

EYES ON EASTLAKE

Volume 27 Issue 4

January 13, 2022

Principal's Message

Hello Eastlake Families!:

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and welcome everyone back from the Holiday Break! I would also like to offer a warm welcome to our new families who have recently moved into our Eastlake community. I look forward to working with all of you as we work together to aid the success of our Eastlake children.

January begins a long stretch of consistent education at Eastlake with very few calendar interruptions until mid- April. This is a great time to build academic momentum as the students solidify the information they are learning and begin to apply what they have learned as they prepare for the next grade level. One way you can keep their "academic engines" warm through the cold months is to continue to read with your children for a minimum of 10-15 minutes per night. This is a proven practice that maximizes the potential of a child both academically and socially. We thank you for your support in this practice.

Despite many obstacles that are out of our control, Eastlake School has been a model building of education. I can't say enough about how hard the staff here is working to ensure the growth of your children. There is absolutely no doubt that 2022 will be a very successful year for the Eastlake School and community. I share the excitement with the students and look forward to seeing the numerous accomplishments they will achieve. Once again I thank you for your tremendous support and look forward to seeing you soon!

Best Always,

Sebastian Powell
Principal
Eastlake Elementary School

DATES TO REMEMBER

1/14 – School Picture Retakes

1/17 – School Closed

Martin Luther King Jr Day

1/21 – Spirit Day – Wear Blue and/or Gold

2/11 – Spirit Day – Wear Football Clothing

2/14 – Spirit Day – Wear Red or Pink

2/21 – SCHOOL OPEN, Snow Day Make-up



Just a Note

The instrumental music students had an outstanding winter performance. It is our hope that families and friends had the opportunity to see that music is alive and well at Eastlake School. We have already started preparing music for our spring performance and our band students are busy learning numerous theoretical skills. Our beginning students are working on learning their second concert scale and have added eighth notes to their knowledge of note values. They will also begin to acquire knowledge about ledger lines, ties and slurs. Our advanced students are continuing to prepare for a smooth transition into the middle school program. We are beginning to learn about various dynamic and articulation markings as well adding the chromatic scale to our repertoire. We look forward to sharing our success with you this spring.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Perry

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Looking Ahead

Pre-School: Preschool is off to a great start in the new year! This month, we are learning about all things snow and winter. We will be studying winter weather and winter animals. A few of our favorite activities include creating a melted snowman, making penguin crafts and drawings, and reading and sequencing stories about snow and winter animals. We are also looking forward to a game day with our first grade buddies!

The Preschool Team



Kindergarten: We are pleased to welcome the new year! It is an exciting time in Kindergarten. In Phonics, we are using our tapping skills to blend syllables and form CVC words. We will also learn uppercase letters in the coming weeks. In reading, we are reading bigger books to create bigger reading muscles. We will continue to use our Super Reader powers to identify patterns in stories. In Writing, we will write how-to books and understand the importance of sequencing. In Science, we are learning all about wood and paper. Also, in Social Studies, we are excited to explore geography and maps. Thank you for your continued support at home. We look forward to a wonderful 2022!

First Grade:

Dear First Grade Families,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful and restful winter break. We will spend the next few weeks reestablishing our routines and gearing up for more challenging work as first graders!

In reading, we are currently learning all about nonfiction books and how to become smarter about the world around us. Students are learning how to notice different text features and how to study each page to learn as much as we can about a topic.

In writing, students are becoming nonfiction writers! First graders know a lot about many different topics and can teach others with their pictures and words. Some students have even noticed that we can think about topics we are reading about during Reader's Workshop and then write our very own books about that topic.

Your mathematicians are about to study the relationship between addition and subtraction. They will learn all about related facts. Some of our essential questions for the unit include: How do related facts help you find missing numbers? How do you know if addition and subtraction facts are related? How can you use addition to check subtraction?

We want to thank you for your continued support and flexibility during these challenging times.

Best,
Mrs. Breiten & Ms. Hebbelink



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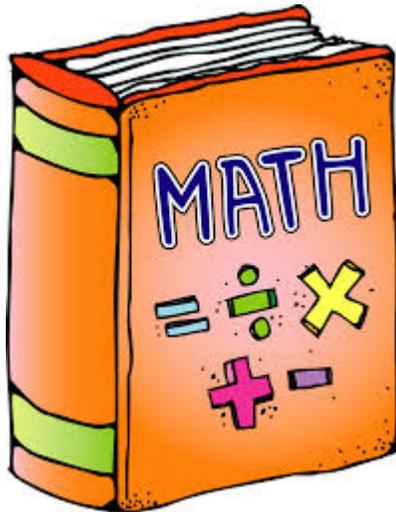
January 13, 2022

Second Grade: Happy New Year 2nd Grade! In Reading Workshop, readers have been learning key text features and keywords on nonfiction topics. In Writing Workshop, writers have been writing nonfiction 'all about' books. We have been working hard to draft, edit, and revise our books! In Foundations, we have been learning about the vowel teams, glued sounds and r-controlled vowels.

