

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 2 4

Eagle Tales

Message from Mr. Erickson

Dear Elgin Elementary School Families,

As we wrap up the first month of the school year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your support and involvement. It has been an incredible start, and I am continually amazed by the enthusiasm, curiosity, and kindness your children bring to our school each day. They truly bring joy to everyone in our community, and it is a privilege to watch them grow and learn.

September is Attendance Awareness Month. I want to emphasize the importance of regular attendance. Every day in school counts, and consistent attendance is crucial to your child's success. We are committed to providing the best educational experience possible, and your child's presence in the classroom is essential to that mission. Thank you for ensuring they arrive on time and ready to learn. If your child is sick, please keep them home and notify the office.

Our sports seasons are up and running and it is wonderful to see all of our student athletes working so hard on the field and in the gym. I am looking forward to seeing our Eagles soar above and beyond the competition!

Additionally, I want to extend my gratitude to all who attended our recent community forum on the school calendar. Your feedback is invaluable, and the governing board will be reviewing your input at their next meeting. Your voice matters, and I appreciate your active participation in shaping the future of our school.

Finally, I want to remind you that my door is always open. Whether you have questions, concerns, or just want to chat, please feel free to drop by. I believe that strong communication and collaboration between families and the school are key to our students' success.

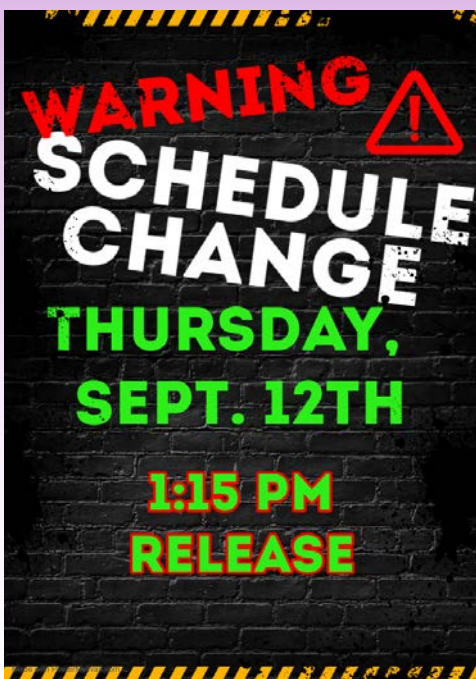
Thank you again for your ongoing support and for sharing your wonderful children with us. I look forward to the months ahead as we continue to work together to make this a fantastic year.

Sincerely,



In this Issue:

- ❖ Classroom Spotlights
- ❖ Teacher of the Year
- ❖ Welcome Aboard
- ❖ Upcoming Events



In the Spotlight

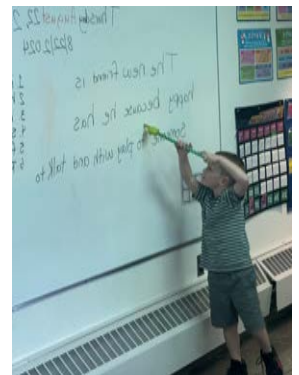
1st Grade – By Mrs. Sheree Gronlund

Before school started, Mrs. Gronlund and Ms. Lucy created a fun and engaging learning environment in the first grade classroom. Dr. Seuss was chosen as the classroom theme. The first grade year of school is an especially important year because students learn the basics of what every person needs to know in life. Reading is a critical foundational skill that every student needs for lifelong learning and for the rest of their life. The Dr. Seuss classroom theme was perfect to teach reading because it fosters a love of reading. Mrs. Gronlund reads the Dr. Seuss books to her class often, since they're so fun to read, and the students really enjoy them.

The start of school was filled with a few beginning of the year assessments, getting to know each other exercises, and fun learning activities. The class took their NWEA and Renaissance assessments during the first week of school for a baseline of each student's progress.

