

MARCH 2025

Eagle Tales

Message from Mr. Erickson

Dear Families,

As we step into March, I want to take a moment to share some important updates and express my gratitude to some of the wonderful folks who make our school community so special.

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- ❖ 2025-2026 School Calendar

Governing Board to Discuss Artificial Intelligence

At the Governing Board meeting on **March 4th**, there will be a discussion on Artificial Intelligence and its role in education. The Board may vote on adopting a policy at the April meeting. To help families navigate this evolving topic, Grand Canyon University offers a free online course titled *Empowering Families to Support Student Success in the Age of AI*. Please see the flyer included in this newsletter for more details.

Thank You, Dr. Clouse!

A special **thank you to Dr. Chris Clouse** for her incredible work in organizing our One School, One Book program! This year, our school enjoyed reading *Malcolm at Midnight*, and it was wonderful to see students, staff, and families come together through this shared reading experience. Dr. Clouse's dedication to literacy continues to inspire a love of reading in our students, and we are so grateful for her efforts!

Love of Reading Week - March 3rd-7th

Speaking of reading, we are excited to celebrate **Love of Reading Week from March 3rd-7th!** This will be a fun-filled week designed to encourage and celebrate literacy. Stay tuned for more details on the activities planned for our students.

Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment Begin in April

As we look ahead, students will begin taking the **Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA) in April**. These assessments are an important opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning progress. We encourage families to help their children prepare by ensuring they get plenty of rest, eat a healthy breakfast, and arrive at school on time each day.

Spring Break - March 10-14

A well-deserved **Spring Break** is just around the corner! School will be closed from **March 10-14**, and we hope all of our students and families enjoy a restful and refreshing break.

Thank You, PTC!

Finally, I want to extend a **huge thank you to our Parent-Teacher Club (PTC)** for their hard work and dedication. From organizing events to supporting our school in countless ways, their efforts make a real difference. We appreciate all that they do for our students, staff, and families!

As always, my door is open if you have any questions or ideas. Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to another great month ahead!




Sign up for important updates from Elgin School.

Get information for Elgin School right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for Elgin School:

1. If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.
On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:
rmd.at/elginsch
Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

2. If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.
Text the message @elginsch to the number 81010.
If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @elginsch to (423) 432-9101.
*Standard text message rates apply.

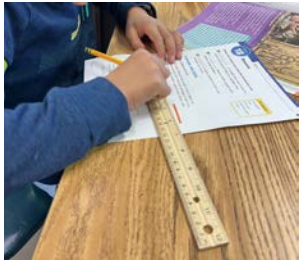


Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/elginsch on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

In the Spotlight

3rd Grade

By Mrs. Kerry Newberry



Greetings from 3rd grade! This quarter in math we have been focusing on fractions and graphs. Understanding fractions can be challenging so we incorporate a lot of hands on learning for this topic including cutting fruit, discussing the parts of the whole, and then eating it! Graphs can be fun too especially when you get to learn more about your classmates, like their favorite color or sport. We can now take that data and create a bar graph, line plot, or picture graph to represent the information we obtained.

Animal behaviors has been our recent focus in ELA, tying our science unit into our reading. We are learning about the life cycle of animals while we read our weekly stories and the students are utilizing independent learning to research an animal that can survive extreme heat or cold. The students look up information online, cite their sources, and compile their facts into a 5 paragraph essay.

In social studies 3rd grade is learning about where Arizona is in the world, it's physical and human characteristics, and how we interact with our environment.



The students chose a biome, such as desert or tundra, and used their drawing skills to recreate an example of the plants and animals that make up their biome. Coming up we will be looking at cultures, including Arizona's tribal nations.



3rd grade really enjoyed the most recent project we did in science; why the dinosaurs went extinct. The students created large posters to organize their dinosaurs into carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores, and then tie each of them together. The students initially mapped a food web and then they had to rework the whole poster when the meteor hits and blocks out the sun. This was a great example of cause and effect, helping them

realize how all living things are connected.

