



O.W. Erlewine News

March 2017

Erlewine Eagles!
Phone: 228-5870

- March 2017:
 2: Family Reading Night
 10-17: Parent Conferences
 14: PTA 6:00
 16: Room 11 Angel Island
 31: Eagle Buck Store
 April:
 3: Eagle Buck Store
 4: PTA 6:00
 10-14: Spring Break
 21: Earth Day at Erlewine
 26: Spring Pictures
 27: Room 12 Angel Island



Awards Assemblies

We will be holding our second trimester awards assemblies on March 21 and 22.

Remember to bring your cameras to catch this precious moment! Tuesday, March 22:

- 8:10 a.m.: Rooms 10, 6, & 14
- 8:45 a.m.: Rooms 11,12, & 16

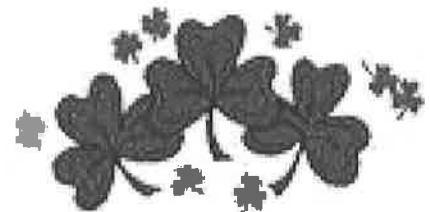
Wednesday, March 22:

- 8:10 a.m. Rooms 1,2, & 15
- 8:45 a.m. Rooms 3,4, & 5
- 9:30 a.m. Rooms 7 & 9

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.

We are very fortunate to have an outstanding staff at O.W. Erlewine!



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!"



Reminders:

- * Our office hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- * Students are not to arrive at school prior to 15 minutes before they are going to attend class unless they are having breakfast on campus.



**Erlewine's Values
(Character Education)
Cooperation and Patience**

PTA News

Thank you to everyone who helped with our last Eagle Buck Store. We couldn't do it without your help!

Our next PTA meeting will be held on March 14th at 6:00 in room 8.



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.

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 or be sure to fill out the flier that will be coming home soon in your child's purple folder.

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.

Responsible for Myself

Who can John count on to make sure his school-work gets turned in? John! That's because his parents taught him that he's responsible for his own learning and for the choices he makes. Consider this advice for raising a responsible youngster.

Learning: It's up to your child to listen to his teacher and complete assignments she gives him. Ask him to think of other ways he could take responsibility as a student. He might say he should bring home school library books for a project or let you know if he is struggling with math.

Decisions: If your youngster makes a mistake, encourage him to own up to it. Kids sometimes get into the habit of blaming others. ("Indoor Frisbee was her idea?") You'll help him see the connection between his decision and the consequence by saying something like, "You decided to take your sister's advice, and you broke a vase." **Tip:** When he does admit responsibility for a mistake, try not to get angry. Instead, as, "What did you learn from this?"

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.

Pennies for Patients

Erlewine students will be participating in Pennies for Patients. This fundraiser collects money for those with leukemia and lymphoma. Students in room 17 and Ms. Bartlett will be heading up this fundraiser. The fundraiser will take place from Feb. 6 to March 10. Thank you for supporting our community fundraiser. Remember, every penny counts!

Remember to bring a healthy snack to school!

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION[®]

February 2017



O. W. Erlewine Elementary
Do Your Best! Reach Your Goal!

SHORT NOTES

On time every day

Arriving at school on time allows your child to settle in and take full advantage of every learning activity. Let him take the lead on this important responsibility by teaching him to set an alarm. *Tip:* Suggest that he place the clock across the room so he has to get out of bed to switch it off.

A “mind rehearsal”

Have your youngster “practice” challenging situations in her mind to boost her confidence. Before a cheerleading competition, for example, she could picture herself nailing her routines. Or if a big test is coming up, she might imagine staying calm and answering questions to the best of her ability.

Field trip learning

When you sign a field trip permission slip, show interest—you’ll inspire your child to learn more from his outing. Ask him to predict what he will see and learn. Together, look up the destination online or in books, and say something like, “I can’t wait to hear which instrument is your favorite at the symphony.” Then, follow up with him afterward.

Worth quoting

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’” *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Why can’t you tell a joke while standing on ice?

A: Because it might crack up.



Great graphic organizers

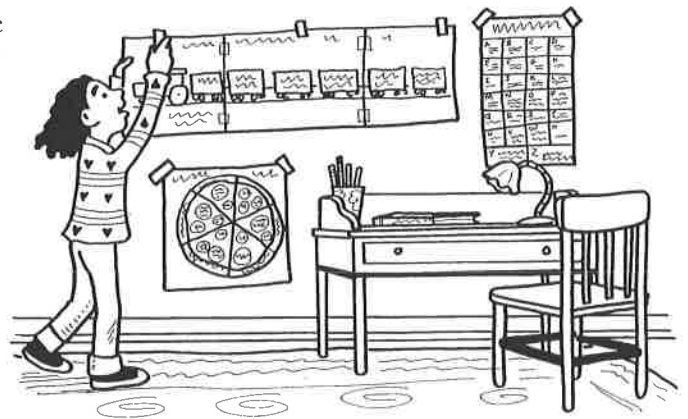
Organizing information in creative ways can make studying more interesting and productive for your youngster. Encourage her to try these graphic organizers—and to invent some of her own!

Cars in a train

Drawing a train is one way to understand and study steps in a process or events in a sequence, such as the parts of the scientific method or the plot of a novel. Suggest that your child label each train car with a step (“Ask a question,” “Make a hypothesis”) and add a picture to illustrate it.

Toppings on a pizza

Have your youngster draw a pizza to visualize facts. On each slice, she should write a category of information (*example:* “Lewis and Clark,” “Cartier,” and so on for a quiz on explorers). She can draw toppings (pepperoni, mushrooms) and put a fact on each one. On the Lewis and



Clark “pepperoni,” she might write, “Started in St. Louis” and “Ended at the Pacific Ocean.”

Letters of the alphabet

Let your child divide a sheet of paper into 26 squares and label them A–Z. Then, she could write a fact that begins with each letter. If her topic is habitats, she can define *desert* in the D square and *rain forest* for R. Being creative with less-common letters will get her thinking more deeply about the material (“Quick temperature drops happen at night in the desert” for Q).♥

Respect all around

Every day, there are plenty of opportunities for your child to show respect for others. Here are examples.

● **At home...** The dinner table is a great place to start. Teach your youngster to thank the cook. He’ll show respect for the person’s time and care in preparing the food.

● **In school...** Encourage him to be respectful of other children’s backgrounds by learning greetings in the languages they speak at home.

● **In your community...** Explain that shoppers respect store employees by not creating extra work for them. If you decide you don’t need an item in your cart, help your child return it to where it belongs. After you load groceries into your car, have him walk with you to return the cart.♥



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.

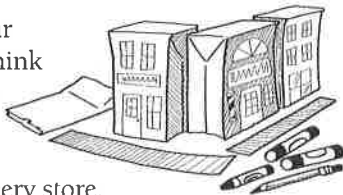
4. On test day, give him an energy-boosting breakfast. Try to include both protein (eggs, yogurt, milk) and carbohydrates (fruit, oatmeal, toast).♥

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.♥

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

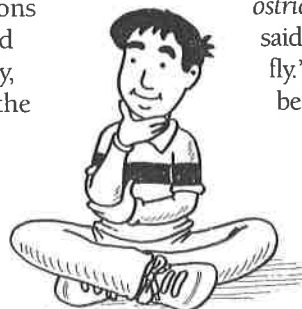
Between school, errands, and activities, my family spends lots of time on the go. I decided to use some of it for "thinking games."

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.♥



OUR PURPOSE

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

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630
540-636-4280 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com
www.rfeonline.com

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