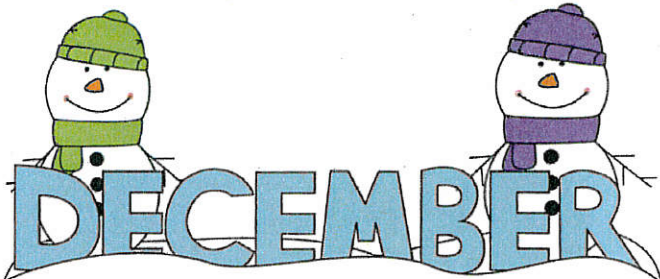


EAGLE EXPRESS

Phone: 413 423-3326

Internet – <http://www.erving.com>



Wednesday, December 13th

Holiday Bazaar for Grades PK 4, 2,3,4 and 5

Friday, December 15th

Holiday Bazaar for Grades PK 3, K and 1

Monday, December 18th

PTO Meeting 5:30 in Conference Room

Friday, December 22nd

Holiday Concert and Cookie Exchange

10:00am in the Gym

Early Dismissal: 12:15pm

No After School Program

Monday, December 25th – Tuesday, January 2nd

Holiday Recess, Happy Holidays



The Holidays are upon us and for some of our local families this is a stressful time of the year. Here at Erving Elementary School we have families in need and a Giving Tree has been set up in the front lobby to help aid our families during the Holiday season.

The tree has mittens on it; each mitten has an item on it with a specific request from one of our family members. You can come to the school to take a mitten and purchase the item. We are asking that all items please be returned to the school by December 18th so we can get them to their final destinations for Christmas day.

Items should be delivered to the school unwrapped please. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Giving Tree Program please feel free to leave it with the office. Those funds will be used to purchase requested gifts or gift cards will be given.

Please Note: The Mitten tags need to be taken off by an adult and not one of our students. Thank you all for your help and support to make our Erving Families Holidays special.

After School Program



Belonging • Encouragement • Respect

Hello from After School,

Getting closer to the holidays the students are working hard on some new ornaments for their trees. We also spent some time making wrapping paper bags for the 6th grade Bazaar this week. Cooking class this week was ham and cheese crescent rolls. What a hit with the kids ☺. Lego robotics class will continue on Thursdays for the next few weeks. The older children are enjoying working with Mr. Smith. Christmas carols have been a popular afternoon activity, as we get closer to the Holiday Concert. Next week the students will be enjoying borax ornaments, eye spy holiday theme, kid approved trail mix making and holiday bingo and Friday Free Day.

Michelle Fisher

Early Release for December 22nd

Students will be dismissed at 12:15pm



News from the Principal

Dear Families and Friends of Erving Elementary School,

It is reassuring that our local police officers take the time to build a rapport with our children, so that when they meet our police officers out in public, they recognize them and feel comfortable talking with them. This week, Sergeant Rob Holst came along to talk with our Preschoolers about his role as a police officer here in the community, including how he uses his police cruiser. Rob did a wonderful job gearing his talk to their level and responding to the many questions asked by our students. A lot of the children got to sit in his cruiser and push the siren and lights! Thank you Sergeant Rob ☺

During All School Sing I got the opportunity to recognize a number of students, who have certainly made a difference in the lives of others. As you may have read in last week's newsletter, our grade 1 and 2 students went on a walk with Monte Belmonte in support of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. We are all extremely proud of the work that our students undertook in raising over \$450. This amount of money translates to 1350 meals, which will be provided to those members of our community who are battling food insecurity. Following on from the march, 3 students enlisted the help of their parents so they could continue to get their message of caring for others, out into the greater Franklin County community. Malachi B. went along to his mother's workplace and talked to all of the residents about food insecurity. Malachi raised \$65 during his time there. Jackson and Reid D. marched up and down Main Street in Greenfield, Jackson as a firefighter and Reid as an astronaut. When asked why they dressed up, both boys responded, "Monte said that more people will notice you if you are dressed up". They were certainly right! The boys made an additional \$75 to add to the school total. I was also able to recognize Lorelai G. who continues to walk the streets of Erving, picking up trash. Lorelai wants everybody to enjoy a clean and healthy environment. Brooke T. demonstrated that no matter how small the gesture, the outcome for the other person can be huge. One morning she reached out to help her classmate and make the start of their day so much more welcoming. Thank you to so many Erving Elementary School students for providing us with these inspirational messages at holiday time.

Have a lovely weekend.

Sincerely,

Jim Trill
Principal



100 Mile Club® Awards and Update

Congratulations to Gavin, Jameson, Daniel, Ethan, Everett, Jaiden, Blake, Maximus and Avery (not in photo) for reaching the 25-mile goal already this year.



