



Eagle Express

SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Phone: 413-423-3326

<http://www.erving.com>

SPOOKY EDITION

ERVING, MA

OCTOBER 20, 2023



Tuesday, Oct 31

All School Sing

2:30 pm



Wednesday, Nov 1

Savings Makes 'Cents'

Thursday, Nov 2

Bingo for Books

5:30 pm

Thursday, Nov 9

Veterans Day Assembly

10 am

Friday, Nov 10

Veterans Day

No School

Monday, Nov 13

Picture Re-Takes

Tuesday, Nov 14 -

Thursday, Nov 16

Conferences, PK - 6

EARLY DISMISSAL 1:15

NO AFTER SCHOOL

Tuesday, Nov 21

School Committee Meeting

7 pm

Wednesday, Nov 22 -

Friday, Nov 24

Thanksgiving Break

We are bringing back our

Veterans Day

Celebration!

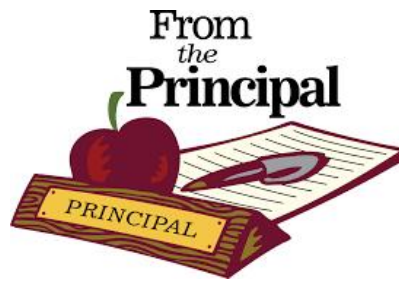
Nov 9, 10:00 am

If you know a veteran,
we would like to honor
him or her!

Please email Jennifer
Fay Smith at

jennifer.smith@erving.com

Or call the office at 413-
423-3326.



Dear EES Families,

This week marks the approximately sixth week of school. This is always a good milestone and it's also a great time for kids (and grown-ups!) to reflect on what we've achieved and what still remains to take on. The essential ideas of the Responsive Classroom approach to social learning see the first six weeks as a time for introductions, both to people and new routines for the whole school. When I was teaching in a primary classroom, it became one of the most important pieces of learning as we began our year together. I see this introduction of new routines, and of new people, happening in classrooms here in EES, although to a different degree. It's remarkable to me to think that all of these students travel up through the grades with each other! This is certainly one way to build a strong community!

Goals encouraged by Responsive Classroom in the first six weeks will include, to varying degrees because of the age of the kids in the rooms:

- *Creating a climate of warmth and safety*

 - Teaching the routines of the day and the expectations for behaviors

- *Introducing kids, especially the younger ones, to the environment we work in*

 - Establishing expectations about the ways that we will co-exist together

One can see how natural it would be to transfer those expectations from the classroom to the school environment at large. Building an inclusive, warm, environment as a school with high expectations for both social and academic growth will always be the goal for an elementary school, and I see it happening here at EES. We are always learning, even as we make mistakes in the process, for that will always encourage growth.

Enjoy your weekend!

David



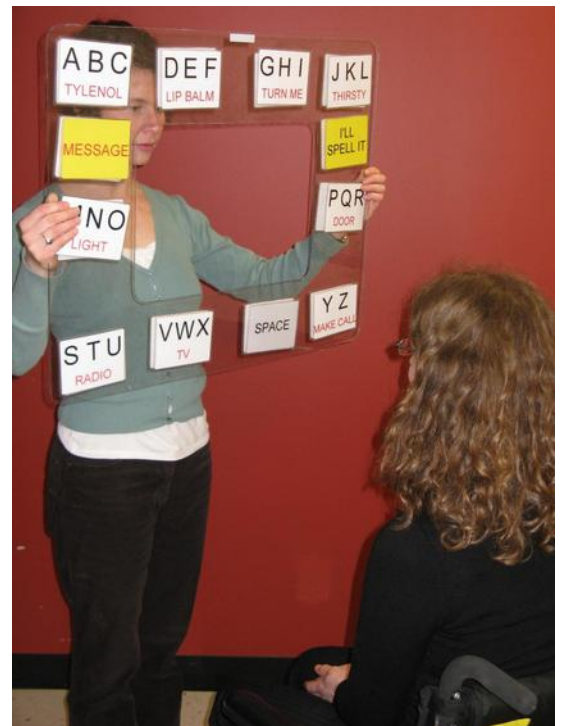
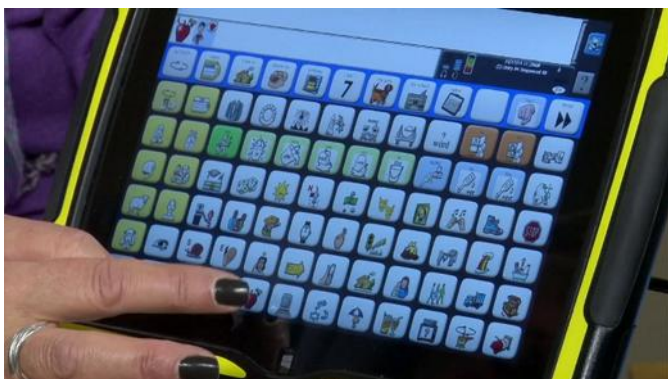


