

News From the Nest

March 2nd, 2023

Eaglets to Eagles We Soar on the Wings of Knowledge

Campbell's Corner

Dear Eagle River Elementary Families,

We are nearing the end of the 3rd quarter and our 30-minute extended school days and are fast approaching spring break! Next Friday, March 10th is an in-service day. Teachers will be working to complete report cards, which will be sent home on Thursday, March 23rd. Grades should never be a surprise! Please make sure you are checking Q/ParentConnect regularly. Your child's teacher should have been sharing any concerns they have with your child's progress before report cards.

A HUGE thank for sending in snacks for our kiddos! It makes these longer days so much easier to get through. We will continue to collect any snacks you may want to send in either directly to your child's classroom or to the front office for teachers to access.

After Spring Break, we are in a long stretch to May with no more days off. The end of March brings state testing for our 3rd-6th graders. After we return from break, we will send updated testing information.

Next Tuesday, David Pettibone, who was awarded the public art commission for the music room access ramp area, will be working with some of our students as models for the mural he will be creating. The mural will take the development of music throughout the grades. He will be working on the mural over the summer with expected completion in August!

Have a wonderful and relaxing spring break. We will see you in the 4th quarter!

Dawn

ERES Monthly Calendars

Attached to this newsletter is a detailed calendar for March. There are several events with times as well as after school clubs, scheduled events, closure dates, and more. Please pay close attention and mark your personal calendars with these important dates.

Climate & Connectedness Survey

Below is a link to ASD's Climate & Connectedness Survey. The information collected from this survey provides us with valuable information on what we are doing well and how we can improve. Clicking the link below will bring you to Paranoma Education's homepage for the survey. Please choose Eagle River Elementary from the drop-down selection to make sure the information is directed to ERES.

The survey window closes Friday, March 25th. Thank you for your valuable feedback!

[ASD Climate & Connectedness Survey](#)

Picture Day Coming on March 28th!

Extended School Day & Calendar Changes

Anchorage School District previously announced that the school day will be extending an extra thirty minutes from January 30th through March 9th to make up time missed during snow days. This means school will now dismiss students at 4pm instead of 3:30pm. Please keep in mind this also means students who ride the bus home will arrive half an hour later than they usual do.

We will resume our normal schedule after we return from Spring break on March 20th.

Parent Pick-up

We have received numerous complaints from our neighbors across the street and MTA about families parking in the cul-de-sac, private side streets, and in MTA's lot during parent pick-up. Residents of the neighborhood across the street and MTA are becoming increasingly frustrated with parking issues, litter being dumped on the street, mail boxes and drive-ways being blocked, and the general disregard for someone else's neighborhood. On top of this, cars are being left unattended while parked in the side streets of the neighborhood.

Our school has ample parking for pick-up. We have also partnered with the First Baptist Church down the street; families are welcome to use their open lot across the street on Monte Street. The School Resource Officer will be driving through the neighborhood at dismissal time to enforce this, ticketing illegally parked cars as necessary.

We have a ROCKSTAR team of parent pick-up staff members that are incredibly quick and efficient, and almost every day all of our parent pick-up students are out the door to their rides home within fifteen minutes of dismissal. Please help us respect our neighbors and practice compassion for the neighborhood around our school by utilizing our parent pick-up line, parking in our parking lot, or parking in the empty lot on Monte Street!

Student Art Month

These students will have their artwork on display during **Student Art Month March 3-April 7th** at the following locations...

At the Eagle River Public Library:

Yuna Coburn

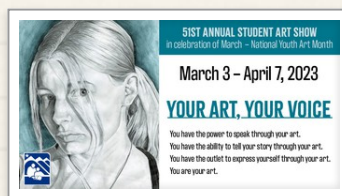
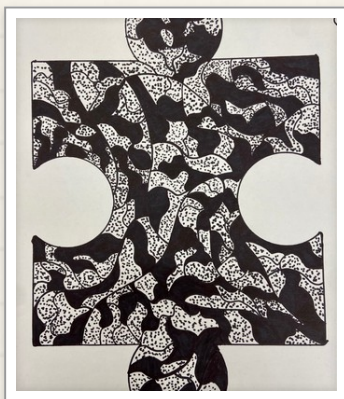
Jaclyn Evans

At the Anchorage Museum:

Ben Dadson

Jack Taylor

Please take a look at their beautiful art below. Congratulations! We are so proud of you!





