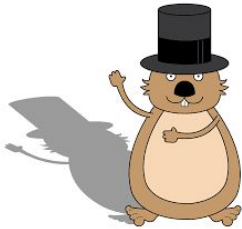


# EAST SYRACUSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2021

### From the Principal

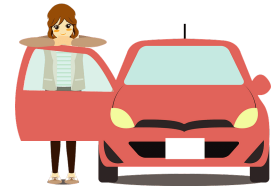


Groundhog Day is Tuesday, February 2, 2021. I love Groundhog Day because it means we are halfway through winter. We have been on a wild winter ride again this year with not much snow so far. We all know that can change very quickly. Remember that it is still cold outside so please ensure your students 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 5, 2021.**

### 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.



### First Ever ESE Virtual Science and Engineering Fair Friday, March 5, 2021

Our Science and Engineering Fair is coming. Ms. Almstead and Mr. Gesek will send information home soon. This event will be virtual due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This will be new to us and to our students. I hope you all were able to view *The Scientific Method* from the MOST last week. We hope to see many students participate.



### Happy President's Day

*No School February 15 – 19, 2021*  
*Mid-Winter Break*

*The Covid-19 pandemic created many challenges for our school community. 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 situation and allow ourselves some grace. We will get through this pandemic 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.*

## FROM OUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Welcome back to the Counseling Corner! At a needs assessment was sent to families to information. Keeping you in mind, the interested in understanding if virtual parent beneficial within our school community. We support group focused on COVID-19 related distance learning. In addition, we would like to on parenting skills and strategies. If you are interested in either of these groups or have additional feedback, please feel free to reach out to me directly by phone (315) 434-3850 or email [cjarvi@esmschools.org](mailto:cjarvi@esmschools.org).



the beginning of January, gather additional counseling staff is support groups would be are interested in hosting a stressors including host a book club focused

Have a wonderful February!

## Here is what's happening in February in PBIS...

### Character Education

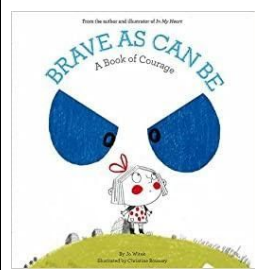
The Character Education trait for February is **COURAGE**.

We teach our students that **COURAGE is doing the RIGHT thing even if it is difficult.** We ask for your help by discussing this trait at home with your student.

This month our team has decided to expand upon our Paw Print Prize Winners! We will begin recognizing a student from each grade level. This will allow us to recognize six students and increases everyone's chances of winning. We have noticed how hard our students are working both in-person and from a distance, so we want to recognize all of those efforts. Keep encouraging your children at home to earn paw prints for expected behaviors!



Our word of the month for February is courage. Courage is the strength to persevere or withstand fear or difficulty. We are doing courageous things every single day! Take a minute to talk with your child or children about having courage both in the classroom and at home. Childhood is full of opportunities to be courageous!



### 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, at times, keeps you from being courageous?  
Is there any way that I can help you be more courageous?  
What would you do if you knew you would not fail?  
Who is the most courageous person you know?



Ronald L. Perry  
Principal  
East Syracuse Elementary School