First graders then got right to work on their curriculum with stations and small groups, that allow students to move around the room learning with interactive activities, visual aids, tactile learning, and of course, a lot of positive reinforcement! A timer is utilized to encourage students to get right to work. Students go from station to station reading, writing, and solving math problems in small groups. They work collaboratively within their groups, helping each other as they go. Small groups also make it possible for students to get individualized reading time with Mrs. Gronlund. Ms. Lucy and Dr. Clouse also come into the classroom during the reading stations to help with students' phonics, writing, and reading.

The first grade class is off to a great start for each student to have significant learning growth in a fun and engaging environment!



In the Spotlight

Special Services – By Dr. Christine Clouse

Elgin Elementary School provides a range of services for students with special needs, including speech/language therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and specially designed instruction for academics and daily living skills. The school works with families to develop Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) so students have access to the services and accommodations they need to be successful at school.

As part of Child Find, the district conducts free screenings for children who have not yet entered Kindergarten. Families can request a screening if they have concerns about their child's hearing, vision, motor skills, learning skills, and self-help skills. For more information, contact Christine Clouse at cclouse@elgink12.com or 520-455-5514 ext. 117.

8th Grade Marine Biology Club - By Ms. Kyndra Ortiz

Nestled about 26 miles off the coast of Southern California, Catalina Island feels almost like another world. Each May, Elgin School's 8th Grade Marine Biology Club has the opportunity to attend a week-long educational camp on this beautiful island. Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI) provides students the chance to engage in confidence and team building activities, such as snorkeling, kayaking, rock-climbing, and tide-pooling, all while learning about the ocean and unique ecosystems of the island.



Catalina Island and the waters around it are home to numerous species of wildlife such as bison, fox, woodpeckers, blue whales, dolphins, sea lions, sunfish, and maybe the most notably, the Garibaldi, California's state marine fish, which is bright orange in color. While on the island, students are housed in ocean front cabins and provided delicious balanced meals by the camp's kitchen staff. All educational labs and activities are overseen by Camp Counselors and the 8th Grade sponsors.

Camp Counselors are typically collegiate level Marine Biology students seeking further education and research opportunities while employed at CIMI. Kailey was the Eagle's counselor in 2021-22 and shared her passion and knowledge of algae and kelp with Elgin students. Giant Kelp forests are found just off the coast of Catalina Island. Students snorkeled through, took samples, and even got to taste the kelp. Jules hosted the 2022-23 Elgin Eagles and shared her expertise of marine mammals. Jules has worked with dolphins, orcas, and other marine mammals in Aquarium (captivity) environments. During a kayaking trip students were able to observe a baby sea lion sunbathing on a rock while another adult sea lion swam nearby.

The 2024-25 8th Grade Marine Biology club will be hosting multiple fundraising opportunities including the Annual Walk-A-Thon, Krispy Kreme doughnut sales, and sports concessions to fund their CIMI trip May 12-16th, 2025. It is the generous support of the community that has allowed the CIMI trip to occur for the past 16 years, with the exception of 2 years that the camp was closed due to COVID restrictions. Donations up to \$400 are eligible for Tax Credit.



CONGRATULATIONS!



Elgin School's Teacher of the Year Nominee Dr. Christine Clouse

It is with great pride and admiration that we take a moment to celebrate an extraordinary educator who shapes the minds and hearts of our students every day, our wonderful Teacher of the Year, Dr. Christine Clouse! Congratulations, Dr. Clouse, on this well-deserved honor! Your dedication inspires us all.

Congratulations!



WELCOME ABOARD!



Markos Rodriguez – Facilities & Maintenance

Please welcome our new facilities and maintenance director, Markos Rodriguez. Markos has worked school and facilities maintenance for 10 years in Southern Arizona. Markos has already made a positive difference on our campus and we are excited for his future here.

Kinder Readiness - By Dr. Chris Clouse

Every Wednesday, Elgin Elementary School has Preschool Story Time for children who will enter Kindergarten in fall 2025. Preschool children come to the gym at 8:00 for the pledge and school cheer, then go to the library for a story and activities. Join us to work on kindergarten readiness skills, get to know the campus, and make new friends! For more information, contact Christine Clouse at cclouse@elgink12.com or 520-455-5514 ext. 117.