OCTOBER IS AAC AWARENESS MONTH!

People communicate in a lot of different ways. Speaking is a common way that people share their thoughts, ideas, and feelings. Sometimes, people use other ways to communicate like sign language or AAC devices. AAC, known as Augmentative and Alternative Communication, are strategies, tools, or devices to help them speak.

Augmentative communication is the use of something along with speech to make one's message clearer. Pictures or a letter board are examples of tools that one can use when speaking.

Alternative communication methods are used when a person can not speak, is minimally verbal, or when their speech is not understood by others. The person may use devices when they want to share their ideas, thoughts, and feelings.



To learn more about Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) checkout these websites:

<https://isaac-online.org/english/aac-awareness/>

<https://aacinstitute.org/what-is-aac/>

<https://www.assistiveware.com/learn-aac/what-is-aac>

AAC

&

you

{AAC 101}



What is alternative augmentative communication? How does it work? Why would an SLP recommend AAC? Let's start with what AAC is and what it is not.

AAC is...

...communication. AAC allows for your child to be able to access the world around him. It allows for the back and forth communication for your child. that you and I experience verbally every day. It doesn't look, or sound, quite like our conversations, but it's communication all the same.

...a means to an end. For some AAC users, communication devices aren't a forever tool. It can be used for a few months or a lifetime. It can also be assigned to a child for a variety of reasons as well. Even if it's a temporary assignment, AAC helps aid in communication.

...a helper. "My child doesn't need AAC—I understand them just fine". While you may understand your child in the way they communicate, as may other caretakers, not everyone in their community does. AAC opens up independence, and the chance to communicate with others in restaurants, stores and school.

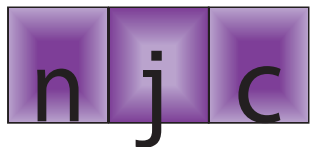
AAC is not...

...giving up on speech. If the AAC your child uses is high-tech or low-tech, use of a device does not mean your child is giving up on verbal communication. The more modalities, or forms, of communicating a child has, the more successful a communicator they can be. Also, the use of images or voice-output can act as a form of prompting for your child to use verbal speech or gestures. AAC is a tool and a helper when it comes to communication, not always a take-over.

...a cure-all. Just like toddlers experience language development, AAC users do, too. Learning time with the device, for both you and your child, is a real thing and that learning takes time. Your SLP is there to help guide you during that learning process, and it requires everyone's determination and motivation to make AAC successful. Remember it's just as new for your child as it is for you. If it seems overwhelming, that's perfectly normal.

...for "big kids". Research shows that there's no pre-requisite skills for children who use AAC to have, which is great news! This means any child of any skill level can learn to use some kind of AAC.





