

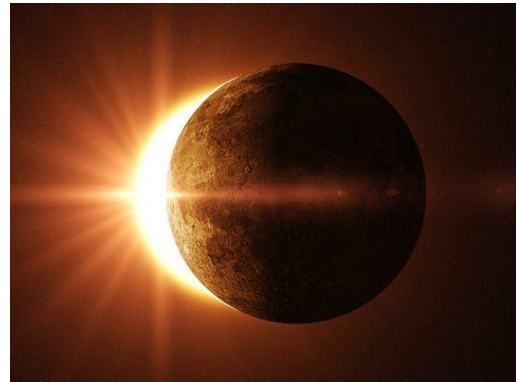
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Tuesday, April 2, 2024

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Dear Parents:

I looked back in my files of parent memos and read one from August of 2017. The staff and student body had together observed a partial eclipse that week. I was hoping to repeat the experience with this year's students but was encouraged to cancel school instead. The difference, of course, is that this time around there will be a total eclipse in our area of the country. Law enforcement and emergency personnel are preparing for 200,000-300,000 extra people in the city. Whether that will come about, we don't know but we have to trust the people that have studied this out (not necessarily the media). As a staff, we were apprehensive that you would not be able to get to school to pick up your child at 2:15 or 3:30. **We will not have school this coming Monday, April 8, due to these concerns.** We are sending home the safety glasses on Friday with the students in K5-6<sup>th</sup> grade.



We have evidence in rock and other hard materials that humans have recorded the occurrence of eclipses for thousands of years. They are mathematically predictable. This phenomenon reminds me of God, the Creator and Sustainer who said in Isaiah 45:12, "I made the earth and created man on it; it was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all their host."

Other note-worthy events:



**April 2:** Third Quarter Progress Reports go home today.



**April 1-4:** Our kindergarten through second grade will be taking the third round of NWEA MAP Growth assessments. It will be exciting to see the students' progress and growth since last December.



**April 4:** The first through sixth graders will be having their second to last Mileage Club Challenge. It is called "Bring on the Showers." The students will try to walk/run 4.5 miles for a flower token. Simple rain gear is encouraged. Hopefully, it won't really rain and we can be outside!



**April 8:** No school



**April 10-11:** The third through sixth graders will be taking the ILEARN practice test. This is an important step in understanding how the actual tests will be.



**April 12:** This is our last Professional Development Day of the year. There will be an **early dismissal at 2:15**. After care is available for a fee.



**April 16-26:** The IDOE-mandated I-LEARN tests are administered to third through sixth graders. Please avoid all appointments during this time frame, particularly in the mornings. Please make every effort to have your child to school by 8:15 so that testing can begin as scheduled. If your child misses a testing session or is tardy, he/she will have to make it up, as required by IDOE regulations.



**May 3:** A favorite event every year is Field Day. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer to help.



**May 10:** Our large class of 34 kindergartners will delight their audience with a small program and receive their diplomas on this evening at 7:00. The preschool classes will also perform a few things for the audience.



**May 17:** Please mark your calendar to attend *Matilda, Jr* at 7:00 pm in the church auditorium. You and your guests will thoroughly enjoy it!

Last week, the reaccreditation team gave Burge Terrace high marks in all twelve standards. They were impressed with many things. They studied our documents thoroughly and asked many questions to verify aspects of our Self-Study. The team gave a few recommendations and suggestions that, when carried out, will make our school better. We will officially be reaccredited when the national committee votes on it in June. Praise God!

I will be thinking of you all on Monday and hope that you can have a fun and safe family day.

Mrs. Newton

