

The Eureka Elementary Orbit

November 30 2023

Important Dates

December 4- Holiday Concert-

December 8- Report Card Being Sent Home

December 22- Classroom Holiday Celebration

December 22- Last Day of School Before Break

December 25- January 5 Holiday Break No School



HOLIDAY CONCERT

At

Eureka Elementary School

December 4, 2023

6:15pm * K-2 Grades

7:00pm * 3-5 Grades

7550 N. Welling Road

St. Johns, MI 48879

Capturing Kids Hearts

Over the course of the last 2 school years teachers and school staff have been trained in Capturing Kids Hearts which is a character based curriculum focused on the social emotional wellbeing, relationship- driven campus culture and student connectedness. We are looking for parent feedback using the following link: <https://iheartckh.com/squrl/krfget3s>



Holiday Celebrations

Our Winter Holiday Celebration is coming soon! You are invited to join us on Friday, December 22 from 3:00- 3:45. There will be fun activities planned by your child's teacher during this time. Your student's teacher will be communicating details as the date approaches.



Update from Mr. Fillwock



November was a month to be thankful at Eureka Elementary. Students have been engaged in a variety of skill building lessons in reading, math and writing. Some highlights from my classrooms visits this month were listening to the 4th graders read persuasive letters to the class, seeing a number talks (math lessons) with the fifth graders, and listening in on Kindergarten lesson on what is fair and not fair. I am truly grateful for all of our staff, students and families or Eureka Elementary!

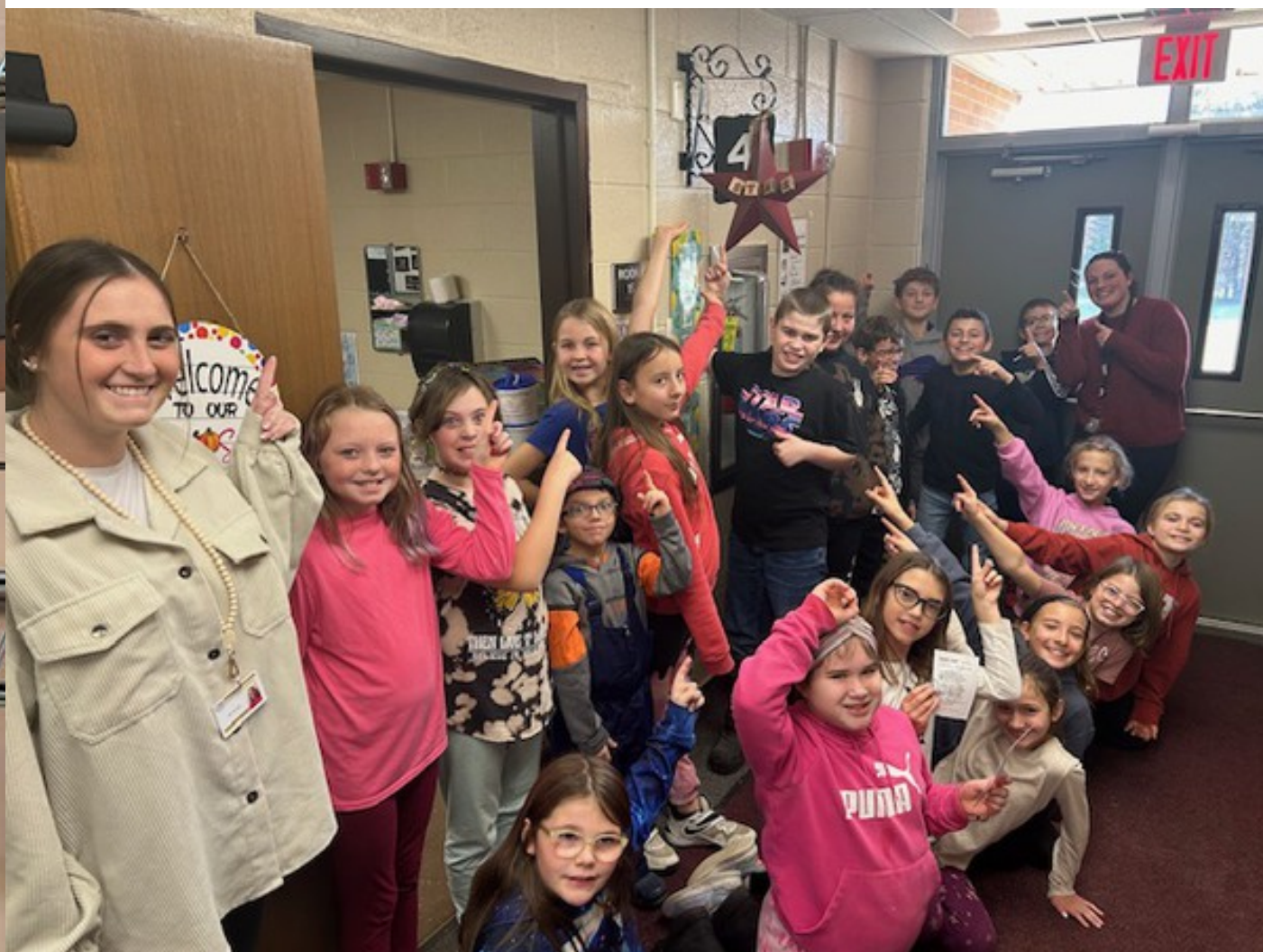
The end of November has brought the colder weather. Please make sure students are prepared to go outside for Recesses and PE class (gloves, hats, winter coats, boots and snow pants) As the handbook reads: "**When the temperature and/or wind chill is zero or below, students will stay indoors for recess. When the temperature is above 50 degrees, students may remove coats.**" Mr. Matulis has some great activities to teach student in this winter. This week I saw some of our students having the opportunity to ski on the little snow we did have.