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



The Elgin School PTC will be holding a Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, September 14th at the Sonoita Fairgrounds from 6:00-8:00 AM. We are in need of breakfast burrito supplies and baked good donations for this event. Please sign up below by Tuesday, September 11th. **Items can be delivered to the school office by Thursday, September 13th at 1:00 PM.** Monetary donations are also appreciated. Please contact Lindsay Taylor at lindsaydavis615@yahoo.com or 270-557-6970 with any questions.

Use this link to access our online sign up!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090544AAAB28A6FD0-50820878-ptcbake>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

PICTURE DAY

IS

Coming

MARK Your Calendars!

Picture Day for Elgin Elementary School is scheduled for
Tuesday, Sep 10.

This event's Order Code is **86619FF**

Order online at <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/86619FF>

CAPTURE YOUR MEMORIES IN THIS YEAR'S

ELGIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK!

Customize Your 2 Free Pages

Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Instagram, Google Drive & more.

Answer fun Memory Questions to help remember the year.

The 2 Custom Pages are FREE and are printed ONLY in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages is just \$0.99.

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**

treering



Elgin School

Donate your Arizona Tax Credit today!!

The monies received from the Extra-Curricular Tax Credit go directly to help fund student programs. Thanks to generous donations, the students of Elgin School will be able to enjoy many programs that may not have been available otherwise.



Athletics



Field Trips



Marine Biology Club

Ready to donate today? Just send in this form with your donation to:

Elgin School
Attn. Tax Credit
23 Elgin Rd
Elgin, AZ 85611

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please use my contribution for the following extracurricular activity:

Make checks payable to Elgin School. Mail or drop off this completed form with your check to Elgin School. The school staff will provide you with a receipt verifying you have contributed to an eligible fee-based extra-curricular activity.



Missoula Children's Theatre Residency

Celebrate the beginning of the
NFL Season at Elgin School!

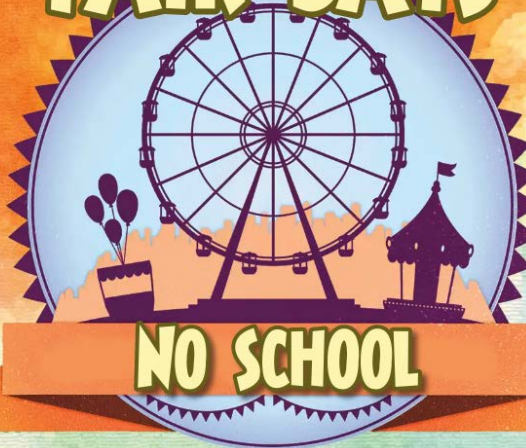


FOOTBALL KICKOFF

Wear your favorite team's jersey or
colors and show your support!
Dress Code Applies

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

FAIR DAYS



NO SCHOOL

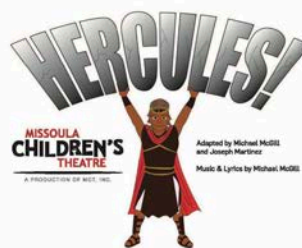
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH &
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE

A PRODUCTION OF MCT, INC.

Save the Date!



Elgin School's Missoula Children's Theatre Residency

December 9th-14th

The performance will be held on Saturday, December 14th at 6:00 PM



A FRIENDLY
Reminder

NO TOYS AT SCHOOL PLEASE

Please support your children by reminding them that toys are not allowed at school. This will help to eliminate distractions during learning times.

Thank You For Your Help and Support.

SCHOOL TIMES REMINDERS

7:30 AM

Gates Open

Supervision begins on campus

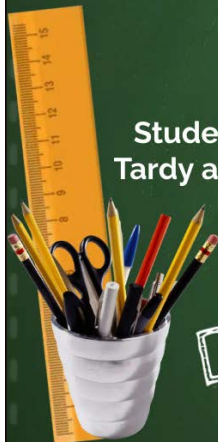
Breakfast available until 7:50 AM

7:55 AM

School Begins

Gates shut

Students arriving after this time are marked Tardy and will need to enter through the office



Don't be late!

