

EAST SYRACUSE ELEMENTARY



May 2021

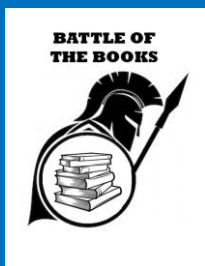
CONGRATULATIONS!

On April 16th our ESM Battle of the Books teams successfully competed against other schools in Onondaga, Oswego, Madison, and Cayuga counties by answering questions about eight books they had read and studied.

First Place: ESM Third and Fourth Grade Team

Second Place: ESM Fifth and Sixth Grade Team

Special Thanks to the ESE PTO for their help purchasing books for the team.



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

I hope this newsletter finds you well and in good spirits. I would like to start this newsletter by updating our in person-learning model. Because of positive changes in CDC guidance, we are able to seat students as close as three feet apart as long as they are wearing their masks. Therefore, we were able to clear our waiting lists except for kindergarten. We cut the waiting list for kindergarten by more than half. We must remain at six feet of distance between students in the cafeteria because students remove their masks. This restricts our cafeteria seating to sixty-six students. Our in person enrollment is now 262. Our remote learning enrollment is 73.



We want to make some changes to our student pick up procedures to make it safer for all concerned. To that end, we will dismiss pickups a wee bit earlier by about five minutes. We are hoping this will reduce the backup of traffic on Kinne Street.

We may be able to host kindergarten and 5th grade promotion celebrations this spring as well as our annual Fun Day. We are discussing the possibilities amongst ourselves and our PTO. We must ensure that we comply with all CDC guidance before going forward. All of these events, if possible, will look a lot different than in recent years. Stand by for more information to in the coming weeks.

ELEMENTARY OBJECTIVE

Our Elementary Objective at ESE commences just as soon as summer break arrives. The main offices will undergo renovations immediately. The office staff will relocate to an area in the building away from the construction. The architects expect the main office construction

to be finished by the first day of school in September. The new stairway coming down from the cafeteria will likely not be complete until October. Other changes include sound remediation in the cafeteria. We will also add air conditioning to the cafeteria to give us a cooling space for students during the heat of late spring and early summer.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MAY WITH PBIS...

Now that spring is in full swing, we hope that everyone is getting to spend quality time outdoors enjoying some much needed fresh air. As we head into the month of May, our students will be focusing on kindness. Kindness can be defined as the quality of being generous, friendly and considerate. Kindness can be modeled in a variety of ways including doing something for someone else without asking for something in return. It can also be modeled in our ability to take a deep breath before responding to someone else when we are feeling upset. Take some time this month to practice acts of kindness within your family whether doing something for someone else or practicing mindfulness!

Practice It

- Encourage your child to practice kind manners including saying “please” and “thank you.”
- Help with age-appropriate chores around the house without being asked.
- Practice belly breathing and counting to 10 before responding to someone when upset.

Talk About It!

- Tell me about a time when someone was kind to you. How did it make you feel?
- What do you think kindness means, and why is it important?
- What are ways you can be kind to people at home, at school and in the community?

Read About It!



Be Kind by Pat Zietlow Miller



What Does it Mean to be Kind? by Rana DiOrio



I am Human: A Book of Empathy by Susan Verde

WE CAN HELP

The social and emotional needs of our students and families continue to be very important to us. If you or your child need assistance, we can help. We have access to community resources or we can guide you to an appropriate agency. You can let your teacher know if you need social and emotional support. You may also contact Mrs. Jarvi at cjarvi@esmschools.org. Our school psychologist, Mrs. Altimonda, is available at jaltimonda@esmschools.org. If you need to contact our school nurse, Mrs. Stenta, you may contact her at mstenta@esmschools.org.



COUNSELING CORNER

As we begin to approach the summer months, it is important to consider how you can bring social emotional learning home. Children need continued social emotional connections even when school is not in session. Some ways families can incorporate social emotional learning include:

- Establishing routines which ground us and provide a sense of safety and security.
- Engaging in creativity together by way of cooking, baking, playing board games or exploring nature.
- Celebrate when you can by recognizing something small each day to celebrate.
- Practice active listening including asking questions and making eye contact which validates that you see and acknowledge your child's feelings and concerns.
- Help your child to express and name their emotions either through verbal conversation or drawing.

We have all experienced times that have been filled with worry and uncertainty. We need social and emotional skills more than ever to help us during these challenging times to manage our emotions.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The ESE PTO and school library are hosting a Book Fair from Monday, May 10 – Friday, May 14.



In person students will visit the Book Fair during their scheduled library time. Remote learners and families can make purchases online. <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/esel>

A percent of all sales returns to our school in the form of books and other resources. This is a great time to stock up for Summer Reading!

**Please see the attached calendar for important dates in the
Month of May.**

CONTACT US

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May

2021

East Syracuse Elementary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 NYS Math Exams Grade 3-8 Day 3	4 Day 4	5 Day 1	6 Day 2	7 Day 3	8
9 Mother's Day 	10 Book Fair Begins  Day 4	11 Day 1	12 Day 2	13 Day 3	14 Book Fair Concludes	15
16	17 Day 1	18 Day 2	19 Day 3	20 Day 4	21 Day 1	22
23	24 Eid al-Fitr Day 2	25 Day 3	26 Day 4	27 Day 1	28 Memorial Day Recess No School	29
30	31  Memorial Day No School					