



March - May 2019

Elm Creek Elementary

9830 Revere Ln N

Maple Grove, MN 55369

Phone: 763-425-0577

Absence Line: 763-315-7692

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School Hours: 8:50AM – 3:20PM

Office hours: 7:30AM – 4:00PM

Calendar:

March 5

District Choir Tour Day

March 6

Student Council Meeting

EC Newspaper on sale

March 11

Tri III begins

March 12th

District Choir Concert at PCSH

Kindergarten Orientation

March 13 & 14

Madagascar performance
for school only

March 14

Newspaper Club Meeting

4th grade Recorder Concert

Elm Creek News

Here are some highlights of the great things happening at Elm Creek!

Madagascar performances: Stages Theatre has been offering a community education after school opportunity for EC students. Students enrolled in this class will be performing Madagascar at Osseo Senior High School Auditorium (use door #4) on **Friday, March 15th at 7 p.m.** and **Saturday, March 16th at 10 a.m.** Admission is FREE and the show is about 1 hour long. I hope to see you there!

Student Council: We had our hat & mitten drive in December and thanks to your generous donations, over 100 hats and mittens were given to CEAP. We have Pennies for Patients coming up March 4th-7th. Each day we will be collecting a different coin and each day we will have an announcement with facts about the type of leukemia we are supporting with this drive. Our final community service project will be Tie Blankets for Project Linus which usually occurs mid-April.

Second Grade Music Program and Fourth Grade Recorder Program: Our 2nd graders will perform a music program for our students, staff and families on April 23rd, led by our music teacher Liz Miller. Our 4th graders will have their Recorder program on March 14th at 6 p.m., led by our music teacher Ann Bordonaro.

Cold/Snow Day Make Up: We **will** have school for students on Friday, March 8th. This was initially a report card marking day, but it will now be a student contact day

Volunteers: We have 365 approved volunteers compared to 312 this time last year. There have been approximately 2150 volunteer hours given so far this school year, compared to 1900 volunteer hours this time last year. Thank you!!

Report Cards: Student report cards will be available on ParentVue March 20th. Contact the school office if you need an access code to create your ParentVue account.

Spring testing is coming soon

We will begin MCA testing 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.:

March 15 & 16

Madagascar Musical performance
for public at OSH

March 21

March Birthday Lunches
w/Mrs. Ness

March 22

Student Council Spirit Day
Minnesota Day

March 25 – 29

No School – Spring Break

April 3rd

Student Council Meeting

April 11

Newspaper Club

PTO Dine to Donate at Reds Savoy

Family Night at the Library and
Scholastic Book Fair

April 12

Student Council Spirit Day
Decade Day

April 19

No School – Conference
Release Day

April 22

April Birthday Lunches
w/ Mrs. Ness

April 23

2nd grade Music Program

April 29

No School – Staff Workshop Day

April 30

5th grade Band Concert at OMS

May 1

Student Council Meeting

Media Center News

Save the date: April 11th - Family Night at the Library and Scholastic Book Fair.

The Bookfair will be open afterschool until 6:30pm, Family Night program begins at 6:30pm.

Hope to see you there!

Joan Magnuson
Library Media Specialist

Counselor's Corner

Parent-Child Relationship & Anxiety

Anxiety is a normal emotion that everyone experiences at times, but it can become distressing if a child does not know how to deal with the feeling. As caregivers, how we respond to child's anxiety can affect how he or she learns to work through anxiety.

Caregivers that try to fix ("fixers")

- Immediately trying to solve or fix the problem for the child
- Always taking charge of a situation for the child
- Trying to remove a child from all situations that could be unpleasant
- Over-intervening if something doesn't go a child's way



Outcome

- Child may not learn how to take responsibility or control of a situation
- Child may have difficulty regulating & coping with emotions
- Child may not believe that he/she is capable to solve the problem and handle the emotion

Caregivers that dismiss ("Dismissers")

- Minimizing or downplaying the child's feelings
- Desiring the child's negative emotions to be alleviated quickly
- Focusing only on how to get over the emotion rather than the meaning behind it
- Showing little interest in what the child is trying to communicate
- Believing negative emotions are harmful



Outcome

- Child may learn that his/her feelings are wrong and inappropriate
- Child may not understand why his/her feelings seem invalid to parents
- Child may have difficulty learning to regulate emotions