Big Congratulations to Jameson who has 57 total miles.

Morning walking dates for December will be **Thursday the 14th and Friday the 22nd**. Please call Gail Dubreuil, the school nurse at (413) 423-3326 or email dubreuil@erving.com if you have any questions



Hello Staff, Teachers, Parents, Caregivers, and Students!

PTO is excited to announce that last month's meeting brought in many new faces, allowing us to elect new officers and discuss fresh and exciting ideas for potential fundraisers and events going into 2018!

Our next meeting will be on **Monday, December 18**; 5:30pm dinner and 6:00pm meeting. Free Childcare and dinner will be provided!!

We understand we are in the midst of the Holiday Season, and your to-do lists are never ending and your social calendars are booked. However, we would like to encourage you to contact us with your thoughts and/or concerns to discuss at future meetings when you are unable to attend in person. We may be reached at ervingpto@gmail.com or message us via Erving Elementary PTO Facebook Page. Also, please feel free to introduce yourself in person if you see us out and about, as present elected board members are also very new to the EES community



Hi! I'm Jess Allen, second year EES parent to preschooler Blake and first grader Chase. We moved to Erving last year and EES has made our transition feel like home; it truly takes a village to raise a child! I'm excited and motivated to grow the village as part of the PTO in supporting our students, parents, staff and teachers!



Hi! I'm Cate Avery-Jagla, first-year EES parent with our preschooler Abraham. I'm really excited to be serving alongside parents and educators on the PTO. Our family loves to hike, play, and read together. I enjoy painting, making body products, growing and preserving vegetables, and also work at Responsive Classroom. Happy to be a part of this community! Cate Avery-Jagla, Secretary



Hello, I'm Dulcie McAndrews, first-year EES parent with preschooler Ella. I have lived in Erving for 3 years however; my husband has lived here his entire life. Erving has been a wonderful place to live and I look forward to serving the PTO, school and community to the best of my abilities.



All School Sing

Wednesday we enjoyed another amazing All School Sing. The students were getting their singing voices tuned up and ready for the Holiday Concert on December 22nd at 10:00am.

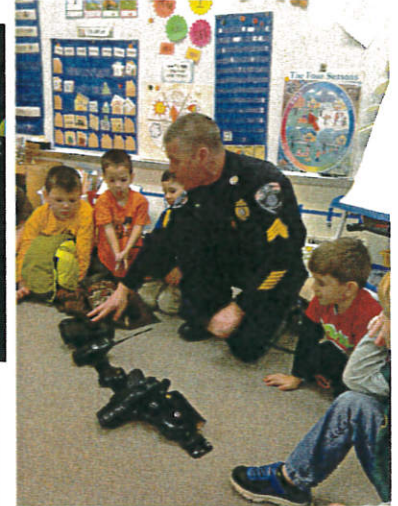


Preschool News



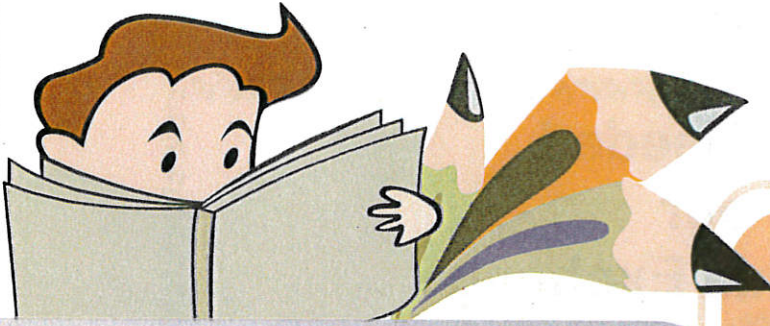
Special thanks from Preschool to Sergeant Rob Holst from the Erving Police Department for visiting both preschool classes on Monday. He talked to the children about the importance of his job and also showed the children his tool belt and talked about the items and why a policeman might use them.

The children also enjoyed seeing the cruiser and hearing the siren, seeing the lights, and the megaphone in the cruiser.



As the weather keeps changing please be sure that you are dressing your students appropriately. The students participate daily in outdoor recess. Therefore, proper clothing is essential for the student to remain warm during their outside time. Please help your student to wear a winter coat when needed, long pants, hats, mittens and, soon enough, boots.

Mr. Burnett's Class



Wonder

Both grades 5 and 6 recently finished reading the New York Times Bestselling novel, *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. This realistic fiction book deals with issues of acceptance and courage, among other things. The plot follows the main character, August "Auggie" Pulman in his first year of school, which isn't until fifth-grade. Auggie is unique in so many ways, not the least of which is being born looking incredibly different than most kids.

