

# EAGLE EXPRESS

Phone: 413 423-3326

Internet – <http://www.erving.com>



**Wednesday – November 2**  
“Savings Makes Cents”

**Thursday, November 10**  
Veterans Day Program – 9:30 gym

**Friday, November 11**  
No School – Veterans Day

**Monday, November 14**  
Grade 1 Field Trip – Eric Carle Museum

**Tuesday, November 15**  
School Council Meeting– 3:30 pm  
School Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm

**Wednesday – November 16**  
“Savings Makes Cents”

**Thursday – November 17**  
Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Staff and Students

**Friday – November 18**  
End of First Trimester

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday – November 23-25**  
No School - Thanksgiving

## News from the Principal's Desk:

Dear Families and Friends of Erving Elementary School,

Tap tap tap echoes from down the hall. After a few seconds a drum roll, soon to be accompanied by the sound of horns, clarinets, flutes, saxophones and a variety of bells and whistles. Our band this year is growing in number. 43 students in total from grades 4 through 6. This sudden surge in interest generates a demand for instruments that students can use on a daily basis. We are working things out for the moment, however it is difficult to have to share an instrument, particularly if it is your turn to practice and the person you are sharing with has left the instrument

at their home ☺. School Committee has given us the go ahead to plan for an increase in equipment. In the meantime, if you are aware of anybody who has an instrument resting quietly in a box in the corner of a room, please ask them if they would consider donating their instrument to the school. I know that Ms. B.C. would be extremely grateful, and will take great care of their prized possession.

Erving Elementary School administered PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) assessments in grades 3-6, for the 2015-2016 school year. PARCC is a different measuring stick than MCAS. The assessment includes challenging questions designed to measure critical-thinking, writing and multi-step problem solving. You recently received a copy of your child's detailed score report, while educators have received summary data of students' scores. Most schools are assigned a level from 1-5. EES remains a level 2 school. The lowest performing schools across the state are assigned 4-5.

PARCC is only one indicator of a child's academic performance. There are many ways that we evaluate a student's academic progress during the school year. Formative assessments, observations, work samples, projects, conferences and unit assessments are continually being done to ensure that all students receive the support and enrichment that they may need. PARCC does not report each child's unique skill set and diverse strengths. Artistic, scientific, kinesthetic and athletic talents are certainly not included in the numbers and labels listed. EES values all the components that each child brings to the community. We understand that though the test does give us some useful information around how to reflect on instruction, curriculum and meeting the needs of our students, it is not the complete and singular measure of your child's or our school's performance.

As you may know, Massachusetts has evaluated PARCC, and the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has decided to replace MCAS and PARCC with the next-

generation MCAS. This test will be given for the first time in the spring of 2017 and will use items from both PARCC and MCAS, along with items developed specifically for the Massachusetts test. Students in grade 4 are required to take a computer test, while grades 3, 5, and 6 will take a paper test. As we have done with previous assessments, we will use the spring 2016 data to reflect on our students' areas of strength and on areas where they may need additional support.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

Jim Trill

---

### News from After School:

Fall is finally here with cooler weather, shorter days and Halloween just around the corner! On Monday, we will have a special Halloween party that is sure to be a blast! Please make sure your child brings his/her costume!

Check out what else is on the calendar for next week:

**Monday, 10/31:** After School Halloween Party (bring your costume!)

**Tuesday, 11/1:** STEM Experiment: Rocket Balloons

**Wednesday, 11/2:** Pumpkin Games

**Thursday, 11/3:** Leaf Magnets

**Friday, 11/4:** Glow-in-the-Dark Paint Art

Please note that here in After School, we LOVE running around in the gym AND playing outside. Now that the colder weather is here, it is especially important that your child has proper footwear (sneakers and/or winter boots, depending) as well as warm clothing such as winter coats, hats, gloves, etc.

Thank you and have a wonderful week!

---



**To all of our dedicated veterans:** We would like you to be our special guest at our Veterans Day program on Thursday, November 10 at 9:30 am in the Erving Elementary School gym.

Please call the school at 413-423-3326 to let us know if you would like to attend our program and inform us of any special accommodations you may need.

**We would also like to invite family members of our veterans, parents/guardians and community members** to join us in honoring our veterans. Our assembly will include student escorting our honored guests to the gym, the Pledge of Allegiance, a performance by our chorus, as well as various other selections that will honor our guests.

---

## Original Art Works

### coming soon

The logo for "Original Works". It features a large red heart shape on the left. To the right of the heart, the word "Original" is written in a red, cursive-style font, and the word "Works" is written below it in a blue, cursive-style font.

## All-School Sing – October 27

We had an enjoyable All-School Sing singing and listening to many Halloween songs.



Thank you to our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who led us in a fun Halloween song, which was sung in a round.



*In observance of the*  
**Veterans Day Holiday**

*there will be*

**No School on**  
**Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**