January 11, 2019

Principal’s Message
I’m a huge fan of the holiday season. The excitement and wonder of children, the time spent with family and loved ones, and the traditions that friends and households honor with each other during the season. Following that is the New Year, another time that is dear to me. I like listening to and sharing stories that mark the passage of time, and I am a believer in the philosophy of fresh starts and setting lofty goals to strive for. Today is January 11th, a time where the holiday season and some of the aspirations folks set at the new year start to lose steam if our hearts are not in the hard work. I am happy to see that our students and staff do not show that decline in drive. I am immensely proud of the academic, behavioral, and social gains our students are making daily, and honored to work with the professionals and families who facilitate this growth. Thank you for being a community who cares for our neighbors and challenges ourselves to grow and improve.

Happy New Year!
- Mr. Michaud

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
January 14: School Board Mtg. @ 6:30 pm
January 15: PTC Mtg. @ 5:30 pm
January 21: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
January 31: Field trip to Bigelow Labs Gr. 1-6
February 12: 4th Grade NAEP Asst. in morning
February 18-22: February Break

Friends and family working at our PTC craft night. Thanks for facilitating this, Mrs. MacCready!
A Peek In PreK

The PreK class has been very busy in the month of December. We made ornaments for the Charlie Brown trees at the Edgecomb Town Hall and learned all about Reindeer. Did you know Reindeer can travel 50 mph? The Reindeer snack we made was delicious and students also made Reindeer using wooden sticks. This activity helped us learn all about triangles and how many sides it has, students then had a chance to shape the sticks into triangles to make the head of their Reindeers. We invited the sixth graders to our classroom to make gingerbread houses. Each sixth grader picked a PreK student to be their partner. They had to work cooperatively to put the roof and walls together and decorate them. They were displayed in the hallway during the Winter concert. We read about the “The Snowglobe Family” and made snow globes with our pictures inside, we also read about Winter being the warmest season, a Hedgehog who wears a sock as a hat, and a mouse going to the movies. We have had a fantastic time learning and growing together so far this year. More of this great learning adventure will continue in January. I hope you all enjoyed the season and your family time together. See you in 2019!!

Warmest Wishes,
-Mrs. Casey
Mrs. Currier's Class Newsletter

1/6/19
Upcoming events:
First come first serve to students grades 3-6
**Science Club** to start one Monday a Month **Topics:**
01/14/19 - How Batteries Work
02/04/19 - Brine Shrimp
03/04/19 - Muscles and Electricity
04/01/10 - Mouse Trap Cars
05/06/19 - Silly Putty

**Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science in East Boothbay**, January 31st field Trip.
A thank you to Nichole Price for Hosting!
The students in grades 1 and up will have the opportunity to visit the lab as a continuation of the kelp growing that has been happening in the Edgecomb School lab.
Activities for the field trip will vary by age to include the following...
Tour of the lab
Activity sheets
Weather Water Tank
Semester program videos - Sea Sketches: The ocean carbon cycle & Sea Sketches
Tour of the kelp and mussel experiment
Water quality testing

12/18/18
Mrs. Currier's grades 1 & 2 students have been working hard and have had a great month. We have been busy with a special field trip to see the Charlotte's Web movie at the theater in Boothbay, and the students put on a wonderful winter concert. In science we have been growing crystals and have been busy in the classroom with various projects getting used to the process for using our project/inventors corner and applying problem solving when a project needs further thought. Great job! In math and literacy we are upon the midyear and some practice books are being sent home as we get ready for January. In social studies we continue to learn about American Heritage as well as Native American Cultures.
Happy New Year from Mrs. Currier's class!
Miss Crocker’s class is excited for 2019 with many activities planned. Their time with Mrs. Doody came to an end in November and they were incredibly sad to see her go but they look forward to seeing her in school when she subs! Thank you, Mrs. Doody, you are the best! In science, the students are focusing on wind and weather. We built anemometers, did an experiment on filtration, and talked about the Beaufort Wind Scale! In Social Studies we are starting a unit on Native Americans, learning about the different regions of North America. In math, we are working on our multiplication facts while learning different ways to solve them and keeping data on our ongoing project called “Length of Day”. We chart the length of every Tuesday and see how it changes as the year progresses. In literacy we are reading, reading, reading! Whether it be an audiobook, read aloud, or free read, students are loving classroom books! On top of that, we are learning about homographs, homophones, and idioms. Miss Crocker is excited to be back, and the students are ready to learn!
Integrated Studies-Mrs. MacCready

The next few weeks are devoted to Fiber Arts in Art Class. It’s the perfect focus during the cold weather. Students in Pre-K through 6 should bring in a bar of soap next week for a special project we’ll make with wool rovings, and if anyone has any yarn, wool, or natural fiber they’d like to recycle you may send them with your child. Another cold weather project will take place in the Library. Pre-K is studying the Arctic and we’re going to construct an igloo and an ice fort! Start sending in clean gallon jugs (water jugs preferably to eliminate odor) and watch what happens in the Library.

