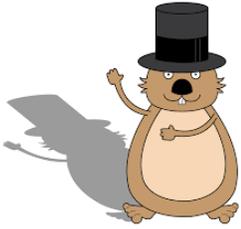


EAST SYRACUSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

From the Principal



Ground Hog Day is Wednesday, February 2, 2021. I love Groundhog Day because it means we are halfway through winter. We have been on a wild winter ride again this year with not much snow so far. We all know that can change very quickly. Remember that it is still cold outside so please ensure your students are dressed appropriately every day. The second marking period ended Friday, January 29, 2021. That is another sign that time marches on.

Report cards will post on Friday, February 4, 2022.

Student Drop-Off

There are a few families dropping their children off in the front of the building for the morning arrival. The front entrance is for buses. If you drive your child to school, you need to report to the rear of the building. We have staff at the door waiting to receive our students. All school buildings in the ESM district have separate locations for bus arrivals and for parent arrivals. Our district made this arrangement because it is safer for our students.



**Save
the
Date**



Our ESE Virtual Science and Engineering Fair Friday, March 11, 2022

Our second virtual Science and Engineering Fair is coming. We will post handbooks and the application for the fair on ParentSquare. Ms. Almstead and Mr. Gesek will once again oversee the fair. We were hoping to be in person for the fair but we feel it will be safer for all to remain virtual again this year. We hope to see many students participate. Volunteer Science Fair judges will score each presentation according to a rubric contained in the handbooks we will share. See you online at the fair.



Happy President's Day

***No School February 21 – 25, 2022
Mid-Winter Break***

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to create many challenges for our school and our families. We are aware that many of our families feel stressed and that is understandable. Our staff also feels stressed at times, as they want to deliver the best learning experience possible. I think that all of us need to reflect on our situations and allow ourselves some grace. We will get through this as long as we stick together. The power of "we" cannot be defeated. Hang in there and reach out to school, your family, and/or friends if you need help. We continue to require students to wear face masks. Teachers schedule regular mask breaks. We continue to offer Covid-19 pool testing each Friday. Please contact our school nurse, Mrs. Stenta, if you would like for your child to participate. One welcomed change for us is that we are no longer required to do contact tracing. However, we will notify you if it is possible that your child has been exposed to Covid-19.



We recently completed our winter benchmark assessments. Our teachers and specialists are in the process of analyzing the data to learn how to support each student in the coming weeks and months. We also conducted an ELA computer based testing simulation in January. The intent of the simulation was to determine if our internet infrastructure could handle Computer Based Testing. The simulation was a success. We will administer the 2022 NYS ELA Computer Based Test in the spring.

The East Syracuse Village Mac and Cheese Cookoff is coming on February 26, 2022.

Have a wonderful February!

Here's what's happening in February with PBIS...

Hello families of ESE! Our Character Education word of the month of February is Courage. **Courage** can be defined as the strength to persevere or withstand fear or difficulty. We are doing courageous things every single day, which allows us the opportunity to celebrate and continue to learn from one another when we make these courageous decisions!

Learning happens best when it is done both at school and at

home. Take a minute to talk with your child or children about having courage both in the classroom and at home. Below are many ways that you can help your child continue to learn about the theme of courage through reading about it, talking about it, and practicing it! We are so very excited to be exploring this topic at school, and we hope your family will enjoy it just as much!

Read About It!

What Do You Do with An Idea?

By: Kobi Yamada

Brave As Can Be: A Book of Courage

By: Jo Witek

Tomorrow I'll Be Brave

By: Jessica Hische

Practice It!

Together with your child, create a list of things you are afraid to try. Hang this list in a visible place and cross them off when you have accomplished them. Talk about how you might feel before and after an event where you show courage.

Talk About It!

What do you think courage means and why is it important?

Tell me about a time that you did something you were afraid to do. How did you feel after?

What would you do if you knew you wouldn't fail?

Tell us about a time you felt courageous and what it looked like?

Who is the most courageous person you know at school or at home?

Name one way others can or have helped you to be courageous?

Ronald L. Perry
Principal
East Syracuse Elementary School