Nurse's Corner



March brings us National Nutrition Month. One of the things seen often in the nurse's office are those struggling in class with headaches, stomachaches, tiredness, and difficulty with concentrating. A majority of children with these complaints are those who have skipped breakfast as well as hydration. I hear explanations of running late in the morning, having "nothing good" to choose from at home, or just not tolerating eating an early breakfast at home. Sometimes getting to school is a lengthy bus or car ride, and we understand that. However, having an empty stomach in the morning makes it nearly impossible for the brain to engage without fuel. Most of us eat dinner between 5 and 8 PM, by the time a child skips breakfast and gets into their classroom, they have been without any food for 12-15 hours. Going without until lunchtime can bring a student to 18-21 hours without food. Many children become distracted at lunch time and don't consume all that they need to make up for this loss of caloric intake.

Some simple things you can do to help your child are:

- After waking up and using the restroom in the morning, encourage drinking a glass of water, juice, or milk. Replenishing the loss of fluids over the past 8-10 hours can help.
- Prepare a small breakfast to be eaten at home if time and food availability allows. Something with protein and carbohydrates are a great mix. It does not even have to be the "traditional" breakfast food. Pizza, sandwiches, left over hamburgers, anything goes.
- If your child does not do well eating early, pack them small portions of something they can grab to eat at the school after getting off the bus or being dropped off, and before class starts. The cafeteria is open in the morning for students obtaining a school breakfast, as well as those who may want to bring a little something from home.
- Pre-pack a nutritious snack for their backpacks the night before. All students have a snack break around 9:30 every morning. Parents are encouraged to send in healthy snacks for this time.
- Pack an afternoon snack for your child if they participate in after-school activities. They are expending extra calories at practices and games and need that extra boost for physical energy.

Below are some informational tips for both children, teens, and adults which can help broaden ideas for nutritional intake provided by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics:

Eat Right

Food, Nutrition and Health Tips from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Smart Snacking Tips for Kids

Snacks can play an important role in meeting kids' nutrient needs. Choosing a variety of foods from all of the food groups will give them the energy they need between meals.

It helps to plan and portion out snacks in advance. Kids will usually only need 2 or 3 snacks daily, and these should be provided at least one to two hours before meals.

It is recommended that snacks (and meals) be eaten in an area without distractions. So avoid snacking while watching TV or when using other electronic devices.

Better yet, let the kids help prepare the healthy snacks.



Here are a few easy, tasty (and healthy) snacks to help you get started.

Adults may need to help with some of these.

- Parfait:** Layer vanilla or plain low-fat yogurt with fruit and dried cereal.
- Toast a whole grain waffle** and top with low-fat yogurt and sliced fruit or smooth nut butter.
- Blend low-fat milk,** frozen strawberries and a banana for thirty seconds for a delicious smoothie.
- Sandwich cut-outs:** Make a sandwich on whole grain bread. Cut out your favorite shape using a big cookie cutter. Eat the fun shape and the edges, too!
- Mini-pizza:** Toast a whole wheat English muffin, drizzle with pizza sauce and sprinkle with low-fat mozzarella cheese.
- Frozen treats:** Mix equal amounts of fat-free plain or flavored yogurt with 100% fruit juice, then pour into paper cups and freeze for a tasty treat.
- Quesadilla:** Sprinkle shredded cheese over a corn or whole wheat tortilla; fold in half and microwave for twenty seconds. Top with salsa.
- Spread hummus** on a tortilla. Top with a slice of turkey or ham, low-fat cheese and lettuce. Then roll it up.
- Stuff a whole-grain pita pocket** with ricotta cheese and Granny Smith apple slices. Add a dash of cinnamon.

Eat Right

Food, Nutrition and Health Tips from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Smart Snacking Tips for Adults and Teens

Snacks can fit into a healthy eating plan and provide an energy boost between meals, if they're planned right. Choosing nutritious foods from the MyPlate food groups can help increase variety and reduce sources of empty calories and added sugars.

Find the right snack for your eating style and activity level. Keeping snacks to 200 calories or less can be a reasonable goal for most people. Adults and teens who are more active, or eat smaller meals throughout the day may want to aim for 200 to 300 calories per snack.