National Joint Committee for the Communication Needs of Persons With Severe Disabilities (NJC)

COMMUNICATION BILL OF RIGHTS

All people with a disability of any extent or severity have a basic right to affect, through communication, the conditions of their existence. Beyond this general right, a number of specific communication rights should be ensured in all daily interactions and interventions involving persons who have severe disabilities. To participate fully in communication interactions, each person has these fundamental communication rights:

1. The right to interact socially, maintain social closeness, and build relationships
2. The right to request desired objects, actions, events, and people
3. The right to refuse or reject undesired objects, actions, events, or choices
4. The right to express personal preferences and feelings
5. The right to make choices from meaningful alternatives
6. The right to make comments and share opinions
7. The right to ask for and give information, including information about changes in routine and environment
8. The right to be informed about people and events in one's life
9. The right to access interventions and supports that improve communication
10. The right to have communication acts acknowledged and responded to even when the desired outcome cannot be realized
11. The right to have access to functioning AAC (augmentative and alternative communication) and other AT (assistive technology) services and devices at all times
12. The right to access environmental contexts, interactions, and opportunities that promote participation as full communication partners with other people, including peers
13. The right to be treated with dignity and addressed with respect and courtesy
14. The right to be addressed directly and not be spoken for or talked about in the third person while present
15. The right to have clear, meaningful, and culturally and linguistically appropriate communications

For more information, go to the NJC website at: www.asha.org/njc

Brady, N. C., Bruce, S., Goldman, A., Erickson, K., Mineo, B., Ogletree, B. T., Paul, D., Ronski, M., Sevcik, R., Siegel, E., Schoonover, J., Snell, M., Sylvester, L., & Wilkinson, K. (2016). Communication services and supports for individuals with severe disabilities: Guidance for assessment and intervention. *American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 121(2), 121-138.

BINGO

for BOOKS

First card
free!

Thursday
November 2nd
5:30pm-6:30pm

Cafeteria

Cards
\$1 ea.



Snacks and pizza for sale!



Brought to you by P.I.E.E. Proceeds benefit the students of Erving Elementary School



All Veterans are cordially invited to attend, and be recognized for their service, at our

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

Thursday, November 9, 2023
9:00 coffee hour (no food will be served)
10:00 Assembly

Erving Elementary School
28 Northfield Road
Erving, MA 01344

Please R.S.V.P. with Pat Winn at 413-423-3326,
or via email at jennifer.smith@erving.com

Parents and Guardians, We Need Your Help!

Every successful school involves having parents connected to the school community.

Three Erving parents can play a very important part at EES.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school council is a very important group of parents that work with community and school personnel throughout the year. EES would like to have three parents working on this council. Please see the list of responsibilities below.

School Council:

- Consists of the principal, parents, teachers, and community members
- Four main responsibilities:
 - Assist with the adoption of educational goals for the school that work with local educational policies and state standards
 - Identify the educational needs of the Erving students
 - Assist with implementation of school improvement plan
- New and current parents encouraged to participate; election of interested people held on the October PTO meeting
- Any interested community person who has no child in the school is welcome to join; contact the school at 423-3326
- Meeting dates and times determined by the newly formed council
- Terms of office discussed at the first meeting

Parents and community members who are invested in working to foster positive goals for the school are encouraged to consider the school council. If you are interested in a position on the school council, please complete the information below.

A school council comprised of dedicated individuals is a wonderful addition to the school community.

If you are interested, please contact Pat Winn, the administrative assistant by phone 413 423-3326, email: winn@erving.com, or send a Class Dojo message.

Thank you for your support.



Families in Nature with the Hitchcock Center

Interactive, in-person family program providing inquiry based environmental and outdoor education for small groups to explore nature in the fall. Each session includes movement, song, nature exploration and a story book with a focus on learning from nature. Program best for children 2 - 6 years of age with an adult.

Katie Koerten, Educator at the Hitchcock Center will be facilitating the programs.
This program will include 3 sessions:

****REGISTRATION REQUIRED- Group size limited.**

Registration link: <https://form.jotform.com/212215759871158>

Wednesdays, 1:30pm

**We will meet at the Quabbin Overlook, BEHIND the New Salem Fire Station
at 33 South Main St, New Salem. FOLLOW the signs!**

- September 13th, Colors of Nature
- October 18th, Squirrel Stories
- November 1st, You Are A Raccoon!



Contact Gillian @ CNC with any questions 413-422-0170 (call/text)

"Funded by a grant from the New Salem Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, offered in collaboration with the Community Network for Children a program funded by the CFCE grant from the MA Department of Early Education and Care, and the New Salem Library.