We started adding and two-digit numbers in Math Workshop. We have been using many strategies to make a ten to add, and the break apart strategy. Our goal is to get the green light on reflex and practice fact fluency!

In Science, we are learning about matter, mostly solids and liquids. Social studies has us learning US geography, map skills, and states and capitals.

-2nd Grade Teachers



Third Grade: Third grade is setting new goals for the new year! Students looked back at completed writing pieces in Writing Workshop and identified goals they've accomplished. Then, persuasive writers set new goals as they continue to convince their audience to solve problems or appreciate others. In Reading Workshop, students are becoming experts at Mystery Books. Students are great crime solvers as they pay close attention to clues and suspects' motives in order to make predictions. They are also on the lookout for hidden clues and red herrings!

We are continuing with multiplication facts and strategies in Math. Please be sure your child is on Reflex throughout the week to practice their facts. We have completed some fun investigations in Science as we explore the forces of magnetism and gravity. Students learned that magnets have two poles- a north pole and a south pole- and that sometimes magnets attract or repel. Building on their experience with magnetic force, we also explored other pushes and pulls. Did you know that when two forces push on each other with the same balanced force, there is no motion?

Lastly, as we dive into the new unit of First Settlers in Social Studies, students will continue using maps to make connections to what life was like hundreds of years ago. Using timelines, graphs, and charts will also give students the ability to display and expand their knowledge and thinking.



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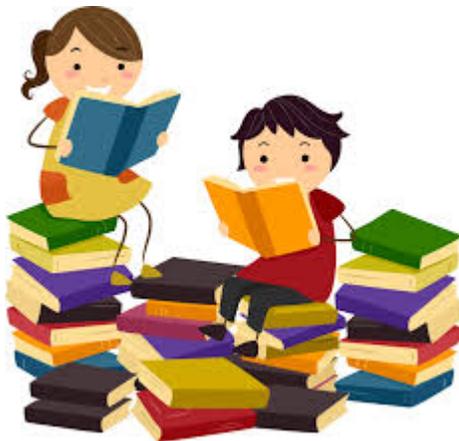
January 13, 2022

Fourth Grade: Happy New Year, everyone! We hope you all enjoyed your winter break and are off to a great start of 2022! In language arts, the fourth grade is beginning to explore the genre of nonfiction. Reading nonfiction is actually very different from reading fiction and requires the students to utilize very different skills and strategies. Some of the strategies we will be working on in class are previewing the text, analyzing nonfiction text features, and identifying text structure. We will then be using our new understanding to help us research a severe weather topic! As the students begin to read more nonfiction both in school and at home, here are five strategies that will help your child read nonfiction successfully:

1. Identifying main ideas and key concepts
2. Recognizing how the text is organized
3. Previewing and predicting
4. Monitoring their comprehension
5. Summarizing

For more information on these, you can check out this article by Kathryn Culbert:

<https://readingprograms.org/blog/5-key-strategies-for-reading-nonfiction/>



Eastlake Media

We are gearing up for some winter fun here in the Media Center!

For your information, there is a Children's Reading Celebration at the Parsippany Public Library! Please see the flyer below:

A flyer for the 'Kids Reading Winter Reading 2022' program. The flyer has a blue background with white snowflakes. On the left, there is an illustration of children reading. The text on the flyer includes:

- Kids Reading**
- WINTER READING 2022**
- Main Branch**: 449 Halsey Road Parsippany NJ 07054, 973-887-5150. Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 6:00pm, Friday and Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm. Curbside Pickup: \$5 Available.
- Lake Hiawatha Branch**: 68 Nokomis Ave, Lake Hiawatha NJ 07034, 973-335-5442. Monday - Thursday 10am - 6pm, Friday and Saturday 10 am - 5pm. Curbside Pickup: \$5 Available.
- Website: www.parsippanylibrary.org
- Sponsored by The Friends of the Library.
- Logos for Parsippany - Free Hills Public Library System and The Library is in Your Community.

Additional text on the flyer includes: 'We hope you'll join us to celebrate Winter Reading!', 'The Winter Reading program will run January to March 2022', 'Read or listen to at least six books and complete the reading program log.', and 'Please return the logs to the Children's Desk to receive your Goody Bag!'.

Second Graders are having fun with the nonfiction unit. We read the book *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins about the "actual size" of different animals. We also listened to the story *Water Hole Waiting* by Jane Kurtz about animals waiting their turn at a water hole in Africa. We also watched a live feed of animals at a water hole in Africa! Kindergarten and first grade are listening to books about winter, snowmen and penguins! We are learning about distinguishing fiction books from nonfiction books.

Upper grades are gearing up for some research projects. We are learning about good resources to get information from!

Looking forward to a fun and productive winter in the Media Center!

Mrs. Gareffa