Make snacking a smart habit by:

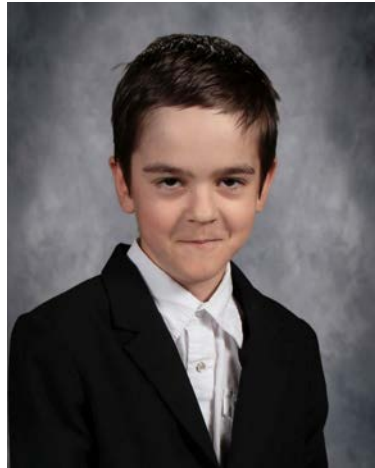
- **Snacking only when you're hungry.** Eating out of boredom or for emotional reasons can lead to weight gain. Rate your hunger before reaching for a snack and avoid mindless eating.
- **Having snacks planned and portioned out ahead of time.** Fixing snacks in advance, like washed and cut-up fruits and vegetables, air-popped popcorn, and low-fat cheese, can save time later on.
- **Practicing food safety.** Keep perishable foods refrigerated or in a cooler bag with ice packs to help reduce the risk of food poisoning.



Make snacking simple by choosing different fruits and vegetables, depending on what is in season or on sale. Fresh, frozen, canned, or dried are all good options. Compare labels to limit items high in sodium, saturated fat and added sugars.

Keep your snacking lively by including snacks that contain grains, especially whole grains, lean protein and healthy fats. Some examples include fat-free yogurt with fruit, whole-grain crackers with low-fat cheese, or raw veggies with hummus.

Eating different combinations of foods can be very satisfying and help to curb hunger. Snacks that include fruit can also satisfy a craving for something sweet.



Dayton Swift
5th Grade



McKenna Cass
8th Grade

Eagle Eye - Student of the Week

Recognizing elementary students who practice good character and citizenship



Elgin Eagle Athletics



4TH QUARTER SPORTS

March-May
Baseball & Track

Baseball Coach: Terrell Harper

Baseball practice will begin on Monday, March 17th.
Baseball is open for students in grades 5th-8th.

Track & Field Coach: Lindsey Beal

Track practice will begin on Wednesday, March 19th.
Track is open for students in grades 4th-8th.

Contact Athletic Director Harper for more
information at dharp@elgink12.com.



Elgin School
PTC

Meeting Dates:
Meetings are held in the
Conference Room

March 5th - 7:30 AM
April 2nd - 7:30 AM
May 7th - 7:30 AM

Elgin School PTC
Spirit Wear



Hat - \$20.00
Beanie - \$15.00
Ear Warmer - \$15.00

Payment via:
Venmo
Cash
Check payable to Elgin School PTC



Elgin School PTC

Breakfast Burritos!

JOIN US FOR FRESH BREAKFAST BURRITOS!

Saturday, April 5th
8:00 AM - Noon

Sonoita Fairgrounds Baseball Field
Little League Opening Ceremonies

Donations needed for our Breakfast Burrito event! Please sign up at
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090544AAAB28A6FD0-54951868-baseball>



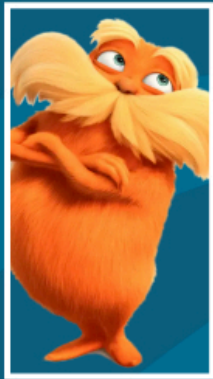
ELGIN SCHOOL

Love of Reading Week

MONDAY

3/3

LORAX
DAY



Wear a mustache or green for the trees

TUESDAY

3/4

BOOK
CHARACTER



Dress like your favorite book character

WEDNESDAY

3/5

WACKY
DAY



Wear your wackiest Hat or Outfit

THURSDAY

3/6

OH, THE
PLACES YOU
WILL GO



Wear a destination shirt!

FRIDAY

3/7

FOX IN
SOCKS
(OR CROCS)



Dress like a fox, wear fun socks, rock your crocs, or show us all 3!