A Message From Coach Fullmer

Hello ERE Families,

We have been doing a lot of fun and exciting things this past month. Our recent focus has been on jump roping to follow along with the kid's heart challenge that just finished up. Many students were able to show off their skills and sign the posters we have in the gym for each accomplishment they were able to achieve. Our school raised over \$4,000 for the American Heart Association as well. We will let you know when I will be getting pied in the face by our big fund raisers and when our extra PE will be held for those who completed Finn's mission.

With February coming to a close, I will be collecting student's healthy future logs this week. The healthy future challenge continues in March and will finish up at the end of April. I am attaching a copy of the log just in case you don't have one at home. It's a fun way to stay active and earn fun prizes along the way. Thanks so much for your help and support. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Coach Spencer Fullmer

Penny Drive for AARF

Thank you again to Student Leadership for organizing our school Penny Drive, and thank you to all our families for donating to support AARF! We collected over \$350.00 to go to supporting animals across the state of Alaska.



ERES Food Pantry

Did you know that we have our very own food pantry here at Eagle River Elementary? If you should ever find yourself in need of food support, please do not hesitate to reach out to Blake Beatty. She would love to help you and your family! beatty_blake@asdk12.org

If you have the capacity to help us stock the shelves, we so greatly appreciate you helping our Eagles soar.



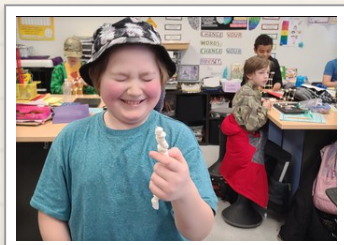
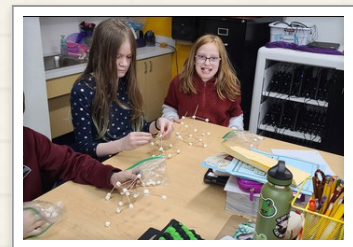
We Need Noodles!

The food pantry is currently looking for donations of pastas, ramen, & hamburger helper types of meals. If you are able, please consider sending in a donation. We would greatly appreciate your help!

Friday's rainbow fun and EWeek speaker Jason Armstrong and his engineer challenge activity

Engineer Challenge

Mrs. Hemphill's class was visited by EWeek speaker Jason Armstrong who led them in a fun-filled engineer challenge activity building with marshmallows and toothpicks!

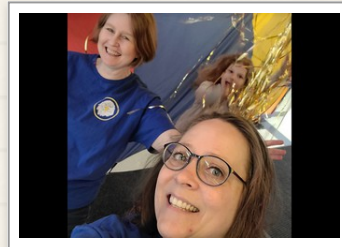
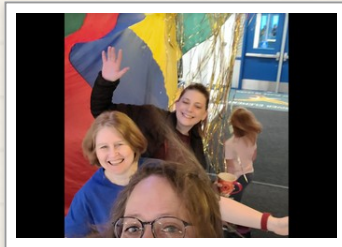
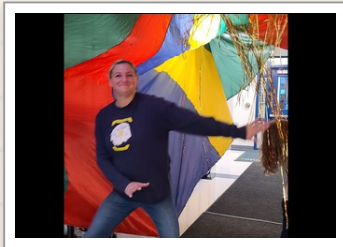


Kids Heart Challenge

Last week Friday was the final day of ERES's Kids Heart Challenge/American Heart Challenge program. Our school collectively raised \$3,974.54! How amazing is that!

Families and schools are critical links in providing the foundation for cardiovascular wellness in our country. Your support and participation in the Kids Heart Challenge/American Heart Challenge makes a tremendous impact in helping millions of Americans through increased awareness of cardiovascular disease, lifesaving scientific research and critically needed education efforts.

Friday Rainbow Fun!