How Parents Can Help

Normalizing

- Acknowledge the anxiety
 - Provide a time & place for the child to talk about his/her feelings & concern



Calendar cont.:

May 8

National Bike to School Day

5th grade Orchestra Concert at OMS

May 9th

Newspaper Club Meeting

May 17

PTO School Carnival

May 22

2nd grade Ruud & Paige field trip to
Eastman Nature Center

May 23

Kindergarten field trip to Eastman
Nature Center

May 24

Student Council Spirit Day
Crazy Sock Day

May 27

No School – Memorial Day

May 28 – June 4

Camp Baldwin

May 28

May Birthday Lunches w/ Mrs. Ness

May 29

EC Newspaper on sale

5th grade field trip to Fort Snelling

3rd grade fishing field trip

2nd grade Uecker & Meier field trip
to Eastman Nature Center

May 30

K-2 Field Day
(make-up date June 4, if needed)

PTO General Meeting

- Relate to others
 - Describe a time that you felt anxiety about a situation
- Make room for the worry
 - Explain that everyone worries sometimes

Validating

- State the emotion
 - Offer emotions like nervous, panic, butterflies, concern, dread, unease, anxiety
- State what's causing the emotion
 - Find out when & where the child becomes anxious
- Point out body or behavior responses
 - Stomachache, trouble sleeping, difficulty concentrating, short breaths, racing heartbeat, sweating, loss of energy



If you have any questions, feel free to contact me anytime. Have a great month!

Tina Czech
School Counselor
763-561-1374 ext. 71480
CzechC@District279.org

Greetings from the Elm Creek 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

Holiday Shoppe (Event Coordinator: Marisa H.)- The 2018 Holiday Shoppe was a huge success! We had a committee that was filled with first year volunteers who worked very hard with the parents of Elm Creek whom we could not have had a successful shoppe without. We can proudly say we had a profit of \$1200, which the PTO can now add to their budget to finance even more activities and resources for the students of Elm Creek.

Dine 2 Donate (Event Coordinator- Emily M.)- We have hosted two successful Dine 2 Donate events in 2019. EC PTO is appreciative of our amazing restaurant partners for helping us raise funds for Elm Creek. Thank you to everyone that came out to support the Dine 2 Donate events!

- Red's Savoy- January 9, 2019
- Raising Cane's- February 4, 2019
- Buffalo Wild Wings (Champlin)- Ongoing

Calendar cont.:

May 31

Grades 3-5 Field Day
(make-up date June 3, if needed)

All School BBQ

Looking ahead to June.....

June 4

5th grade Bike Hike to Elm Creek
Park Reserve

June 5

June Birthday Lunches w/Mrs. Ness

June 6

Last Day of School

Lost & Found

The lost & found is overflowing 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.



- A percentage of meal totals is donated to Elm Creek all year long. Mention you are supporting Elm Creek before paying for your meal.

Teacher Conferences Meals (Event Coordinator- Emily M.)- Did you know that on conference days, teachers other Elm Creek staff can spend 12+ hours at school? To make conference days less stressful, the EC PTO attempted to provide EC staff members with warm home cooked meals on two conference days. Thanks to the Polar Vortex, Elm Creek staff received a meal on only one conference day. Thank you to our EC staff members for being so amazing!

Scholastic Book Fair (Event Coordinator- Sarah F. and Amanda S.)- The Scholastic Book Fair was up and running for all three conference days. Students enjoyed picking out new reading material and Elm Creek earned Scholastic dollars that will help improve the EC media center and classroom libraries. Thank you to everyone that stopped by the media center to purchase books as well as those that shopped for books online!

Family Paint Nite (Event Coordinator- Heidi M. and Cora D.)- Family Paint Nite was a great success! Students and parents alike enjoyed an evening of creativity and discovering new types of art. Thank you to everyone that came out to support Elm Creek!

**** A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone that has coordinated an event, volunteered during an event and/or attended an event. Your support allows the EC PTO to continue hosting fun and memorable events for our students**

Upcoming Events

- Dine 2 Donate at Red's Savoy: April 11
- BOGO Scholastic Book Fair: April 11
- Elm Creek Staff Appreciation Week: May 6-10
- Carnival and Silent Auction: May 17
- PTO General Meeting: May 30

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 Elm Creek PTO!