This book was actually a gift to me from a former student a few years ago, and I first read it to my children. If ever there was a family read-aloud book about the power of teaching kindness, respect and acceptance, this is it. Try it as a read-aloud with your own children. I promise you won't regret it!

After reading the book the 5th and 6th grade classes had the pleasure of attending *Wonder*, the movie, just recently released. What an amazing educational experience it was for students to see this beloved book, with its important themes, come to life.

CAN WE BE RATIONAL?

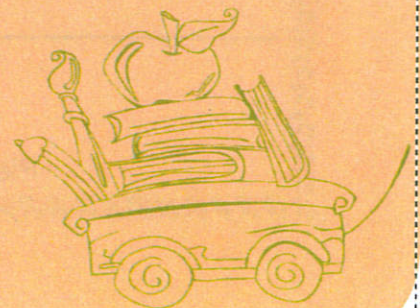
In math, students have been studying rational numbers, estimating sums, differences, and products of fractions. Students have been investigating these concepts and developing their understanding of them through working in partners on real-world setting problems. Partners and small groups collaborate, disagree, discuss and prove their thoughts to each other, and to the whole class.

BONING UP ON KNOWLEDGE

In science, students have been studying the human body, specifically the skeletal and muscular system. Students researched how their muscular system works through labs in which they reached muscle exhaustion. Students also investigated the earth science connection to physical science about how minerals from the earth are present in their bones. Without giving too much of this lab away to future students, it's safe to say that bones can be manipulated.

WOULD A TURKEY MAKE A GOOD PET?

Sixth-graders have done a lot of writing this year, and one of their persuasive essays was to convince others if a turnkey would make a good pet or not. They had a lot of interesting discussion about this around Thanksgiving. Do you think it would make a good pet?



Cookies Needed For our Annual Cookie Exchange



**We would like to invite you to our annual
Holiday Concert and Cookie Exchange.**

Erving Elementary School - December 22 at 10am

All students preschool - 6th grade will perform
in the Holiday Concert.

Following the concert, our cookie exchange will take place, and our
students and guests can participate.

Hundreds of homemade cookies are donated by our families, and
staff. What a sight it is to see! Because of this everyone can take
home a special treat.

Please cut and return.

COOKIE EXCHANGE DONATION

We are asking for each family to donate two-dozen homemade
cookies for our celebration

YES- my family will donate two-dozen homemade cookies for the
cookie exchange on December 22.

Family Name

Please return the slip by Friday, December 15th



Erving Elementary would like to invite
you to our:

Holiday Concert and Cookie Exchange

Friday, December 22, 2017
10:00am – gym

You are invited to our Holiday Concert and Cookie Exchange. All classes in grades Preschool-6 are participating in addition to a performance by our band and chorus students.

Following the concert our cookie exchange will take place. Our families and staff donate hundreds of homemade cookies, because of this, everyone can take home a special treat. What a sight it is to see!



Dismissing your child after the Cookie Exchange and before lunch?

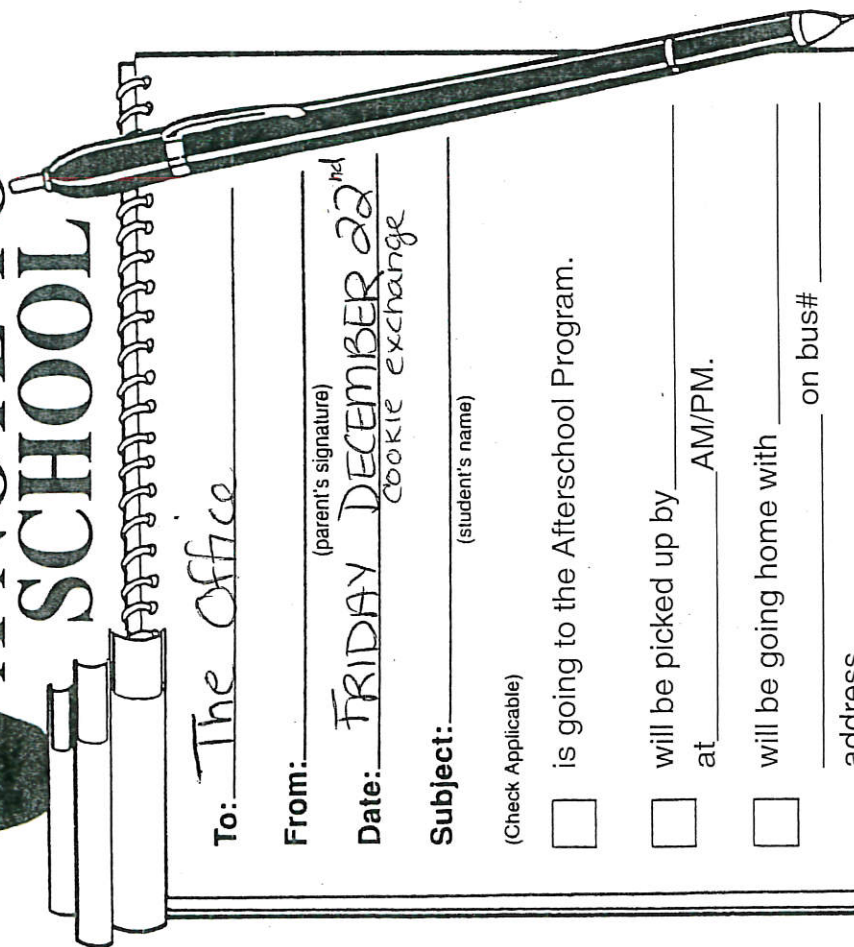
For your convenience, in an effort to make it easier to let us know you are dismissing your child early on Friday Dec 22nd, we have provided a copy of our "note to School. Please complete and return to school ASAP.

