



Mrs. Ness' Notes
May 14, 2024

Enrollment: 519 students + 10 Shared Time students
K-88, 1st-94, 2nd-81, 3rd-91, 4th-80, 5th-85

Staff Updates: Please join me in sending well wishes to **Lynn Maki** and **Joan Magnuson**, who are both retiring at the end of this school year. Best wishes also go to **Chuck Pietari**, our building custodian, who will be retiring at the end of August. Thank you for your service to Elm Creek students and we wish you all the best in your retirement!

We will also miss **Wade Schroeder**, Band teacher, and **Jina Bolor**, School Psychologist, as they are reassigned by the district office to other schools for 2024-25, and **Tyler Danielson**, Resource teacher, as well as **Shelbi Taylor**, building substitute, as they move on to another school.

Thank you for your dedication to Elm Creek students and staff! You will be missed!

Camp Baldwin: Students will be enjoying learning during our 8th Annual Camp Baldwin. Elm Creek Elementary teachers and staff have created a creative and fun curriculum for our students in the last few days of school, May 28th-June 4th. Students arrive to their cabin (classroom) each day, sing around the "campfire," have special camp snacks and read with flashlights in classroom tents. It is a terrific way to end the school year on a fun and positive note while still engaging in academics.

School Newspaper for sale: Elm Creek Newspaper Club will be selling their final newspaper of the year on Tuesday, May 28th. It is only 25 cents!

Shout Out to the PTO Board from Elm Creek Resource Manager, Sandy Lindberg: A huge THANK YOU for being so easy to work with this year regarding all the funding, checks, communication, everything! You made it so much easier on me this year!

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-10: Thank you for all the appreciation you showed to our teachers and staff! We are grateful for you!

Elm Creek Annual Family BBQ: Please set aside **Thursday, May 30th**, for our 8th annual all school barbeque. You are invited to come to our all-school BBQ lunch. Please see the attached flyer.

VOLUNTEERS—As of the beginning of May, we have 357 active volunteers at Elm Creek, and our volunteers have logged an outstanding 4,204 hours! Our school has been greatly enriched by everything our volunteers do. We thank you for contributing to our Elm Creek Community!

Patrol Update: We are concluding our first year of leading the patrols and wanted to thank all of the safety patrols and their parents for helping us keep our community safe and getting our students to and from school. Courtesy of the PTO we are planning to have an end of year celebration and give each patrol a little thank you gift.

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We have collected applications for next year's patrols from interested 4th graders. We look forward to another successful and safe year in 2024-25.

PE Update: Field Days are coming at the end of the month. Watch the weather and bring water bottles sunscreen.

K-2 May 30

3-5 May 29

Student Council: We have 2 spirit days left for the year.

May 17: Beach day

June 5: Elm Creek Day

Thank you to everyone that donated to our community service project. We collected 105 "Bears" for our Chloe Bears collection for Children's Hospital.

We have also recycled over 5 big paper boxes of dried out markers throughout the year.

Birthday Lunches: One day towards the end of each month, a table is decorated in the lunchroom. Students who have their birthday during that month can have lunch with the principal and will get ice cream. Our final birthday lunches of the year are:

- May Birthday table is on Tuesday, May 28th.
- June Birthday table is on Monday, June 3rd.
- July Birthdays table is on Tuesday, June 4th.
- August Birthday table is on Wednesday, June 5th.

Kindergarten News:

- Kindergarten is happy to say that our chick-hatching project has had great success! Every room had more than half of their eggs hatch! Watching and/or holding chicks is exciting! A few rooms are waiting for duck eggs and geese eggs to hatch too! This should happen next week.
- Kindergarten is also winding down the year with an ABC count out! Every day has a special activity, snack, clothing item, object to bring from home, or celebration! This sure is a fun way to stay engaged and focused. We are also looking forward to Camp Baldwin!
- We have 2 upcoming field trips - Oliver Kelly Farm and Como Zoo and our end-of-the-year Ice Cream Social to celebrate how much we've learned and grown! Stop in and see how smart and tall we are! First grade - Here We Come!

Fifth Grade News: Fifth grade has a busy end of the school year.

- Students are going on the Energy and U field trip with grades 3 and 4, and then the last week of school they will head to Eastman Nature Center to try their hands at the Geocache Challenge.
- Thanks to PTO for sponsoring our 5th annual Dazzling Dave program and workshop on May 30th. Each child will get a yo-yo to keep and the possibility to upgrade to a more advanced yo-yo. Dazzling Dave will be back with us the last week of school to give students the opportunity to participate in an Elm Creek yo-yo contest.
- There will be one last SOAR store to spend SOAR tickets that have been earned for "soaring." Thank you to our volunteers who helped run our store this year.
- The fifth graders will put their handprints on "The Rock" to commemorate their time at Elm Creek the last week of school. Fifth grade will be busy, busy, busy!

