



SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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sunset.park6.org

Sunset Elementary Cody



February

AT A GLANCE

February 3-13 - 3rd grade swimming lessons at the Rec Center, 3:40-4:45 p.m.
February 4 - 2nd grade field trip to the Center of the West
February 6 - Mrs. Holly Baker, guest reader in 1st grade
February 8 - Sunset Drum Ensemble performs at CHS basketball games, Sweitzer Gym
February 10 - Dental screenings
February 11 - K/1 music program, *A Barnyard Moosical*, Sweitzer Gym, 6:30 p.m.
February 14 - 1st grade Valentine scavenger hunt!
February 17 - No school for President's Day
February 18 - Sunset PTO meeting, 3:30 p.m., Art/Science room
February 20 - Math-tastic Thursday, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Art/Science room
February 20 - 3rd grade field trip to the Center of the West
February 20 - Title One's Families Love Reading Night! Sunset Library, 6-7 p.m.
February 27-March 5 - Book Fair at Sunset Library
February 28 - 5th grade trimester awards
February 28 - TOWN!
March 3 - Parent- Teacher Conferences, 3:15-7 p.m.
March 5 - Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3:15-7 p.m.



There is no school **Monday, February 17**, for President's Day. We will see everyone back in school **Tuesday, February 18** at 8 a.m!



SWIMMING LESSONS

Free swimming lessons are being offered by the Rec Center to Sunset 3rd graders from February 3 through February 12, 2020. Lessons are, Monday through Thursday the first week, and Monday through Wednesday the second week.



Due to class sizes and to maximize the time allowed for teaching swim classes, there are two different time slots; 3:40 to 4:10 p.m. and 4:15-4:45 p.m. Both classes will have a maximum number of 15 children. Enrollment is on a first come first serve basis. Those enrolled in the first class will go directly onto the pool deck for their lessons. Those enrolled in the second class will meet on the pool deck at 4:15 to begin their lessons. Children are responsible to meet their swim teachers on the pool deck; instructors will not search the Rec Center for enrolled children. At the conclusion of the swim lessons children may stay and use the Rec Center facilities until parents arrive to pick them up.

Rec Center registration forms and information about the swimming lessons were sent home in Monday folders **to be completed and returned to the Rec Center**. A bus will transport students from Sunset School to the Rec Center, parents will pick up their student after the lesson. **Please make sure your student leaves home in the morning with their swimming clothes and a towel!**



February is National Children's Dental Health month. Dental screenings take place Monday, February 10. Thanks to Dr. Jeremy Hill and Dr. Jamie Hill for volunteering their time at our school. Please contact our school nurse,

Windy Smith, if you do not want your child to participate in the screenings. She can be reached at 587-4279.

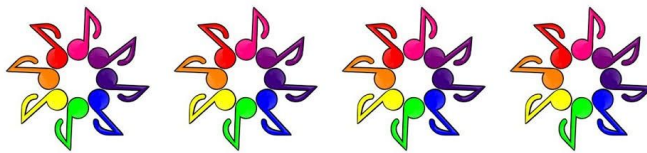


Fabulous February Music Classroom News:

A note from Miss Pinney :)

Our second scheduled performance for the Sunset Drum Ensemble is Saturday, February 8th at Sweitzer Gym. We will be performing at halftime during both games. If you have any questions about loading time for drums or performance times, please call me (587-4279). Notes have been sent home with all participating students.

It's almost time for our Kindergarten and 1st grade musical program, "*A Barnyard Moosical*". Remember to mark your calendars for **Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30 pm**. All students will need to be in costume, at the Wynona Thompson Auditorium, in their seat, by 6:15 pm. Anyone who is willing to help with makeup, please contact me. If you have any questions about the program or costumes please call me and I will get back to you as soon as possible. (587-4279)



Tidbits from Title I

This month's link for parents has all kinds of math activities from practicing math facts, to working on different grade level benchmarks. Enjoy!

<https://www.splashlearn.com/math-skills/math-facts>



Math-tastic Thursday at Sunset on February 20, will also include a tour of Sunset School beginning at 9:30 for those families at Math-tastic Thursday!



