

# EYES ON EASTLAKE

Volume 22 Issue 8

May 19, 2017

## *Principal's Message*

Dear Parents,

Spring weather is finally here and hopefully only sunny days will be in our future. Although the weather has been a bit chilly over the last few weeks it didn't stop our PTA from showing some warmth and caring to our staff. I'd like to thank our amazing PTA for a great teacher/staff appreciation week. Your generosity has overwhelmed us as each day brought on a new surprise. Your support of our school community is noticed, not only by our staff but by our students as well. They can see the great value that we put on education which will have a direct effect on their motivation to succeed in school.

Speaking of succeeding in school. Our third, fourth and fifth grade students recently completed the PARCC. There are still ways that you can support your child now that the test is over. One suggestion is to discuss the results with your child when they become available and above all else remember to remain positive and encouraging.

This month also brings a variety of fun activities. From Field Day to the Spring concert to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade basketball game, we are excited to be able to provide extracurricular activities that make learning fun. I am looking forward to seeing the many volunteers and visitors that these activities will bring and the excitement on each child's face as they reach success beyond the classroom.

Best Regards,

Bryan Hershkowitz  
Principal

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**5/19 – Spring Concert 7pm**  
**5/22 – School Spirit Day – Crazy Hair**  
**5/23 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Brooklawn Bridge**  
**5/24 – GRO Showcase 1-3 pm**  
**5/25 – Field Day**  
**5/25 – Beach Blanket Bookathon**  
**5/25 – PTA Mtg – 7 pm**  
**5/26 – Flutophone Concert 1:30 pm**  
**5/29 & 30 – School Closed**  
**5/31 – Grade 4 NJASK**  
**6/1 – Field Day Rain date**  
**Beach Blanket Bookathon Rain date**  
**6/2 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade BBQ**  
**6/5 – Race to the Finish**  
**6/7 – Grade 4 NJASK Make-Ups**  
**6/8 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip**  
**6/8 – Family Fitness Night**  
**6/9 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Happiness is Camping**  
**6/9 – School Spirit Day – Eastlake Colors**  
**6/13 – Preschool Moving-Up 1 pm**  
**6/14 – Kindergarten Moving-Up 10:00 am**  
**6/14 – School Spirit Day**  
**Patriotic Day – Wear red white blue**  
**6/15 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip**  
**6/15 – PTA Mtg 7 pm**  
**6/16 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Moving-Up 9:30 am**  
**6/20 – 1:30 Dismissal K-5**  
**6/21 – 1:30 Dismissal K-5**  
**6/22 – 1:30 Dismissal K-5**  
**Last Day of School**

**On 1:30 Dismissal days:**

**Miss Bruss & Mrs. Safarik's class schedule is 9-11 for am and 11-1 for pm classes.**

**Ms. Fairweather's am class schedule is 9-11.**

**Ms. Gonzalez & Ms. Fairweather's extended day class schedule is 9-1.**

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## *Looking Ahead*

**Pre-School:** It is hard to believe we are coming to the end of the school year! We are excited to be learning about bugs and insects and we will finish the school year off with a study on exercise. Please make sure the children are wearing sneakers every day so they can participate in gross motor activities and enjoy the playground. Watch the folder for some fun end of the year activities we have coming up! We look forward to our Moving Up ceremony for our PM class only on Tuesday, June 13th at 1:00 PM. More information will be sent home soon. Thank you for a wonderful school year!

Sincerely, Ms. Bruss

Wow! We can't believe the year is almost over in Miss Fairweather's class! We worked hard all year and I am very proud of all of you! To coincide with the spring season, we recently completed our study on plants. We learned about the parts of plants, the things plants need and how plants grow. We are continuing to take care of the seeds we planted to watch them grow! To finish the year, we will be completing a study on balls. We have many fun games and activities to enjoy with this unit!



This month, Ms. Gonzalez's class is focusing on the best skills of all. Leisure Skills! We are learning how to play different ball games. We're practicing rolling and throwing a ball. We even started learning how to hit a ball with a bat! We also looked at different arts and crafts activities we can do for fun. We focused mainly on process art, which is all about exploring the materials and not about the outcome. We will spend the rest of the month looking at different play skills we can do in our free time.

Mrs. Safarik's class just finished up our tree study. We learned so much about the different kinds there are, how they change during the different seasons, what animals live in trees as well as things that are made by wood. We are now going to study insects and bugs. This should be lots of fun. In June we will finish up our school year with and exercise study. Which will be just perfect! It has been a pleasure having your child this year. Have a wonderful summer.

**Kindergarten:** My, oh my, how the year did fly! The kindergartners have worked really hard and learned so much. In writing, we are learning how to use our words to express our opinions. We know that we can write about our opinions and explain why we feel that way. Our final Readers' Workshop unit is learning about becoming avid readers. Please continue to read and write with your child at home. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our end of the year celebration on June 14. There will be more information to follow. We hope everyone has a safe and fun summer!



**First Grade:** We just went on our second field trip this week! What a great experience we had seeing the play "Pete the Cat"!! We just finished time and measurement and now are heading into three dimensional shapes and graphing. We are now starting realistic fiction writing and are having a great time using our imaginations writing about characters going on adventures.

