



O.W. Erlewine News

Volume 4, Issue 2

October 2015

www.erlewine.org
Erlewine Eagles!

Dates:

October:

- 6: Picture Day
- 6: English Lang. Learner Parent Meeting
- 9: Fundraiser money and orders are due.
- 20: Site Council 6:00
- 23: Rosemont High School Homecoming parade and game
- 26-30 Red Ribbon Week
- 30: Fall Carnival 2:00-4:00
- 30: Wear Orange and Black (Only kinders. can wear costumes)

Don't forget! Every Friday is purple day. Remember to show your school spirit.



School Lunches and Breakfast

Have you filled out your child's application for free and reduced breakfast and lunches yet? You can apply on line at www.scusd.edu/applyfor meals.

Breakfast will be served to the early class at 7:35 and the late class at 8:30-8:55. Hot lunch with milk may be purchased for \$2.00. You may purchase the school lunch for the entire week or longer period, by sending payment in check or cash to the office in an envelope marked with your child's name, room number, and attention cafeteria. Parents can pay online by going to www.ezschoollpay.com

During shorted days breakfast will be served from 7:35 a.m. until 7:55a.m.

Medication Note

Please do not send cough drops and other over the counter medications to school with you child. If you wish your child to be able to take these at school, you must have a school district medication form signed by a doctor.



New Speech Teacher



Greetings O.W. Elewine Families,

What a pleasure to introduce myself as your school's Language, Speech and Hearing Specialist. I have enjoyed meeting some of you at Meet Your Teacher Night, but most of you I will get to know in time hopefully. I have enjoyed working in this district since 2008. Prior to that, I worked for several years in the private practice setting specializing in language-based reading disorders at the Sacramento Scottish Rite Language Center. When not working with students, usually you will find me find me enjoying my new hobby of fly fishing on the American River. Sacramento is so lucky to have such a beautiful river to enjoy. Not only do I (try) to fish it, I use it to run my three dogs and also cruise along when I ride my road bike. You can only imagine how happy I was when I arrived at O.W. Erlewine and saw that that river was so close. I am happy to be at this exciting campus and hope I can help you with any questions you may have about your child's success in school.

Thank you,
Paige Mains



P.T.A. Monthly News

Our Holiday Fundraiser kicked off on September 23rd and will run through October 9th. Please be sure to return your order forms, money, and envelopes.

Please remember to join the P.T.A. Our theme for this year is Out of this World (Solar System).

Classes are having a contest to see which class can have the most members join. Neighbors, friends, grandparents, parents, and community members may join. The cost is only \$7.00 and is tax deductible! The primary and intermediate classes with the most memberships will win a class treat.

We are currently looking for parents and grandparents to help with our Eagle Buck Store on October 15 or 16th. Please call the school office at 228-5870 or stop by the office if you can help out.

Thank you to all the parents and staff that helped with the Kindergarten BBQ and Ice Cream Social.

Our next P.T.A. meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 6:00 in the library, room 8. We hope that you can attend.



Attendance

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please call our 24 hour attendance line at 228-5714. If he/she will be absent for more than a day, you may want to call and have your child's teacher prepare a make-up packet. Please call for this service by 12:00p.m. and pick it up no later than 3:30 from the school office. If your child will miss more than one week, please let us know so that we can prepare an individual study packet for your child.

If you take your child to the doctor please be sure to get a note from the doctor to excuse their absence. If you contact the doctor by phone, and receive information, ask the doctor or nurse, to send us a confirmation by fax (228-5872).

Reading Counts...

Reading Counts is in full swing, with some students already receiving prizes for points earned. Students with enough points also have their names in a drawing every Wednesday for cool prizes such as calculators, books, or jump ropes. The names of several students are on the *Wall of Reading Counts Stars* in the cafeteria because they have earned at least 20 points.

How it works: Students read Reading Counts books that have computerized quizzes. Each Reading Counts book is assigned points. Students need 7 or more correct answers to pass the quiz and earn the points for that book. Ask your student how many points they have earned so far. If you have any questions, see Mrs. Nelson in the library, room 8.

Remember, the library is open on Thursday nights from 6:00pm-7:00pm.



Kids Can Food Drive

The Kids Can food drive will begin on October 12th. This will be the fourteenth year that O. W. Erlewine students have participated in helping collect food for the less fortunate in our community. Please have your students bring canned and dry goods to their classroom no later than November 13th. We are excited to be a part of the Channel 3 community partnership.

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

October 2015



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

SHORT NOTES

Enjoy poetry

It's fun to think about what a poem might mean. Let your youngster check out a volume of poetry from the library, and take turns reading aloud from it. Talk about what the poet could be saying. Your child will work on reading comprehension as she discovers the joy of poetry.

Support for special needs

If your youngster struggles with friendships because of a disability, a social skills group may help. He'll practice strategies like starting conversations, listening to what others say, and waiting his turn to speak. Plus, he might make friends he can get together with outside of the group. *Tip:* Ask your child's school counselor, doctor, or therapist to recommend a group.

Promote self-confidence

Nothing builds success like success itself, so give your youngster plenty of chances to shine. Let her pursue her interests—even if they're not what you would have chosen for her. Or encourage her to learn a new hobby. Feeling capable is a great confidence booster.

Worth quoting

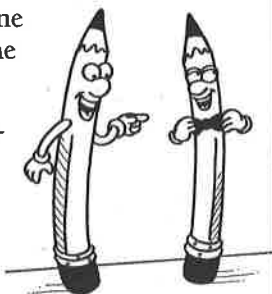
"Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm."

Abraham Lincoln

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What did one pencil say to the other?

A: You're looking sharp!