It's Spring Book Fair time at Sunset Elementary! This year's theme is the Scholastic Book Fair Jungle. The book fair opens February 27 and goes through March 5 in Sunset's library. You can also shop the book fair online at Scholastic.com/fair. The book fair will be open during select hours during the school day, as well as the nights of parent teacher conferences on March 3 and March 5. Hours vary depending on the day; choose a time that works for you. See you there!

Book Fair Hours

Thursday, Feb 27

1:00-4:00 p.m.

Monday, March 2

8:15-9:00 a.m.

1:30-2:30 p.m.

3:15-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4

8:15-9:00 a.m.

1:30-2:30 p.m.

3:15-7:00 p.m.

Friday, Feb 28

10:00-11:00 a.m.

1:00-2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3

8:15-9:00 a.m.

1:30-2:30 p.m.

3:15-7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 5

8:15-9:00 a.m.

1:30-2:30 p.m.

3:15-7:00 p.m.

NEWS FOR INCOMING KINDERGARTENERS!

Kindergarten Registration, April 2, 8 a.m. to 4:30 pm, Sweitzer Gym

Kindergarten Readiness Camp, Monday through Thursday, June 8-25, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm, at Sunset School

FROM OUR TITLE / TEACHERS

We're adding a new family reading opportunity to our Sunset Title One events!. On **Thursday, February 20th**, from 6 to 7 p.m. our librarian



Jennisen Lucas will be in the Sunset Library, showing parents some ways to add expressive voices and comprehension checks when reading with their child. Afterward, parents and family members can practice reading stories with their student and/or ask questions of Jennisen, Linda, and myself.

This will be a short and casual evening with books, hot chocolate and cookies. Students may wear PJ's and bring a book of their own or take one from our selection to share with parents. Our goal is to help parents and students experience reading together as an opportunity for relaxing and sharing quality time, while strengthening some important academic skills.

A flyer was sent home with your student, RSVP's will be accepted through February 14. Come and Enjoy !



Save the date!

Bingo for Books family night
Thursday, March 26th

Home & School

CONNECTION®

Working Together for School Success

February 2020

Sunset Elementary School
Mr. Jay McCarten, Principal



SHORT NOTES

Measure up

Who can make the longest "inchworm"? Your child will practice measuring with this game. Take turns rolling a die. Using a ruler, measure a "worm" out of clay to match the number rolled (roll a 2, make a worm 2 inches long). Add to the worm on every turn. The player with the longest worm after five rolls wins.

Make time for family meals

Research shows that family meals can improve your youngster's well-being and help him do better in school. Look over your schedules each Sunday to find times when everyone can eat together. If one parent is working late on Wednesday and can't make dinner, for instance, plan to meet for a nice breakfast instead.

DID YOU KNOW?

Asthma is a leading cause of school absences. If your child has asthma (or another chronic medical condition), talk to her doctor and the school nurse about ways to ensure good attendance—and good health. Examples might include avoiding triggers like dust and mold and taking medication as directed.

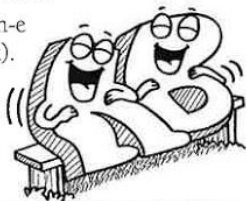
Worth quoting

"The most wasted of all days is one without laughter." *e. e. cummings*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: How many letters are in the alphabet?

A: Eleven (t-h-e a-l-p-h-a-b-e-t).



We respect each other

Being respectful is more than just using good manners—it means treating people the way you want to be treated. Keep these ideas in mind to help your whole family focus on respect.

Use peaceful tones

It's a fact that shouting often leads to more shouting. Ask your child to speak in a normal tone to show respect for the person he's talking to—and for everyone around him. If he starts yelling, speak to him in a whisper. He'll likely lower his voice to match your volume. Or if he shouts from another room, wait until he comes to you so he learns that you don't respond to yelling.

Avoid making assumptions

Your youngster can respect others' feelings by giving them the benefit of the doubt. For example, encourage him to rephrase an accusation like "Who took my water bottle?" Instead he could ask, "Has anyone seen my water bottle?"