Students have been earning a variety of recognitions this month by modeling our STAR behavior. With those STAR expectations and classroom social contracts as a guide, students have earned **1671 Rocket Cards** in the month of November. The **4th Grade** class was recognized as a class 8 times this month for being a great example as an entire group. They earn class star which will hang above the doorway of their classroom for the next month.

Rocket Card Counts by Grade-

K-187
1st- 345
2nd- 301
3rd - 183
4th- 344
5th- 311

The following students were identified as students who modeled Outstanding Star Behavior over the last month of school: Karter Gartside, Addy Wilson, Elisa Cook, David Gingrich, Paisley Favor, and Lillian Foster.





Eureka Elementary Student Handbook

Classroom News



Kindergarten

Kindergarten has been busy with learning short vowels and retelling stories from beginning to end. In math we are starting our shapes unit. We are also going to start a unit on writing letters. We are excited to begin all this new learning before the new year!



1st Grade

First grade has been learning about "how to" stories and gathering information to write their own story. In math, we are working with number and word problems within twenty. We are excited to begin learning about the past, present, and future in social studies!

2nd Grade

In 2nd grade we are working on splitting objects into halves, fourths, and thirds. We are also in the middle of writing a 5 page personal expertise writing.



3rd Grade

The third graders are working on informational writing and learning about informational text. Students have been learning a lot about text features. Soon we'll be learning about the history of Michigan and how it became a state. In math, we are working on story problems and figuring out what the problem is asking us to find.



4th Grade

In 4th grade we have just begun our new social studies unit on Human Geography. We will be learning all about immigration/migration, Ellis Island, push/pull factors and how humans have changed and adapted to different environments. This will tie into our writing unit where we will be creating diaries/journals from an immigrant's point of view.



5th Grade

Check the latest edition to Fifth Grade News to see what has been happening in 5th grade!

[11/10/23](#)

[11/22/23](#)



Library

This week in library, students reviewed how ABC order keeps a library organized and helps readers find books. K-2 students had an ABC read aloud and engaged with ABC activities and games. Students in 3-5 played a Scoot game. With a partner, they scooted from station to station to put groups of words into alphabetical order. They had to “scoot” when the timer went off and go to the next round.

Family Talking Points:

1. How are libraries organized? (Answer: Alphabetical order by author last name for most sections.)
2. How do you put words in ABC order when they start with the same letter? (Answer: look to the second, third or fourth letter to see which comes first in the alphabet. For example: bridge comes before broccoli and bride comes before bridge)

Art

Students in 5th grade are in the middle of a ceramics unit in the art studio. They learned about the history of African Face Jugs and used their new knowledge as inspiration for their creations. They created their jugs using handbuilding techniques of pinching, pulling, and rolling coils. They could choose to create a jug using a human or animal face. We are so proud of the creativity the fifth graders exhibit in the studio with Mrs. Parsons.