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Elgin Elementary School

PREKINDER Story Time

- Join us to meet new friends, get to know our campus, and learn Kindergarten readiness skills!
- Story Time is open to students eligible to enroll in Kindergarten in Fall 2025. (Must be turning 5 by 9/1/2025)



Wednesdays at Elgin School
8:00 AM - Flag Ceremony, Gym
8:10-8:45 AM - Story Time & Activities, Library



Childfind Screenings

If you have concerns about your child's development from ages 3 to 21 years of age in these areas:

VISION/HEARING * SPEECH/LANGUAGE * THINKING SKILLS
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT * BEHAVIOR *
NORMAL DEVELOPMENT

Your school's CHILDFIND can help - with a free screening, and if needed, referral for diagnostic evaluation and/or early intervention programs (birth to three). If you have any concerns about your child's development, certain benefits are available through your local school district.

Screenings are available **by appointment**. To schedule your appointment or for more information please contact:
Christine Clouse- Student Services
455-5514 cclouse@elgink12.com



Kindergarten Registration 2025-26

**Wednesday, April 23rd
8:00-9:15 AM**

8:00-8:15 AM	Flag Ceremony - Gym
8:15-8:30 AM	Story Time - Library
8:30 AM	New Students will join Kindergarten for an activity
	Q & A for parents and registration information - Room 15
8:45 AM	Campus Tour for parents and students
9:00 AM	Bus Ride and transportation information for parents and students

Items Needed for Registration:

- Birth Certificate
- Current Immunization Record
- Proof of Residency in the Sonoita School District
- Guardianship/Custody Paperwork

**Student must turn 5 by
Sept. 1, 2025**

www.elgink12.com

Any questions call
**520-455-5514,
ext. 300**

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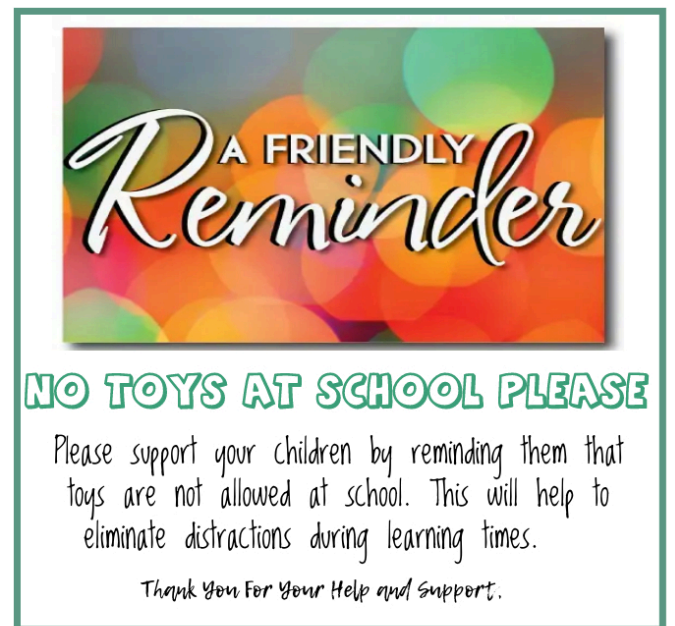


Please use the following link to schedule your parent-teacher conference!

Conferences will be held on Friday, March 21st. A few appointments may be available Wednesday & Thursday after school as well.

If you prefer your conference be held virtually or over the phone, please contact your child's teacher via email once you have made your appointment time.

https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/Elgin_School





2025



Testing Dates

Elementary Calendar Grades 3, 4, & 5

April 1st - Science (5th Grade only)
- Oral Proficiency (3rd Grade)
April 3rd - Writing



April 8th - Reading & Math, parts 1
April 10th - Reading & Math, parts 2

Middle School Calendar



Grades 6, 7, & 8

April 1st-3rd - Science (8th only)
April 8th - Writing

April 9th & 10th - Reading
April 15th & 16th - Math



Cafeteria Connection

Connecting you to your child's school lunchroom



THE POWER OF Whole Grains in School Meals

As school nutrition professionals, we are committed to providing your children with nutritious and delicious meals that fuels their learning. Whole grains play an important role in this commitment, offering many health benefits for our growing students.

