



O.W. Erlewine News

April 2017

Erlewine Eagles!
Phone: 395-4660

April:

- 3: Eagle Buck Store
- 4: PTA Meeting
and ELL meeting
- 10-14: Spring Break
- 21: Earth Day
- 26: Spring Pictures
- 27: Mrs. O'Toole's class
goes to Angel Island

May:

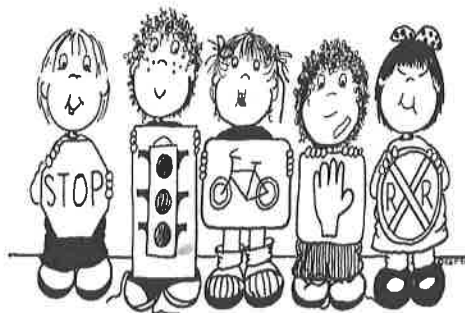
- 1-4 Book Fair Week
- 3: Jim Boys Taco Truck
will be here and the
Book Fair will be open.
- 4: Staff Appreciation
Day
- 9: PTA Meeting
- 19: Jog-A-Thon
- 23: Water Safety Puppet
Show
- 24: Open House
- 29: Memorial Day

Reminders:

- * Our office hours are from
7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- * Students are not to arrive
at school prior to 15
minutes before they are
going to attend class un-
less they are having
breakfast on campus.

Safety First!

The speed limit on residential streets around our school is 25 m.p.h. During congested traffic times speed should be reduced and extreme caution observed. Both parents and staff have reported unsafe driving behavior during drop off and pick up of students. Please remember that the safety of our students is first and foremost. Please avoid U-turns, double parking, dropping off in the street, and opening car doors facing the street. Please also have your child use the crosswalk rather than running across the middle of the street.



**Erlewine's Values
(Character Education)**
Integrity

Teacher Requests for the 2017-2018 School Year

Every year classrooms are made up by equally balancing different categories such as gender, ethnicity, behavior, academics, and special needs.

This year all teacher requests must be turned in to the principal no later than April 28, 2017. Parent requests are considered, but all factors must be weighed when making up classes. Requests are not guaranteed.

Statewide Testing

Our statewide testing this year will take place from April 24 through May 19th. Please do not schedule doctor or dentist appointments during school hours in this window of days. Only grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be taking the test. During this time, please make sure your child gets to bed on time and eats a good breakfast before they come to school. Please encourage your child to "Do their best and reach their Goal!"

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for the 2017-18 school year is now taking place at the Serna Enrollment Center. Please bring your child's shot records, birth certificate, photo id. and proof of your address (SMUD, PG&E, or Water Bill). Children must be 5 years of age by September 1, 2017, to be eligible to register. There are no waivers, this is a state law. Please register your child as soon as possible.

Our School Library

O.W. Erlewine's School Library is open every Thursday night for family use. The hours are from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Families may check out books, videos, and cassettes. Computers are also available for doing student research or working on the Reading Counts program.

Cell Phones on Campus

Our school policy on students with cell phones on campus is the following: Cell phones must remain in the student's backpack until after school hours. Students must have their phones turned off during school hours. If a cell phone is seen by a staff member during school hours it will be taken to the office and may be picked up after school (First offense).

If a cell phone is taken for the second time, a parent must pick up the phone. Parents wishing to leave a message during the school day should call the school office.

P.T.A. and Site Council Elections

If you are interested in being on our P.T.A. Board or Site Council Board, please call the school office .

P.T.A. meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month. We are looking for people to run in these positions: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership, Room Parent Representative and Ways and Means (fundraisers).

Site Council will be electing three primary parents and two intermediate parents. Site Council addresses curriculum, programs, and consolidated funding. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month if needed. PTA elections will take place on April 4th at 6:00 in Room 8. You must be a member in good standing to vote. Site Council Elections will take place the week of May 22-26. Elections will be held in the school office.

Pennies for Patients

Erlewine students participated in Pennies for Patients. This fundraiser collects money for those with leukemia and lymphoma. Thank you to Ms. Bartlett and her class for heading up the project. Thank you to Erlewine Students and Staff for raising the money. Our school raised \$700.00. Great job!

Remember to bring a
healthy snack to
school!



Home & School CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

O. W. Erlewine School
Terry Smith, Principal

SHORT NOTES



Picture this

Good readers form mental pictures as they read. To improve your child's comprehension, read a book without letting him see it. Then, ask him to guess what the illustrations look like. *Examples:* How are the characters dressed? Is the setting bright or gloomy?

Be there!

Regular attendance in elementary school sets up a good pattern for your youngster's entire school career. Show your child that school comes first by trying to keep days off for illnesses and family emergencies. Also, schedule routine doctor and dentist appointments for after school or over school breaks.

