Elm Creek News

Greetings Elm Creek families,

It was wonderful to see many families attend the Parent/Teacher Conferences in February. We value the partnership we have with you in providing your child an education.

Stages Theatre offers a community education after school opportunity for Elm Creek students. Students enrolled in this class will be performing Seussical at Maple Grove Middle School Auditorium on Friday, March 13th at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 14th at 10 a.m. Admission is free and the show is about 1 hour long. I encourage you to come watch our fabulous students.

Elm Creek just completed the 12th Annual International School Supply Drive. Elm Creek raised $3,065.86. Thank you for your support!

WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) is a new program beginning at Elm Creek. The WATCHDOGS program invites dads and dad figures to volunteer during the school day. We are excited for this new program at EC!

We have so many wonderful things happening at Elm Creek, The Great Kindness Challenge, 4th grade Kindness Retreat, I love to read month activities and Art Adventures, to mention a few.

Your child’s Tri 2 report card will be available electronically on ParentVue on March 18th. We will not be sending a printed copy home. If you do not have a ParentVue account, please contact the school office.

Sincerely,
Beth Ness - Principal

Please follow us on twitter, https://twitter.com/ElmCreekElem

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 continued:

March 16
3rd grade Oral Health Screening

March 17
District Choir Concert

March 19
4th grade Recorder/Music Program

March 20
4th grade Field Trip to Science Museum

March 24
Kindergarten Orientation

March 26
Newspaper Club

March 27
WATCHDOGS Day

March 31
March Birthday Lunches w/Mrs. Ness

Family Reading Night & Bookfair

April 1
Fuel up to Play 60 Meeting

April 2
Student Council Meeting

April 6 - 10
No School – Spring Break

April 20
PTO Meeting

April 21
Dine to Donate at Café Zupas

WATCHDOGS Day

April 22 & 23
1st grade Field Trip to Eastman Nature Center

Media Center News

We love reading at Elm Creek and to celebrate reading you’re invited to Family Night at the Library.

We will be having guest readers and Book Bingo with book prizes. The BOGO book fair will be here too.

Date: March 31
Cost: FREE!
Time: 6:30 – 7:30

Online Resources for Elm Creek Elementary Students

As students create projects, research and read online, these resources are available for students to use at home. We talk about the importance of reliable resources and finding accurate information online. Using these resources helps students to find reliable information and information that is appropriate for their level.

There are additional resources on the “Research” link that includes Britannica School Online, Kids Infobits and Explora. These are all great research tools for elementary students.

Checkout the projects that students have created! [https://sites.google.com/view/ecprojects](https://sites.google.com/view/ecprojects)

These links can be found on the Elm Creek Media website: [https://sites.google.com/apps.district279.org/ecmedia](https://sites.google.com/apps.district279.org/ecmedia)

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Calendar continued:

April 27
No School – Staff Workshop Day

April 28
5th grade Band Concert at OMS
April Birthday Lunches w/ Mrs. Ness

April 29
5th grade Field Trip to Eastman Nature Center

April 30
Newspaper Club
1st grade Music Program

May 4 – 8
Elm Creek Staff Appreciation Week

May 6
National Bike to School Day
Fuel up to Play 60 Meeting
5th grade Orchestra Concert at OMS

May 12
Dine to Donate at Culver’s

May 13
Student Council Meeting

May 15
PTO School Carnival & Silent Auction

May 21
May Birthday Lunches w/ Mrs. Ness

May 22
Kindergarten field trip to Eastman Nature Center

Tumblebook - Database of children's ebooks
Username: elmcreekelem Password: books

Nettrekker - Digital learning resource library; safe Internet searching tool
Username: ecstu Password: student

Best regards,

Joan Magnuson
Library Media Specialist

Student Council Spirit Days & Events:

March 3: Drop Everything and Read - Stuffed Animal Day
March 20: Rock Your Socks Day for World Down Syndrome Day
April 17: Funky 90s Day
May 15: Rainbow Day
April 13-24 Fleece Blankets Collection for Project Linus

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.

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. and Rose J.)
We had another fantastic year! The parents did not disappoint, the donations of crafts were phenomenal. Every year I say they cannot top last year’s donations but somehow, they do. We have such amazing parents/guardians here at Elm Creek. We appreciate all those who volunteered and/or donated crafts.
**Calendar continued:**

**May 25**
No School – Memorial Day

**May 26**
3rd Grade Fishing Field Trip to Fish Lake Regional Park

**May 26 & 27**
2nd grade Field Trip to Eastman Nature Center

**May 26 – June 3**
Camp Baldwin

**May 28**
K-2 Field Day
(make-up date June 2, if needed)

All School BBQ

**May 29**
Grades 3-5 Field Day
(make-up date June 1, if needed)

**Looking ahead to June.........**

**June 2**
5th grade Bike Hike/Elm Creek Park Reserve

**June 3**
June Birthday Lunches
w/Mrs. Ness

**June 4**
1st grade Field Trip to Elm Creek Park

4th grade Field Trip to Children’s Theatre

iPad Collection

**June 5**
Last Day of School for students

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Dine 2 Donate (Event Coordinator - Natalie B.)
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!

- Buffalo Wild Wings- January 13, 2020
- Dairy Queen- February 5, 2020
- Buffalo Wild Wings (Champlin) - ANY TIME you and your family go to BWW, through 3/31/2020, tell them you are with Elm Creek PTO and 10% of your bill will be donated to the school.

Teacher Conferences Meals (Event Coordinator - Emily M.)
Did you know that on conference days, teachers and other Elm Creek staff can spend 12+ hours at school? To make conference days less stressful, the EC PTO provided EC staff members with warm home cooked meals on two conference days. 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!

**Ongoing Fundraisers**

AmazonSmile (Event Coordinator - Natalie B.)
It doesn't get any easier to help raise money for Elm Creek. Simply shop on Amazon using Amazon Smile and 0.05% of your eligible purchase price goes directly to the school!

Box Tops (Event Coordinator - Amanda S.)
Reminder! No more clipping is needed as the Box Tops has gone digital. All you must do is scan your receipts using the Box Tops app.

Shoparoo (Event Coordinator - Natalie B.)
This is literally the easiest fundraiser you have ever participated in. Download the app, shop, and snap a picture of your receipt.

Tuft & Needle (Event Coordinator - Natalie B.)
Need a mattress? Purchase one using our fundraising link and Tuft & Needle will donate 25% of the purchase price to 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**
- EC Afternoon Out at the Timberwolves Game: March 1
- Dine 2 Donate at Frankie’s Pizza: March 12
- BOGO Scholastic Book Fair: March 31
- PTO General Meeting: April 20
- Dine 2 Donate at Cafe Zupas: April 21
- Elm Creek Staff Appreciation Week: May 4 - 8
- Dine 2 Donate at Culver’s: May 12
- Carnival and Silent Auction: May 15

**Want Additional Information?**
- Check out our website for a thorough look into all things PTO: [http://elmcreekpto.weebly.com/](http://elmcreekpto.weebly.com/)
- Join our private Facebook group for the most current PTO updates: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/elmcreekpto/](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!