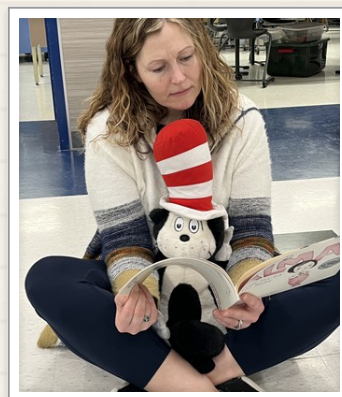
Ice Fishing Field Trip

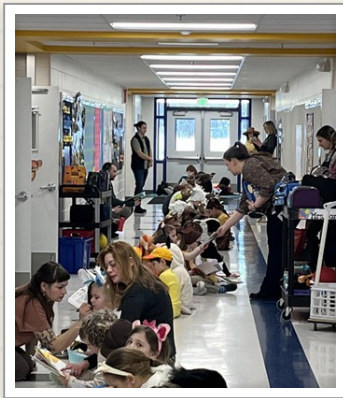
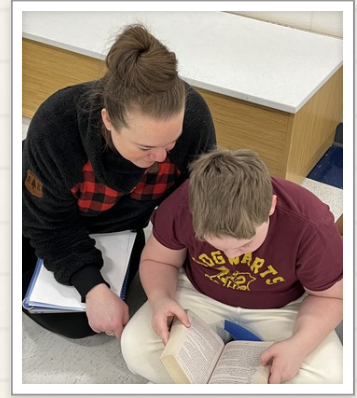
Our students had such a blast learning how to ice fish and many brought home one, if not two, fish home. Great job everyone!

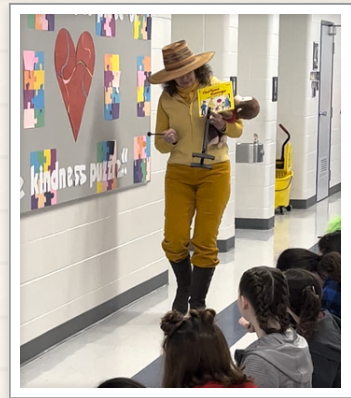


Great Wall of Reading

This morning our entire school participated in the 'Great Wall of Reading' in honor of Read Across America Day and Dr. Seuss' birthday. Students dressed up as Dr. Seuss characters, wore their comfiest pajamas, and all gathered in the hallways together to read!







***The information below will remain
on the Newsletter for your
reference**

Free/Reduced Lunch Program

ASD is still accepting applications for the Free/Reduced Lunch progra. When applying for the program, please include **all ASD students in your household**, even if some students attend different schools. Families may apply for the free/reduced lunch program by going online to schoolcafe.com/anchorage.

For questions and more directions on how to apply, please visit ASD Student Nutrition's main page about the program at <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/13246>.

Breakfast and Lunch Menus and Payments

Below is the link to access the breakfast and lunch menus. Please remember that there may be substitutions as needed.

ASD is not providing free breakfast and lunch for all students like last year. To apply for the free/reduced lunch program, families will need to apply online by going to schoolcafe.com/anchorage. Families may add funds to a student's account by logging into ParentConnect/Q, clicking on their student's name, clicking "ASD Quick Links" and then "Online Payments". For direct instructions, families can visit <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/13241>

Breakfast Cost: \$2.75 Lunch Cost: \$4.50

Menus

School Policy Reminders

Eagle River Elementary's policy for late drop-off is that families must come in and sign late students in. If families are picking a student up before the end of the day, then they must come to the front office to sign students out. The office staff will not call students down before the authorized pick-up person is physically in the front office.

For late drop-off and early pick-up, the bus lane may be used from 9:30am to 3:00pm **only**. Families that use the bus lane after 3pm will be asked to relocate their vehicle before taking their student. We understand that the parking lot becomes congested in the afternoon and encourage families to plan accordingly and park in the empty lot across from the First Baptist Church on Monte after 3pm.

Lastly, cell phone use in the front office is strictly prohibited to maintain student confidentiality and FERPA regulations. Visitors using cell phones in the office will be asked to end their conversation or step into the vestibule to finish. We appreciate your understanding!

No Early Drop-off

We need your help. We are working hard to accommodate our families by providing coverage at 8:35. Most schools are not providing supervision until 8:45. Please help us by waiting until 8:35 to let students out of your car.

When students are dropped off before 8:35am, this creates an unsafe environment for since we do not provide child care or supervision before school opens at 8:35am. Do not drop off your student until you see a staff member on duty with an orange vest at the stop sign AND it is 8:35. Our crossing guard sometimes goes out a few minutes early and some student get dropped off to go to the Y. When families see this they are letting students out of the car

before there is coverage. If your child is lining up outside the front entry, they are here too early. This is especially important as the mornings get colder and darker.