Here are some special dates:

January 14-February — The Arctic—send in clean gallon jugs

February and March— Toys Through Time—display of toys for U.S. History, watch future newsletters for news!

Many thanks to everyone for donating your returnable bottles! The entire school enjoyed a Friday afternoon movie complete with popcorn and juice thanks to your generous donations! We are still collecting bottles throughout the winter. Please let Mrs. Gosselin know if you would like Clynk bags.
# January 2019

Lunch Prices: Student Price: $2.85  Reduced Lunch: $0.40  Adults: $6.00  Milk: $0.50

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More Details: aos98schools.nutrislice.com/menu/edgecomb-edy-school/lunch/
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Bring out the leader inside your elementary schooler

Children who are leaders at school develop important skills, such as problem-solving, communication and responsibility. These students are often self-confident, creative, helpful and friendly. That makes their classmates want to work with them.

All children have the ability to become leaders. To nurture your child’s leadership skills:

- **Point out leaders of all kinds.** Talk about successful group efforts, from winning football seasons to community food drives. Remind your child that someone led those groups. Discuss what makes a good leader.

- **Teach her to look at things** from other people’s points of view. Good leaders aren’t bossy or mean. They make people want to work together.

- **Offer her leadership opportunities.** Athletic teams, clubs, Scouts and many other activities can provide chances for your child to lead. At home, let your child lead a family meeting or manage a family project.

- **Don’t push.** Too much pressure can backfire. If your child seems stressed or unhappy, it’s time to lighten up.

- **Set an example.** When you take a leadership role, talk to your child about what you are doing and why.


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Improve conversations with observations

Greeting your child in the afternoon with questions about school can shut down the conversation fast. Instead, take time to look at the schoolwork she brings home. Offer several observations about what you see—what you remember liking about the topic, what it reminds you of, etc. Only then, ask, “What did you learn about this today?”

To see symmetry, fold here

Fold a picture of a butterfly in half, and the two sides match up. That means the butterfly is symmetrical. The fold line is the line of symmetry. Lines of symmetry can be vertical, horizontal—even diagonal.

- Go on a symmetry hunt with your child. When he finds an item he thinks is symmetrical, have him:
  1. **Take** or draw a picture of it.
  2. **Predict** where the line of symmetry will be. (There may be more than one!)
  3. **Fold** his picture along the line. If the sides match, he’s right!

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Offer tips, not answers

Some kids arrive at a hard question in their homework and immediately look to parents for help. Instead of providing answers, help your child learn how to find them herself:

- **Have her skip** the difficult question and answer all the others that she can. Then she should think again about the one she skipped. It may be clearer now.

- **Ask,** “Where could you find out about that? Was there a class handout?” Show her how to use resources like the encyclopedia, too.
Is it a good idea to offer money for good grades?

Q: My son gets average grades, but I know he could do better. Should I pay him for top grades?

A: It's natural to want your child to live up to his potential. While researchers have experimented with paying students for performance, the results don't show much long-term benefit. And there are some serious drawbacks to this kind of incentive.

Paying for grades:

- **Deprives your child** of the satisfaction of learning for its own sake. Mastering new skills and learning new things gives kids confidence in themselves and their abilities as students. When you pay your child for grades, you run the risk of decreasing his self-confidence.

- **Ignores effort.** If your child is giving his best effort, neither of you should worry if he earns a B instead of an A. And if he's trying hard and earns a low grade, you know that it's time to consult the teacher about how to help your child.

- **Reduces internal motivation.** A love of learning will always motivate your child. But paying him shifts his focus to the money. And he's more likely to put his hand out every time he's asked to do something.

Instead of offering cash, help your child build his study skills and focus on what he is learning. Encourage him to recognize and be proud of his new abilities. And praise him for working hard and doing his best.

Are you encouraging resilience?