Positive attention = positive behavior

A little attention goes a long way toward helping your child behave well. Here are loving ways to inspire better behavior.

Announce a "time-in"

It's the "opposite" of a time-out—you and your youngster take a short break together *before* a situation where he tends to misbehave. During your time-in, you might color, play a quick game, or drink smoothies. This may prevent him from acting out to get negative attention.



Be playful

Pretending or being silly can make things go more smoothly. For example, to prevent your child from dragging his feet while getting ready for school, you could say, "Let's pretend we're astronauts. T-minus 10 minutes to blastoff!" Your playful discipline may not work every time, but your youngster just might discover that it's fun to cooperate.

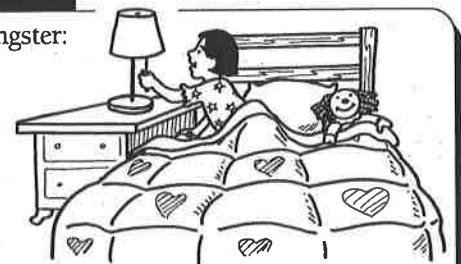
Inspire a turnaround

Steer your child toward better behavior while you run errands by giving him jobs to do. In a store, you could say, "Okay, you're the leader. Can you find the garden department?" Or at the bank, have him count the coins while you count the bills. He'll feel important—and be less likely to get bored and misbehave. ♥

Early to bed, ready to learn

Share this interesting fact with your youngster: While she's asleep, her brain is busy organizing and storing information she has learned. Use these guidelines to help her get a good night's sleep and improve learning and memory:

- Elementary school students need 9–11 hours of sleep—experts recommend a range because some kids require more sleep than others. If your child has a hard time waking up or feels drowsy in school, move to an earlier bedtime.
- The light from a computer (or any screen) can prevent your youngster from winding down. Have her turn off anything with a screen at least an hour before bed. ♥



Hints for homework time

Make homework more pleasant for your youngster with these ideas for starting out strong and staying on task.

Get comfortable. Some children concentrate best by sitting at a desk, while others do better sprawled on a bed or the floor. Kids who tend to fidget might think better while balancing on a big exercise ball. Let your child experiment to see what she prefers. Then, she'll be able to focus on her work—not on getting comfortable.

Get focused. Your youngster could work in her room, away from siblings and the TV. If she shares a room or likes doing



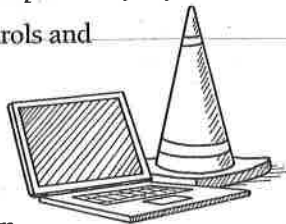
homework in the kitchen or living room, help her set up a file-folder “cubicle” to block out distractions. She should staple together file folders (long edge to long edge) and stand them up to block off her work area. *Idea:* Have her write helpful information on the sides facing her, such as math facts or words she frequently misspells.

Get started. Sometimes beginning her homework is the hardest part. Encourage your child to start with an easier assignment—the satisfaction she feels from finishing it may give her momentum to tackle more challenging work. Or she could tell herself that if she completes one subject, she can take a break to ride her scooter or call a friend.♥

Q & A How to be careful online

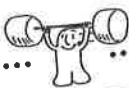
Q: My son is just starting to use the Internet. We set up “parental controls,” but I know they’re not perfect. Other than watching him every second, what can I do to help him stay safe online?

A: Parental controls and supervision are important, but it’s also a good idea to teach your son habits to use on his own.



First, explain that “real life” safety rules apply online. For instance, he shouldn’t talk to strangers or go places that you haven’t approved. When he wants to visit a new website, he needs to let you know so you can make sure it’s appropriate. Keep in mind that sites with user comments or chat features usually aren’t good choices because they allow strangers to post or to talk to him.

Finally, just as in real life, he should tell you right away if a stranger tries to contact him or if he sees something confusing or upsetting.♥



ACTIVITY CORNER

Shaky science

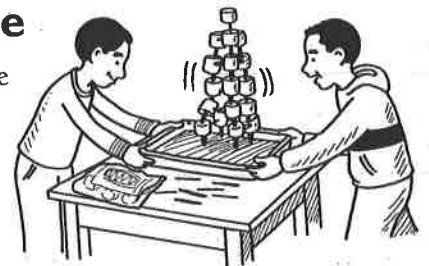
Can your child create a building strong enough to withstand an “earthquake”? With this activity, he will practice thinking like an engineer.

1. Together, prepare an 8½ x 11 pan of gelatin dessert. Cover and refrigerate overnight, until set.

2. Have your youngster connect toothpicks with marshmallows to create a building that rises out of the gelatin.

3. Grasping opposite ends of the pan, gently shake it back and forth to create an earthquake. Does his building tumble, or do pieces fall off? He can redesign and test again. Which designs work best?

4. Talk about how engineers might make earthquake-proof buildings. For example, a low, wide building may fare better than a tall, narrow one. Also, which shapes (squares, rectangles, triangles) make the base or walls stronger?♥



PARENT TO PARENT

Fun with family photos

My daughter Annabelle loves storytelling. She often uses her imagination to act out tales with her miniature people and animal figures. When I heard her naming them after our family members and pets, I had an idea.

We gathered family photos, including ones with her grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Then, I helped her flatten empty pasta and cracker boxes and glue photos to them. She cut out around each person

and pet and stuck the cardboard figures in globs of play dough to make them stand up.

Now Annabelle likes to act out family stories using the figures. She reenacts beach vacations, holiday meals, and more. Sometimes we play along with her,

each pretending to be a different person. It’s a great way to build her language skills—

and to “spend time” with relatives we don’t see often.♥



OUR PURPOSE

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

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