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No School: There will be no school for students on Monday, May 27th. It is a holiday, Memorial Day.

Library News:

- It's coding time in the library! Fourth and fifth graders are using the Lego WeDo kits and K-3 are using Botzees to build and code. It's fun to see them start to build their own codes.
- 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will also be doing a Breakout.edu puzzle with lock boxes. They will work together in teams to try to solve the puzzles and open all the locks. Teamwork and persistence are key!
- The PTO book give away is June 4th and 5th. Thanks to the PTO, every student will start off the summer with a new book!

Dates to Remember:

May 14th: 5th grade Orchestra Concert for Elm Creek students

May 14th: Final PTO meeting of the year, 6:30 p.m.

May 15th: 1st grade field trip to Eastman Nature Center

May 15th: 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade field trip to University of Minnesota about Energy

May 15th: Dine to Donate, Café Zupas

May 16th: 5th grade Band Concert for Elm Creek students

May 17th: Images of the World assembly, K-2, and 3rd-5th grade.

May 17th: Student Council Spirit Day: Beach Day

May 22nd: 4th grade field trip to Children's Theatre

May 22nd: 2nd grade field trip to Eastman Nature Center & Elm Creek Park Reserve

May 23rd: Kindergarten field trip to Oliver Kelley Farm

May 23rd: Assembly-Students Connecting through International Service

May 24th: PBIS School Celebration, Game Day

May 24th: Fishing Club field trip

May 24th: Last day of Band/Orchestra lessons for 5th grade students

May 27th: No School, Memorial Day

May 28th: School Newspaper for sale, 25 cents

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May 28th-June 4th: Elm Creek Camp Baldwin

May 28th: May Birthday Lunches

May 29th: 3rd-5th grade Field Day

May 30th: K-2nd Field Day

May 30th: Annual Family BBQ

May 30th: 5th grade, Dazzling Dave

May 31st: Last day for student devices

June 3rd: 5th Grade Handprints on the Rock, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

June 3rd: June Birthday Lunches

June 4th: 5th grade field trip to Eastman Nature Center & Elm Creek Park Reserve

June 4th: Kindergarten field trip to Como Zoo

June 4th: July Birthday Lunches

June 5th: August Birthday Lunches

June 5th: 5th Grade Dazzling Dave Yo-Yo contest

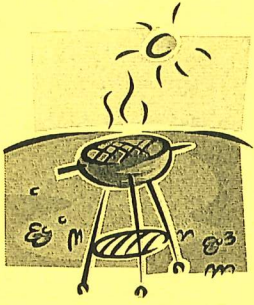
June 5th: Seniors walk the hallways.

June 6th: 1st grade field trip to Elm Creek Park Reserve

June 6th: Last day of school

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Come to Elm Creek Elementary's School BBQ on Thursday, May 30th



Come join your child during your child's lunch time and
enjoy a picnic lunch!

Menu: Grilled Hamburgers
(Bean burger available upon request)
Potato Salad, Baked beans, fruit, chips,
Cookie and Milk

Moms, Dads, Brothers, Sisters, Grandpas and Grandmas are welcome!

*Remember to
bring a blanket.*

Lunch Prices: \$5.00/person

Here are the lunch times for each grade level:

Grade K	12:40 - 1:05	Grade 1	12:00 - 12:25
Grade 2	12:50 - 1:15	Grade 3	11:20 - 11:45
Grade 4	11:30 - 11:55	Grade 5	12:10 - 12:35



*Visitors, please plan to arrive approximately 15 minutes earlier than your child's
lunch time to pick up and/or purchase tickets.*

*Please purchase your tickets ahead of time, a limited number of tickets will be
available to purchase the day of the BBQ.*

Elm Creek Annual School BBQ

So our kitchen staff can plan accordingly, please complete and return
this form to Elm Creek with your child by Friday, May 17th.

_____ Yes, we plan on attending the Elm Creek BBQ.

Total # of guests coming: _____

(Please do not include your Elm Creek child in the count. Your Elm Creek child will
eat lunch for free.)

Please send cash or check (made out to Elm Creek Elementary) with this form.

Meals are \$5.00/person.

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

Teachers: Send returned forms/payment to the office ASAP.

