

ELMWOOD EXPRESS

TEACHING AND LEARNING ARE VISIBLE

Kevin Seibel, Principal

Kim Martini, Assistant Principal

Feb. 10, 2017

PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING

Parent-Teacher conferences are next week and will be held on Feb. 15 & 16 from 3-7 PM. Research shows that parents actively involved in their child's learning see their child grow faster and it helps develop life-long learning skills they will need as they mature. If you haven't already scheduled your time to meet with your child's teacher, please do so at your earliest convenience. I hope your conversations about what and how your child is learning at school are showing changes in what they are saying to you.



Third graders in Mrs. Mangiamele's class work together to measure mass

AFTER-SCHOOL PLAYGROUND REMINDER

Please make sure that all children playing after school on the playground are supervised by an adult. This will ensure the safety of all students, as supervisors are only on-duty until 3:12 p.m. each day. If your child is not picked up by 3:12 each day they will be sent to the main office to call to be picked up. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter!

PATT NEWS

A big THANK YOU to everyone that helped and participated with the Fun Fair!

From Nicole Velazquez:

I would like to personally thank the Fun Fair Committee, Dianna Akers & Michela Shipinski, Maria Lockwood and Jennifer Cardona for all their hard work, without their help this night would have not been possible. This year our raffle was a huge success and I would like to thank the faculty who donated wonderful baskets and items. A special thanks to the faculty, school board members and parents who volunteered. We are looking for parents to join next year's fun fair committee, please contact me or the PATT if you are interested.

Thank you for all your support. Any questions please contact Michela Shipinski at 708-845-6446 or email elmwoodpatt2319@outlook.com



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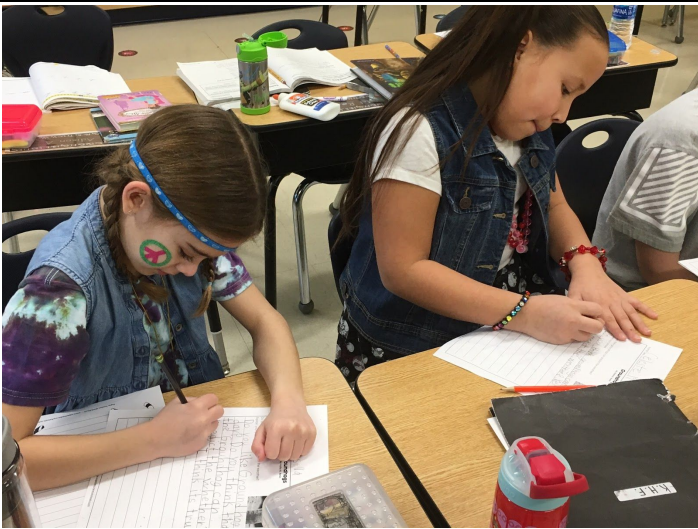
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WORDS OF WISDOM

Happy Friday Panthers and Parents! The theme for the month of February is “Sharing Similarities/Celebrating Differences.” This week we focused on tolerance. Tolerance refers to an attitude of openness and respect for the differences that exist among people. Tolerance means respecting and learning from others, valuing differences, bridging cultural gaps, rejecting unfair stereotypes, discovering common ground, and creating new bonds. Tolerance, in many ways, is the opposite of prejudice. Like all attitudes, tolerance is often taught in subtle ways. Even before they can speak, children closely watch — and imitate — their parents. Kids of all ages develop their own values, in great part, by mirroring the values and attitudes of those they care about. Things parents can do to help kids learn tolerance include:

- Notice your own attitudes. Parents who want to help their kids value diversity can be sensitive to cultural stereotypes they may have learned and make an effort to correct them. Demonstrate an attitude of respect for others.
- Remember that kids are always listening. Be aware of the way you talk about people who are different from yourself. Do not make jokes that perpetuate stereotypes.
- Answer kids' questions about differences honestly and respectfully. This teaches that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.
- Acknowledge and respect differences within your own family. Demonstrate acceptance of your children's differing abilities, interests, and styles. Value the uniqueness of each member of your family.

Have a wonderful weekend, and remember to come to school on Monday prepared to Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be ready for class! With something to think about, this is Ms. Martini. Make it a great weekend – or not. The choice is yours!



Second graders in Mrs. Bilotti's class write an opinion piece on whether they believe groundhogs can predict the weather



ELL classes introduced and began using Lexia, a personalized reading curriculum for all students. The students are excited and love it!



Second graders from Ms. Katsantonos's room get their 80's groove on during last week's "Decade Day!"

BE RESPONSIBLE, BE RESPECTFUL, BE READY