Schedule for the days events are as follows:

- 10:00am concert
- Following concert-Cookie Exchange
- All guests will collect cookies at the table in the hall by the computer lab.
- All students will go back to class, a volunteer will let the classes know when to proceed to the appropriate cookie table
- 11:45 – Lunch for all students – bag lunches: Ham and cheese sandwich.
- 12:15 – Students dismissed



A NOTE TO SCHOOL



To: The Office

From: _____ (parent's signature)

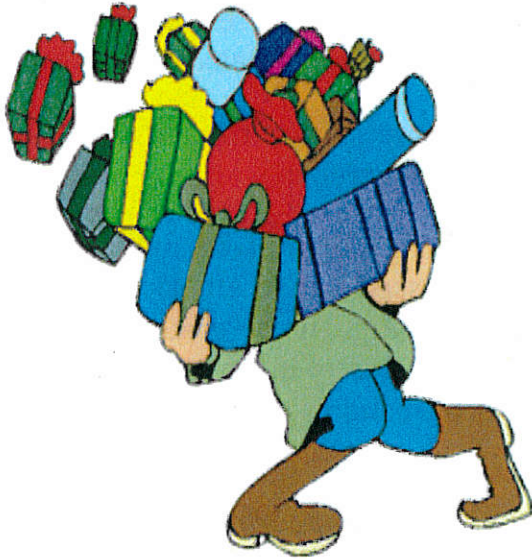
Date: FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd
COOKIE EXCHANGE

Subject: _____ (student's name)

- (Check Applicable)
- is going to the Afterschool Program.
- will be picked up by _____ at _____ AM/PM.
- will be going home with _____ on bus# _____ address _____
- is returning to school after an absence of _____ days due to illness.
- (other) _____

Support The PTO

Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of the Month at 6:15 p.m.



6th grade Holiday Bazaar!

Dear parents,

It's almost time for the annual 6th grade holiday bazaar!

Classes will be shopping on Dec 13th and 15th.

We are still accepting donations of gently used items through Dec 14th in the front lobby.

We also need:

- wrapping paper
- tape
- gift bags
- tissue paper

Thank you for all of your support for this wonderful holiday tradition.

"Studying Erving Long Ago" with local historian and local resident Sara Campbell, teaching 1st and 3rd graders to be *History Detectives*

Thanks to the *Erving Local Cultural Council*, Sara Campbell returned to EES to work with 1st & 3rd graders during November.

Sara spent 4 sessions with each class looking at Erving's boundaries and its neighbors, its rivers and hills. The classes also discussed Native American presence before the incorporation of the Town of Erving. The 3rd graders focused on the 1870 maps and learned about early industry in Erving, and the people who lived here. 1st graders learned about the schools of the 1800s and learned to draw with improvised quill pens.

The Erving Cultural Council is a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



1st graders experiment with "quill pens" made from drinking straws



3rd graders use hand-held magnifying glasses History Detectives with old maps



The Erving Recreation Commission presents....

UPCOMING DATES

Morning Walking Club

Meet in the EES Foyer for indoor walking.

Starts at 8:00 and ends at 8:30

December 14 & 22

January 4, 8 19, 25 & 29

If your walker hits the first milestone
by January 29, they will be invited to
our pizza party on January 31st.

25
miles!!



100 MILE CLUB