Hitchcock Center
EDUCATION FOR A HEALTHY PLANET



ERVING PUBLIC LIBRARY

TEENS:

Come tell us what
YOU want here at the library...
while enjoying a **FREE**
ice cream sundae!



Looking for YOUR ideas on:

- future teen events
- stuff you can check out at the library
- how the Teen Room should work

**MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 13TH
3:30-5PM**

If coming from TFHS,
take Bus Route A with a
parent/guardian note if needed!



The Library's
Teen Webpage



2 Care Drive, Erving, MA 01344
library@erving-ma.gov
413-423-3348

ERVING PUBLIC LIBRARY

Afterschool Activities

Any day we're open, you can find:

- Coloring activities
- A scavenger hunt
- Board & card games
- Video games in Teen Room for kids 11+
- Research help from a librarian
- Access to computers & printing
- Snacks provided by community members and the Friends of the Library



Wednesdays Afternoons:

**A family movie & crafts
in the MakerSpace with Jean**



***Caregiver supervision required for
all kids 10 years old and younger.***

2 CARE DR. OFF ROUTE 63 ERVING-MA.GOV/LIBRARY



Union 28 Community Network for Children Program September - December 2023

The Union #28 Community Network for Children program is funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant awarded to the Union #28 Schools by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, Union 28 schools and donations from the community.



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

OCTOBER



Shutesbury
Tales & Tunes
@M.N. Spear
Mem Library
@10am.
2nd

New Salem Tales
& Tunes @ New
Salem Library
@10am
3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Wendell Library
Playgroup @10am
4, 11, 18, 25
Leverett Library
Playgroup
@10:30am
4, 11, 18, 25

CNC Children's
Closet
8:00am-Noon
5, 12, 19, 26
PJ StoryTime @
Erving Public Library
6:00-6:45pm
12th

Shutesbury
Tales & Tunes @
Shutesbury
Elementary
School @10am
13, 20, 27

Visit the **Wendell**
Free Library on
Saturdays from
10-3!



Family Playtime
10:00-11:30
@Erving
Elementary
School
22nd

NOVEMBER



New Salem Tales
& Tunes @ New
Salem Library
@10am
7, 14, 21, 28

Wendell Library
Playgroup @10am
1, 8, 15, 22
Leverett Library
Playgroup
@10:30am
1, 8, 15, 22

CNC Children's
Closet
8:00am-Noon
2, 9, 16, 30
PJ StoryTime @
Erving Public Library
6:00-6:45pm
16th

Shutesbury
Tales & Tunes @
Shutesbury
Elementary School
@10am
3, 17

Visit the **Leverett**
Library on
Saturdays from
10-3!



Family Playtime
10:00-11:30
@Erving
Elementary
School
19th

DECEMBER



Visit the **M.N.
Spear Memorial
Library** on
Mondays from
11-1 and 3-6!

New Salem Tales
& Tunes @ New
Salem Library
@10am
5, 12, 19

Wendell Library
Playgroup @10am
6, 13, 20
Leverett Library
Playgroup
@10:30am
6, 13, 20

CNC Children's
Closet
8:00am-Noon
7, 14, 21

Shutesbury
Tales & Tunes @
Shutesbury
Elementary
School @10am
1, 8, 15, 22

Visit the **New
Salem Library** on
Saturdays from
10-2!



Family Playtime
10:00-11:30
@Erving
Elementary
School
17th

M.N. Spear
Memorial Library
10 Cooleyville Rd
Shutesbury

New Salem Library
23 S Main St
New Salem

Leverett Library
75 Montague Rd
Leverett
Wendell Library
7 Wendell Depot
Rd Wendell

Children's Closet
4 Montague Rd,
Leverett
Erving Public
Library
2 Care Drive, Erving

Shutesbury
Elementary School
23 W Pelham Rd
Shutesbury

We love our local
libraries!