Volunteering for ERES

If you would like to be considered for volunteer activities at Eagle River Elementary, please submit an application at <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/13771>. Once received online, applications take approx. 7-10 days to process. We highly encourage online applications as paper applications can take even longer and we will not be approving volunteer applications on site.

At this time, only approved volunteers, staff, and students (of course!) may enter the school past our front office. We will not be able to approve applications on site and last minute. Thank you families for your willingness to help out at our school!

Volunteer Sign Up

Late Drop off and Early Pick Up Procedures

If you drop off your child late, you must come inside to the front office and sign them in. If you are picking your student up early, please do not call the office ahead of time. We will call your child down when you are in the front office. This prevents students from sitting in the front office waiting to be picked up.

You may park out front in the Bus Lane from 9:30-3:00 to pick up or drop off. Outside of these times, there is no parking in the bus lane. Please park in the parking lot.

*Please plan ahead if you need to pick up your child early. Due to the number of students being picked up since we do not have busing, we are unable to call students out of classes after 3:15. Remember that you must have ID to pick up your student and you must be on the approved contact list.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Arrival – Students will be let in at 8:35 and there will be no supervision until then. **Students will not be allowed to wait before 8:35. Please time your child's arrival so they are here no earlier than 8:35.** We appreciate your help with this so we can make sure students are supervised and safe!

- Student drop off will be at the stop sign at the front corner of the building and students will enter the front door. Students will not be allowed to be dropped off until 8:35
- All students enter through the front door
- Students will enter the building and sit on the floor outside their classrooms where they will be supervised by staff until the 8:50am (Kindergarten Students will sit in the front hallway)

Dismissal

- Car riders will be called by tag number from the MPR or classroom to the pick up lanes
- Walkers will be dismissed at the bell
- Tae Kwon Do and Bright Beginnings and Boys and Girls Club will be dismissed at the bell to wait at the front entry benches
- Student attending the Y go to the gym at the bell
- * When we have bused - Bus riders will sit in the Intermediate and Optional Hallways separated by bus numbers
- If bus is out front at dismissal, office will let staff know, otherwise students sit in hallway. Office will announce arrival of buses.

Changes to How Your Child is Getting Home

If you have a change to how your child is getting home for that day, please alert the front office as early as possible in the day. The end of the day is a hectic time and last minute changes are extremely difficult. Students being picked up from the front doors are considered walkers, and students being picked up in a car are considered car riders.

If you have a change to how your student is getting home that is long term, please make sure to let your child's teacher know.

Attendance/Arrival Policy Reminders

Many messages are left saying the student will be out but do not leave a reason. Without a reason, the student is automatically marked unexcused. When you know you will be on an extended absence like a family vacation, we can put a prearranged unexcused absence in the system so you do not get a daily phone call.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 742-3000.

When leaving an attendance message for your student please leave these important details:

- 1) Students Name
- 2) Date(s) of absence
- 3) Reason for absence
- 4) Teachers Name
- 5) Grade Level
- 6) **If no reason is given it will always automatically be considered unexcused.**

Please call the main line and press "1" for the attendance line if your child will be absent. Absences must be reported by 10:00am to ensure your student's attendance is entered. Families may also submit attendance requests through Q/Parent Connect. Automatic attendance calls alerting for unexcused absences go out at 10:45.

ASD Attendance Guidelines

Here are the District Guidelines for Attendance:

AM (starts at 9:00 am)

- Tardy - up to 60 minutes after school starts
- Absent (.5 day) – If a student misses more than 60 minutes.

PM (starts at 12:15 pm)

- Tardy – arrives at or before 1:15pm
- Absent (.5 day) – student misses more than 60 minutes

Birthday Treats

Please reach out to your child's teacher before sending/bringing in treats and they can fill you in on any classroom requirements including food allergies or sensitivities. Some teachers may prefer individually packaged items. In general, birthday treats must be store bought and pre-packaged (sealed store cupcakes for example).

School Business Partners



**2 Brothers
Auto Detail**



Subway



ERES March 2023 Calendar.pdf

[Download](#)

119.8 KB



Physical-Activity-Log-Month.pdf

[Download](#)

903.7 KB