Failure is scary for kids—and parents. But learning how to bounce back from a failure is a valuable lesson. Are you teaching your child that failure isn't the end of the world? Answer yes or no to the questions below:

1. Do you allow your child to solve problems on her own, even if she may fail?

2. Do you encourage her to think about what she can do differently next time, when things don't go right?

3. Do you admit your own failures, and talk about how to fix them?

4. Do you help your child put setbacks into perspective? “You didn’t ace your test, but you earned a higher grade than last time!”

5. Do you teach her to win graciously and lose cheerfully?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are showing your child how to rebound from failure. For each no, try that idea.

"With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts."

—Eleanor Roosevelt

The new year is a new chance to achieve goals

If your child set some goals in September, but didn’t really follow through, January is the perfect time to start again. To make this the year your child learns how to achieve his goals, encourage him to:

1. **State** his goal. Have your child write it down and post it where he will see it.

2. **Plan** how to meet the goal. What specific steps will he take?

3. **Talk** about the goal with others. This builds commitment. Have your child tell the teacher his goal.

4. **Carry out** his plan, one step at a time. If problems arise, your child can discuss possible solutions with you.

Review the rules together

Sometimes children get in trouble at school because they don’t remember the rules. Review the school rules with your child. Talk about how they are needed to keep the school a safe, peaceful and orderly place where kids can learn. Let your child know that you expect him to follow the rules.

Stay flexible when your child solves problems

When you find yourself stuck in traffic, you can sometimes choose another route. Getting to your destination matters more than which road you take.

When your child has a problem to solve, instead of giving him a road map (first do this, then do that), remind him of his destination: “You need to find a way to finish your report even though your classmate has the book you need.” He may not select the solution you would. But if he arrives at his destination honestly, let the solution stand.

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Parent Quiz

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Helping Children Learn®

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January 2019

1. With your child, invent a special holiday just for your family.
2. Encourage your child to start a journal this year.
3. Have your child name a food she loves. Help her learn more about where it comes from.
4. Make an appointment to spend some one-on-one time with your child this month. Write it on your calendar.
5. Ask your child to help you plan three healthy breakfasts.
6. Encourage your child to be a critical TV viewer. Watch programs with him and ask questions like, "Why do you think the character did that?"
7. Play a card game such as Go Fish with your child.
8. If you don't have time to read to your child at night, read in the morning instead. It's a real "power breakfast."
9. What is your child's favorite time of year? What does she like about it?
10. Have your child draw something that happened in school today. Then talk about it.
11. Ask your child about the qualities he looks for in friends. Talk about why values are important.
12. Have your child help you organize something, such as a closet.
13. Compliment your child on a recent accomplishment.
14. Model good manners for your child. Say, "Please pass the ..." and "Thank you very much."
15. Watch a funny video with your child. Then have her draw a comic strip showing what it was about.
16. Pick a category, such as colors. Have your child pick a letter. How many colors can you each name that begin with that letter?

Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

17. Help your child record herself reading a story.
18. Watch a TV show with the sound off. Ask family members to make up the dialogue.
19. Teach your child to make paper snowflakes.
20. Encourage your child to sort his books by subject.
21. Help your child make an "I am special" scrapbook. Add photos and mementos throughout the year.
22. Ask your child to measure the dimensions of objects in your house. How many six-inch long items can she find?
23. Pretend to go back in time with your child. Reenact an event together.
24. Ask your child to help you do a household chore today. Remember to thank him when he finishes.
25. Plan a weekend activity the whole family will enjoy.
26. In the car, ask your child to add up the numbers on the license plates she sees.
27. Have family members try doing activities with the hand they don't favor.
28. Teach your child how to sew on a button.
29. Allow a few minutes after the light is off at bedtime for quiet conversation with your child.
30. Have your child teach you something he is learning in school.
31. Read a story to your child. Later, ask her to retell it from memory.
CLOSING THOUGHTS...

Don’t forget to keep collecting and sending in your Box Tops for Education. Next count is for the end of February. Help your child’s class win a popcorn party!

AOS 98 App

If you have a smart phone (an iPhone or an android), you should go to the App Store on your device and load our AOS 98 App. It’s free, and it allows you to easily access Edgecomb Eddy’s website. By loading our app, you’ll be able to see Edgecomb Eddy news, search for documents, read live feeds, and receive push notifications. The push notifications would be used to alert families around important events or happenings, such as delays or cancellations, transportation changes, or reminders for events happening on that day. Loading this app is a great step to staying as easily informed about Edgecomb Eddy as possible. Please take a moment to load this app today.