**Second Grade:** We can't believe second grade is nearly over! What a year this has been! In Reading Workshop, we studied the differences between fiction and nonfiction texts. We built our reading stamina and we learned different strategies for tricky words. In Writing Workshop, we wrote narrative and information books, and used checklists to set goals and keep track of our progress. In Math, we learned how to regroup two- and three-digit numbers. We can now identify the different types of coins and bills and can tell time to the minute. We are using these 'grown up' real-world skills every day! We became engineers in Science as we explored the steps of the engineering process through STEAM activities. Our first field trip to see Born in China enhanced our learning about animal groups. In Social Studies, we learned more about the world around us by learning about suburban, urban, and rural communities and identified the different goods and services within our communities. We look forward to celebrating our hard work this year with Field Day on Thursday, May 25 (rain date: June 1) and our End-of-Year Party. Be sure to keep reading this summer to get ready for third grade!

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**Third Grade:** How is it possible that we are so close to the end of another wonderful Eastlake year? Third graders are working to continue all of the hard work that they have put forth this year. In English Language Arts, students are learning about how to spot the main idea and supporting details in nonfiction texts. They are reading all different kinds of informational books to practice these skills. Students are also learning how to read and understand text features in nonfiction books. Learning and understanding the structure of this genre has really helped third graders to become even stronger readers.

In writer's workshop, third graders are very close to publishing their informational books. It is amazing all that third graders know and how they are learning how to write like grown up authors! Their topics range from lacrosse to Minecraft to different species of animals. The third graders have even taught their teachers a thing or two about the topics that they have become experts on.

Finally, in both third grade classes, students completed different research projects. In Ms. Coen's class, third graders researched endangered species. They just recently gave their presentations. And in Mrs. Craner's class, students presented their google slides on a different mystery found in nature. Third graders are definitely ready to tackle the challenges in fourth grade next year!

Finally, third graders are gearing up for their upcoming Flutophone concert! They cannot wait to perform for everyone. Have a great rest of this school year and a safe and playful summer!



**Fourth Grade:** The fourth grade has been studying geometry in math. We have learned all about angles, lines, and polygons and will soon focus on finding area and perimeter. In reading workshop, we are continuing to use our nonfiction comprehension strategies to learn about the Revolutionary War. By the time we get to fifth grade social studies, we are going to be experts! In social studies, we are learning about the southern region of the United States. Did you know that the South is divided into two sub regions known as the Upper South and the Lower South? Our current unit in science is about matter and its physical and chemical properties. We are also reviewing other topics to help us prepare for our upcoming NJ ASK Science test on May 31st. We have been working very hard to prepare for our band and chorus concert on Friday. Thank you to Mrs. Bamber, Mrs. Perry, and Mrs. Sack for all your help all year! We hope to see everyone at the night show!



**Fifth Grade:** Yes, testing is over...woohoo! Now our students can concentrate on everything else that's 5th grade. We are all looking forward to the 5th grade vs. staff basketball game, Brooklawn Bridge, Field Day, 5th graders vs. parents volleyball game and of course...moving up. With all of this going on, we still have lots of learning to do. In reading, we're doing a novel study of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. The children are comparing and contrasting, discussing cause and effect and the use of foreshadowing. Math is all about geometry. We're identifying angles, polygons, and classifying them. The Star Lab will be at Eastlake on June 5th. The students will have the opportunity to sit inside the dome and learn all about stars and the constellations they are a part of as well as zodiac signs. What a great way to end the school year. Do you know what the causes of the Civil War are? Well, your children do. Be sure to ask them all about the battles, the generals and what President Lincoln did to change the course of American history. It's hard to believe this is the last newsletter of the year. We look forward to seeing everyone at one of the many activities planned for the end of the school year.

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## June Art Update

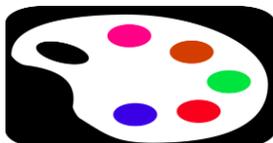
What a great year we had! I enjoyed sharing creative experiences with your children and hope you've liked the artwork they've made.

Projects from this year will be displayed on the website [www.Artsonia.com](http://www.Artsonia.com). Please take some time to leave a comment or two! I have really enjoyed seeing the artwork displayed online and feel that the response from family members has been great for our artists. I love reading the encouraging words for our artists and I am happy we get to share the work with so many more people! Don't forget you can photograph your child's personal artwork at home and upload it to their Personal Gallery on Artsonia.

Keeping simple crafts materials on hand for the summer will encourage creativity. Papers, markers, colored pencils, scissors and glue are all you need to let a little creativity run wild, and there are numerous craft kits that you can do together.

Try visiting a museum this summer or looking into art classes through local arts organizations if you want a broader experience.

Happy Summer!  
Mrs. Gallagher



## HOW TO CHOOSE NONFICTION

Here are tips for selecting additional nonfiction books.

Look for books:

- with clear, large photographs, preferably one or two at most per page.
- with focused text. Just because a book is nonfiction doesn't mean it can't tell a story.
- that have accessible text for the young reader who is learning about print concepts and beginning to acquire some ideas about reading.
- that give additional information for the adult, usually on a page at the end of the book.