Suggestions Box

If you have any feedback or suggestions for Eureka Elementary, click box below. Thank you!

[Suggestion Box](#)

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

8:55 am- Students May Arrive

9:10 am - School Day Begins

4:07 pm - Dismissal

Drop Off

1. If you are dropping your student off please stay in line and pull your vehicle up to the next available adult. Staff will begin letting students out of cars at 8:50.
2. Doors Open at 8:55. Students will use the east entrance to come into the building.
3. If your student is late to school and an adult is not out front, please go to the front door and press the button to be let in and sign in, in the office.

Pick Up

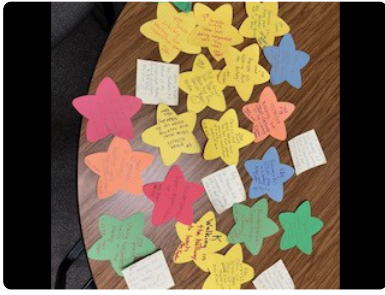
1. STAY IN LINE and **PULL AS FAR FORWARD AS POSSIBLE** so there is less traffic in the road.
2. Please pull as far forward as you can (closest to Welling Rd.). Your student will be called from their line and come to your vehicle.
3. Please plan to have your child enter your vehicle through the passenger side of the vehicle.
4. We would like to reduce the number of walk up pickups for safety purposes.

Buses

Buses will use the back drive of the school in both morning and afternoon. Avoid these drives

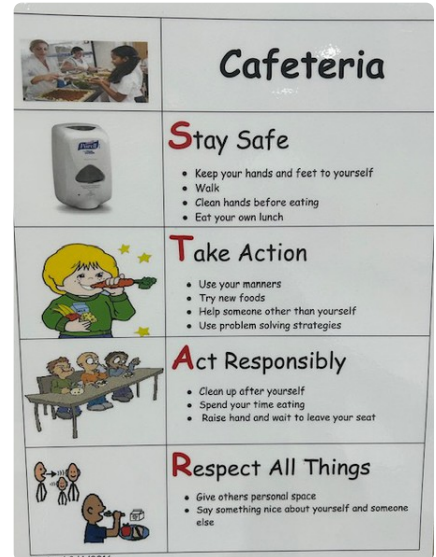


STAR Behavior Expectation



- Stay Safe
- Take Action
- Act Responsibly
- Respect All Things

More details on pages 39-41 in Student Handbook (Link Below)



Food Service

[December Breakfast Menu](#)

[December Lunch Menu](#)

Mental Health Resources



In response to parent concerns about mental health and well-being, St. Johns Public Schools is partnering with [ParentGuidance.org](https://www.parentguidance.org) to deliver presentations developed by licensed therapists. This month's topic is:

"How Parents Can Prevent Suicide"
Wednesday December 13, 2023

6:30-7:30 via Zoom
Register in link below



COOK CENTER FOR
HUMAN CONNECTION



Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: Bullying: Stop the Cycle - Mental Health Series - St. Johns Public Schools, MI. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.

Over the past several years bullying is a growing problem. Learn from Dr. Melissa Lopez-Larson as she teaches parents how to identify bullying, how to stop the bullying cycle, and strategies for prevention.

🔗 cookcenter.info

Mental Health Resources

PTO Corner

Meetings held 2nd Monday of month @ 6:30 pm in the Eureka Library

December 11, 2023 is the next PTO meeting.

eureka-rocketspto@gmail.com

Also for more information on upcoming event see:

<https://www.facebook.com/EurekaPTO/>



PTO will be hosting a Holiday Shopping Event to purchase small gifts for parents on December 19 and 20, 2023. Student will have the opportunity to shop and purchase small items to give for the holiday's.

Eureka Specials Calendar

Contact Information

Andy Fillwock

Email: fillwocka@sjredwings.org

Website: <https://www.sjredwings.org/our-schools/eurekaelementary/>

Location: 7550 N. Welling Rd, St. Johns, MI, USA

Phone: (989)227-4901

A

Andy Fillwock

Andy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

