buy One/Get One Free Bookfair and some fun reading activities. More information will follow.

Have you checked out the Elm Creek Media Webpage? There are some great resources on our Media Webpage.

- Click on Research to find some reliable and interesting resources for answering the questions that children ask. Britannica has three levels of encyclopedia articles along with photos and videos. Check Culturegrams for state and country information. Britannica Learning Zone is perfect for our youngest students.
- Click on Reading to find great reading resources. MackinVia is a place to find hundreds of eBooks. Students use their school username and password to access this. There's a link to Sets and Series to find out the next book in the series your child is reading.
- Web Tools has a link to Code.org where you can find useful coding resources and fun games.

If you have trouble accessing any of the sites or need usernames and passwords, contact Joan Magnuson in the media center. ([magnusonj@district279.org](mailto:magnusonj@district279.org))

## PTO

Greetings from your Elm Creek PTO! We have been hard at work planning family fun events such as Family Paint Nite and Carnival. Curious about a specific event? Check out the event updates below for details.

### Event Updates

Dine 2 Donate (Event Coordinator- Stacy G.)- February's D2D event was held at Nola Bistro from 2/7 - 2/9/18. Thank you to everyone that came out to support Elm Creek!

Did you know that Buffalo Wild Wings in Champlin donates a portion of all meal totals to Elm Creek all year long? Mention you are supporting Elm Creek before paying for your meal.

Winter Teacher Conferences Meals (Event Coordinator- Emily M.)- Elm Creek staff can spend up to 12 hours per day at school during parent teacher conferences. To make conference days less stressful, the PTO provided staff a warm home cooked meal two of the three conference days.

Scholastic Book Fair (Event Coordinator- Emily M., Krystal C., Sandy L.)- The Scholastic Book Fair was hosted during the afternoon/evening all three winter conference days. Students enjoyed picking out new reading material and Elm Creek earned Scholastic dollars that will help improve and update the EC media center.

Family Paint Nite (Event Coordinator- Cora D. and Ashley L.)- Family Paint Night was a great success! Students and parents alike enjoyed an evening of creativity.

### Upcoming Events

- Dine 2 Donate at Broadway Pizza (Maple Grove): March 14
- Dine 2 Donate at Cafe Zupas: April 3
- Carnival and Silent Auction: April 20
- Elm Creek Staff Appreciation Week: May 7-11
- PTO General Meeting: May 10
- Scholastic Book Fair: May 17
- Dine 2 Donate at Panera: May 23

**Want Additional Information?**

- Check out our website for a thorough look into all things PTO: <http://elmcreekpto.weebly.com/>
- Join our private Facebook group for the most current PTO updates:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/elmcreekpto/>

**Did you know?**

Everyone is a part of PTO. Whether you hold a leadership or event coordinator position, support our fundraisers, volunteer at our events, attend meetings, or voice your opinions; you are a part of the PTO team!

Thank you for supporting the Elm Creek PTO by volunteering at and attending the events we host!