WHY WHOLE GRAINS?

Whole grains are nutritional powerhouses. Packed with fiber, vitamins, and minerals, they provide sustained energy – something students need to stay focused and engaged throughout the school day. From breakfast to lunch, integrating whole grains into our menu is a priority.

MEETING CURRENT STANDARDS WITH VARIETY

You'll be happy to know that our school meals meet the latest standards for whole grains. *The USDA requires that at least half of the grains served in school meals be whole grain-rich.* This ensures that your child gets the nutritional benefits without compromising on taste. Our menu features an assortment of whole grain-rich options, from whole grain bagels and cereals at breakfast to whole grain bread and pasta at lunch. *We understand the importance of variety to keep things exciting, ensuring students enjoy every bite.*

SUPPORTING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Why does it matter? Whole grains contribute to academic success. They provide a steady release of energy, promoting concentration, and cognitive function. *It's not just about meeting requirements; it's about giving our students the best chance to excel.*

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

By supporting whole grains in school meals, you're actively contributing to your child's well-being and academic achievements. Plus, it's a win-win – *promoting healthy habits early on and ensuring our kids thrive both inside and outside the classroom.*



Elgin School Calendar 2025-26

Normal School Hours:
7:55 AM-3:00 PM

July							4
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

July 21st-24th Faculty & Staff Return
 July 28th First Day - Students
 Sept. 1st Labor Day - No School
 Oct. 6th Fall Break - No School
Nov. 10th Special Event Release (11:30 AM)
 Nov. 11th Veterans Day - No School
 Nov. 24th-28th Thanksgiving Break - No School
 Dec. 22nd-Jan.2nd Winter Break - No School
 Jan. 5th Students Return
 Jan. 19th Civil Rights Day - No School
 March 9th- 13th Spring Break - No School
May 21st Last day for Students - Early Dismissal at 11:30 AM

August							16
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29		
31							

September							17
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30					

*This calendar is subject to change.
152 Instructional Days*

Report Card Periods
 1st Quarter - 7/28-10/2
 2nd Quarter - 10/7-12/18
 3rd Quarter - 1/3-3/5
 4th Quarter - 3/16-5/21

October							17
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

November							11
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							

December							12
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

January							15
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

- Teacher & Staff In-Service
- First & Last Days
- Vacation - No School
- Special Event Release

February							16
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March							14
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

April							18
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30			

May							12
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
					1	2	
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							

Create your 2 free custom yearbook pages for ELGIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Add Photos

Add your favorite photos from your phone, computer, Instagram, Facebook, Google or Dropbox account, and have them printed in your copy of the yearbook.



Sign Books

Make your friends smile by sending them a message (can include a photo or sticker) that they can add to their custom pages or ask them to send you one!



Add Memories

Answer questions about your year and capture your very best moments. You can even include a photo to go along with them.



Design Your Page

Add all of your memories to your two free personal pages that will be printed in your unique copy of the yearbook. Need more room? You can add more pages!

To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.

1 Go to: www.treering.com/validate

2 Enter your school's passcode:
1016358278643056

Regular price: **\$18.70**

Create Custom Pages by: Apr 1

Need help? Contact
www.treering.com/help



EMPOWERING FAMILIES TO SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS IN THE AGE OF AI

CANYON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT'S NEW
COMPLIMENTARY COURSE:

STEM-08: Understanding and Navigating Artificial Intelligence for K12 Parents

This session introduces participants to artificial intelligence (AI) fundamentals and its role in education. Topics include a simple explanation of AI, practical applications and examples of how it supports personalized learning and automates instructional tasks. The session highlights the benefits, such as tailored education and innovative tools and challenges like bias, privacy concerns and misinformation. Attendees will also explore strategies to support students, including fostering digital literacy, promoting ethical AI use and collaborating with educators to navigate AI's opportunities and risks effectively.

Visit CanyonPD.MyClick4Course.com
to access the course catalog.



Canyon Professional Development Solutions To-Go are affordable, online training sessions for educators offered in partnership with Grand Canyon University and developed by leading experts in education.
Learn more at CanyonPD.com.



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