That's more respectful because it won't make anyone feel accused or defensive.

Accept different opinions

With your child, role-play ways to respect opinions that are different from his own. He might start a sentence with "That's one way to look at it, but I think..." or "A lot of people would agree with you. In my opinion..." If a conversation is getting heated, he could simply say, "Let's agree to disagree and talk about something else."♥

My studying tool kit

Developing strong study skills now will help your youngster throughout elementary school and the rest of her school career. Suggest that she add these tools to her studying tool kit.



- **Color:** Let your child use highlighters to color-code her notes for easy reference. Perhaps she'll highlight dates in yellow, people's names in pink, and vocabulary terms in blue.
- **Recordings:** Encourage your youngster to record herself asking questions about the material. She can hit "play" to hear the questions and "pause" to give each answer.
- **Sticky notes:** Your child could write a one-sentence summary of each textbook section on a sticky note, then use the notes to bookmark the section.♥

Here's how I use math!

Give your child real-world reasons to use math—she'll see connections between what she's learning in school and what she enjoys in everyday life.

Do a craft. Maybe your youngster would enjoy knitting or making friendship bracelets. In each case, she'll count and work with patterns. Or she could explore shapes and symmetry with



tissue-paper mosaics or origami. Let her tell you about the math in her project.

Examples: "The pattern for this hat is knit 2, purl 2, knit 2, purl 2." "My mosaic has hexagons, right triangles, and trapezoids."

Plan an outing. Whether you're running errands or going to the zoo, your child can use math to plan your schedule. Say you have three hours for a zoo trip. Your youngster wants to see the parrots, and her brother wants to visit the meerkats. Ask her to calculate how

long it will take to drive to and from the zoo, then figure out how long you can spend at each exhibit. Remind her to allow time for walking from one area to the next. ♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

A vivid vocabulary

"Draw a *magenta* bird with a *plethora* of polka dots and a *quirky* tail playing a *harmonica*." Would your youngster know what to draw if you gave him those instructions? Try this fun art project to help him learn new words.

1. Together, flip through a book or magazine and pick out words that you each think look interesting.

2. Write the words on separate slips of paper, and mix up the slips in a bowl.

3. Take turns pulling three words from the bowl and using them to describe something for the other person to draw. *Note:* Check a dictionary if you don't know what a word means.

4. Let your child describe his finished picture to you—he'll practice using the new words. ♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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PARENT TO PARENT

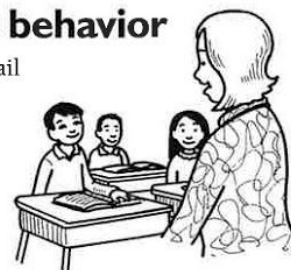
Good classroom behavior

Yesterday I received an email from my son Simon's teacher saying she had to move his seat because he talks too much in class. I replied to ask whether there should be a consequence at home, too.

Mrs. Roberts said she emailed me because she wanted Simon to know that she and I work together to help him succeed. She wasn't asking me to punish him, but she suggested that I might speak to him.

Simon complained that his friends start the conversations. I pointed out that he didn't have to respond, and I asked him what he could do next time. He said he will keep his eyes on the teacher or his work and talk to his friends at recess.

I'm glad his teacher told me what was happening. Now she and I will stay in touch to help Simon behave better in the future. ♥



Q & A

Your child's IEP review

Q: I have a meeting next month to review my daughter's Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

Any tips on how to get ready for it?

A: The first step is knowing what's in your child's IEP. Ask for a copy if you don't have one. There's a lot of information in there, so before the meeting, try to read over her goals and her accommodations (tools and strategies to help her). Jot down

questions about anything you don't understand, and ask for explanations during the meeting.

Also, write down what you want to tell the IEP team about your daughter. Perhaps she struggles with certain subjects at homework time or sometimes has meltdowns.

Finally, plan to take notes during the meeting. That way, you can refer back to what you wrote and follow up with your child's teachers. ♥