Erving Elementary
School
28 Northfield Rd
Erving



QR Code
Registration

Contact the Community Network for Children. 413-422-0170 call/text
budine@erving.com Most programs are drop-in with registration optional. Special events marked with an * require registration.
<https://form.jotform.com/212215759871158>

Please note: Ongoing programs may not occur during school vacations or holidays. Please check the schedule!
If inclement weather is a concern, contact CNC, check Facebook or the CNC Website for info.

Find us on

ERVING PUBLIC LIBRARY
2 CARE DRIVE, OFF ROUTE 63, ERVING, MA 01344



PJ STORYTIME

WITH U28 COMMUNITY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN

2nd Thursdays*

6-6:45 pm:

October 12: Elephant, Piggie & Pigeon Too!

November 16: Pete the Cat and friends

January 11: Hurry, Hurry Drive the Fire Truck

February 8: Let It Snow

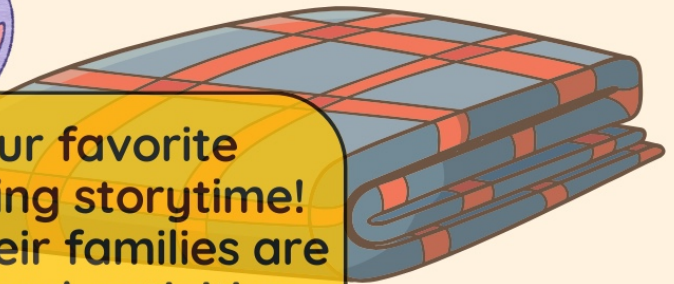
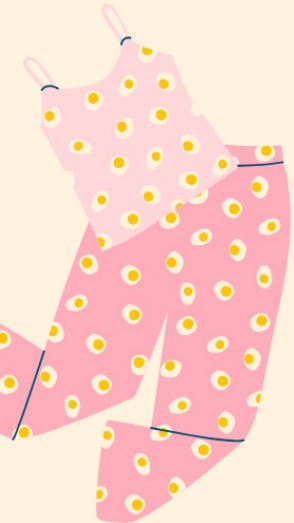
March 14: Teddy Bear Picnic

Registration
requested for
planning
purposes



*except for November
due to the holiday

Use QR Code to Register or
[https://form.jotform.com/
231995324350154](https://form.jotform.com/231995324350154)



Come join us in your favorite
pajamas for an evening storytime!
Young children and their families are
welcome! Story themed-activities
sponsored by CNC.



Contact the Erving Public Library or
CNC at budine@erving.com with any questions



THE UNION #28 COMMUNITY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE COORDINATED FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (CFCE) GRANT AWARDED TO THE UNION #28 SCHOOLS BY THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE, AND DONATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY.



Dear Erving Students and Parents:

Welcome to the new school year. We hope it's been a pleasant experience so far.

Another positive experience is the "Savings Makes Cents" Program run in partnership with Erving Elementary School and Greenfield Savings Bank. It is a program piloted by the commonwealth of Massachusetts's Treasurer's Office and is actually quite simple.

Briefly, a representative from Greenfield Savings bank will come to the school at a designated time which allows the students to bank. Students need to have an existing account with Greenfield savings bank and the intent of this notice is to identify those families wishing to participate in this program.

More complete information will be provided to those parents or guardians who complete the information listed below and return to the school office. If a student already has an account with Greenfield Savings bank or is a returning saver, no necessary action needs to be taken other than bringing in banking on your designated day. Please contact any of the representatives in the Turners Falls Office if there are any specific questions we can help you with.

Best wishes on a new school year,

Sheila Harrington

Assistant Branch Manager

413-775-8272

sharrington@greenfieldsavings.com

Briggs Doxzen

Banking Advisor II

413-775-8344

bdoxzen@greenfieldsavings.com



Savings Makes Cents Program

I am interested in learning more about the program or I am ready to open an account. Please contact me at the phone number or email address below. I have provided the name of the student enrolling in the program as well as the school they attend.

After I submit this form, I understand a member of Greenfield Savings Bank will reach out to me to discuss next steps for setting up a free account for my child.

Parent Name:

Address:

Phone Number or Email:

Student Name:

School Attending:

For any additional questions or comments, please ask for the Turners Falls branch at (888) 324-3191