Line them up

Sometimes children get math problems wrong simply because they haven't lined up the numbers correctly. Try this: Have your youngster do problems on graph paper, using one box per number. Once she gets used to this system, she'll be able to transfer her lining-up skills to regular paper.

Worth quoting

"Kind words do not cost much. Yet they accomplish much." *Blaise Pascal*

JUST FOR FUN

Teacher: Name one important thing we have today that we didn't have 10 years ago.

Brian: Me!



Pitching in

Would you like your child to be more responsible, hardworking, and persistent? Here are ideas for working as a family to help your youngster develop these important traits.

A group approach

Thinking of herself as a "team player" can encourage your child to be responsible. Explain that your family operates as a team.

Everyone must play a part to get things done. *Example:* You take her shopping for her clothes and sports equipment. She chooses her outfit each morning and keeps track of her bat and glove.

Hard workers wanted

Your youngster probably has regular chores to do. You can motivate her to work extra hard by placing "want ads" on the refrigerator. Choose a challenging job, and offer a benefit. *Example:* "Wanted—a hardworking family member to clean



out a corner of the basement. Reward—a nice place for kids to play."

Sticking it out

Working toward small goals can make it easier to complete a big task. Perhaps your family room needs a fresh coat of paint. Write down the steps (move furniture and lay down drop cloths, prepare walls, roll paint on walls, paint trim). Tell your child you'll take a fun break after each step is done (go to the playground, take a bike ride).♥

Parent power

There are many ways you can support your youngster's learning and his school. Try these tips:

- Spend a few minutes every evening looking over handouts your child brings home. Fill out forms to return the next day.
- Tell your youngster's teachers if you can help them out at school or from home.
- Make sure teachers know you appreciate their efforts. From time to time, send a thank-you note or an email.
- Contact your child's teacher immediately if you see a problem. Working together will help your youngster succeed.
- Attend conferences, parent meetings, and school events regularly.♥



Standardized tests

Choose to do well

True or false: Standardized tests are tough. The answer depends on how prepared your youngster is. Consider these four steps to help him handle test week.

1. Explain that the tests will show how much he has learned. Encourage him to try his best, but don't put so much emphasis on the tests that he feels stressed.

2. Practice the test format. For example, your child might have to read a paragraph and answer questions. Using one



of his textbooks, have him look at the questions at the end of a section first and then read the passage. That will help him know what to read for and how to find the answers.

3. Limit activities the night before tests. You may want to avoid having guests for dinner, or let him skip his brother's

baseball game if it means being out late. Be sure your youngster gets to bed on time and sets an alarm for the next morning.

4. On test day, give him an energy-boosting breakfast. Try to include both protein (eggs, yogurt, milk) and carbohydrates (fruit, oatmeal, toast).♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

Paper bag city

Let your child create her own 3-D community. She'll practice map skills and learn about urban planning as she decides where to put the buildings in her town.

Materials: paper lunch bags, crayons or markers, newspapers, black construction paper, scissors, tape

Have your youngster think of buildings to include, such as a bank, a grocery store, a school, a library, and houses. She can make them by drawing doors, windows, and signs on flat bags. For every bag she decorates, have her stuff a second one with newspaper. Then, she should open each decorated bag and slide it over a stuffed bag so her "buildings" will stand up. For the roads, she can cut black construction paper into strips and tape them together.



Finally, have your child lay out her roads and arrange her buildings alongside them to make her very own town.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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Q & A

Bullying: The bystander's role

Q: My child has been coming home from school upset because kids frequently pick on a classmate and never let her play with them. What advice should I give my daughter?

A: Tell your youngster that her classmate was being bullied—and that she may be able to help stop it!

There are several things she can do. If she feels safe, she could say something like, "That's not nice," and then ask the classmate to walk away with her. Or she might invite the child who is being bullied to join her in a game or school project.

Also, remind your youngster to report bullying to a teacher or other adult when she sees it. Let her know this is not tattling, but a way to help someone who is being hurt. You can explain: "Asking an adult to help a child who is being bullied is like asking the nurse to help a child with a scraped knee."♥



PARENT TO PARENT

Thinking games

Between school, errands, and activities, my family spends lots of time on the go. I decided to use some of it for "thinking games."

I taught my kids a game my parents used to play with me, called "Would You Rather?" I offer two options and ask which they prefer and why. For example, I might say, "Would you rather live near the beach or the mountains?"

My son came up with a game he named "Three Favorites." Someone picks a category (outfits, movies), and we all tell our top three

choices. My daughter thought of "What Doesn't Belong?" We take turns naming items and asking the others to explain which is the odd one out and why. The kids especially like this game because there can be more than one "right" answer. For example, when I named owl, ostrich, and eagle, my daughter said, "Ostrich, because it can't fly." My son's answer was, "Owl, because it hunts at night."

Now they want to play all the time. I'm glad because we're having fun—and they've gotten better at thinking through their ideas.♥

