

# EYES ON EASTLAKE

Volume 24 Issue 3

December 13, 2018

## *Principal's Message*

Hello Eastlake Parents and Guardians!!

As we settle into the holiday season and prepare for the new year, it is always a good time to not only set new goals and aspirations but also to remain loyal to good practices we are already doing. One major way Home and School work together is the practice of reading to our students and children. When this practice is done at home and in school, the stimulation and motivation received by the child raises exponentially.

It is suggested that a parent should read to their child for 20 minutes a day. Doing so can result in the following positive outcomes:

### Improved Listening Skills

The experience of being read to helps children develop good listening skills by allowing them to key on the various components of language.

### Building of Early Literacy Skills

Reading to your child allows he or she to learn that print is a representation of the words that are said aloud. Repeated reading allows this relationship to grow at a quicker pace.

### Practice Makes Perfect

The more a child is exposed to reading and practices it, the better he/she will become at performing it.

### Improved Academic Performance

There is a strong correlation to a child's ability to read and academic performance. Strong reading skills are integral to sustained success in school.

### Improved Relationships

Busy schedules make it difficult to schedule quality time with loved ones without distractions. Building 20 minutes a day into the schedule for reading provides productive quality bonding time.

I hope these suggestions are helpful and I would like to wish the entire Eastlake Community a happy, healthy and safe winter recess. I look forward to the great successes we will have in 2019!!

RESPECTFULLY,

Sebastian Powell  
PRINCIPAL- EASTLAKE SCHOOL

Don't forget that December 21st is a 1:00 dismissal and Pomptonian will **not** be serving lunch. You either have to order lunch through the online ordering system from Bensi or you need to send in lunch from home.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**12/14 – School Picture Retakes**

**12/17 – Pre-K Holiday Parties**

**AM – 10:30, PM – 2:00**

**12/19 – Cultural Arts Program**

**12/20 – Holiday Parties 1:30 PM**

**12/21 – 1:00 Dismissal**

**12/24 – 31 – School Closed**

**1/1 – School Closed**

**1/2 - School Re-Opens**

**1/17 – Cultural Arts Program**

**1/21 – School Closed for Students**

**1/31 – PTA Mtg 7pm**

**On 1:00 Dismissal days, Miss Bruss, Ms. Fairweather & Mrs. Safarik's class schedule is 9-11 for am and 11-1 for pm classes.**

**Ms Gonzalez and Mrs. Pepe's extended day class schedule is 9-1.**

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## *Looking Ahead*

**Pre-School:** We had so much fun learning about fall changes, healthy foods, shapes and Thanksgiving in Ms Bruss' class! During the month of December, we will be learning all about gingerbread, winter changes and celebrations happening this time of year! We are looking forward to everyone joining us for our Open House/Class Party on Mon, Dec. 17th. Please remember 1 parent per child due to the limited amount of space in the class room and no siblings please. This will ensure that your child will be able to enjoy making crafts together and receive your full attention! Progress reports will be coming home and you will receive two copies, please sign and return one copy and keep the other copy for your records. I would like to take a moment to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season! I look forward to returning in 2019 and wish you all a happy and healthy new year!

We've been working hard in Miss Fairweather's class! This past month, we enjoyed a cookies theme! We read many books with gingerbread characters and noticed how the books were the same or different. We created gingerbread people and houses to go along with our reading. As the colder weather has arrived, please practice putting on coats, mittens and hats, as well as zipping jackets. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Party and Open House!

This month, Ms. Gonzalez's class is focusing on different holidays. They kicked off the month with a silly holiday...National Cookie Day! They made gingerbread cookie crafts and read a book about what is needed to make cookies. They also sang a gingerbread cookie song. They will also learn about Christmas and Hanukkah this month. They have already discovered a new "Santa Shark" song on YouTube that they LOVE! They are having a ton of fun learning about all the holidays!

In Mrs. Safarik's class this month, we have been studying 2d and 3d shapes, Gingerbread and Gingerbread Men and all about the holidays. Please remember Monday, Dec. 17th is our holiday party for our AM class at 10:30 and 2:00 for our PM class, so come and have fun with your child. Friday, Dec. 21st is a half day for the district. Have a wonderful holiday season. Happy New Year to all.

Mrs. Pepe's Preschool class is getting ready for Winter! During circle time we are reading "December Words", "Penguin, Penguin, What Do You See?" We are learning about holidays around the world. In the art center we are making a Christmas Tree, a Menorah and a Lantern. We also enjoy going to the gym to work on Gross Motor Skills.

**Kindergarten:** Thank you all for taking the time to meet with us during conferences. We enjoyed discussing your child's progress and appreciate your continued support.

Our Super Readers have been learning about the special super powers they can use to help them become stronger readers. During Reader's Workshop, students spend time reading independently and with a partner to practice using these super powers when reading. Your child will begin to bring home "just right" books at the beginning of January.

With the winter months approaching, please practice self-help skills with your child. This includes zipping/buttoning jackets and putting on hats and gloves. Please allow for extra time each morning and encourage your child to become more independent.

Please continue to read and count with your child at home. We wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season.



**First Grade:** First grade just finished up writing "How to" books, and will be moving on to nonfiction writing. They have been gaining new strategies in reading workshop daily, and we will be ending our "Word Detectives" unit right before winter break. Look for their detective badges, notebooks and hand lens to come home when we are finished. We just started our new unit in science called "Sound and Light". Students are enjoying doing investigations, and recording information in their science journals. We have also begun geography, and talking about continents, oceans, globes and landforms in social studies. Have a wonderful holiday season!!

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**Second Grade:** The weather outside is getting frightful, but inside our classrooms it is delightful! In Science, we are preparing to begin a new, hands-on unit about solids, liquids, and gasses. We have just wrapped up our unit on Earth's surface, where we used the map skills we learned in Social Studies to create our own maps in Science. In Reading Workshop, students are applying decoding strategies in both fiction and nonfiction texts. Writers are busy revising and editing their work to make their books even better in Writing Workshop. In Math, students will begin to extend their knowledge of basic facts into 2-digit addition, where they will apply various strategies to find the sum. Continue to ensure that your child is reading at home each night to build their reading stamina. As the weather gets colder, please be sure your child is wearing a winter coat and appropriate footwear for the days we play outside at recess. Second grade is looking forward to the winter concert and holiday party. It's going to be a holly, jolly good time!



**Third Grade:** Third grade is busily tackling more challenging text in reading. Students are learning that to become a skilled reader takes work and grit. Great leads are our focus in writing. We are identifying what good leads look like and trying similar techniques. We are practicing storytelling voices and understanding that a storyteller's voice shows, not tells, by describing actions, using dialogue and describing images.

We are wrapping up the engineering unit in science, and in social studies, students are enjoying learning about the Navajo, Yurok, Cherokee, and Haudenosaunee.

As always, continue to have your child read at home and practice their multiplication tables. Wishing you a safe and healthy break!

**Fourth Grade:** What an exciting week it has been in the fourth grade! We hope you all were able to attend our Winter Concert and that you enjoyed our performance on Wednesday! In language arts, we are wrapping up our realistic fiction unit. We have learned many strategies about analyzing characters and debating important elements of a story. Next up, we will begin exploring nonfiction text and will be researching extreme weather. We are going to become experts in what to do if a hurricane or tornado hits...hopefully, we won't ever have to really use this knowledge though! ;- ) Next week, we will be combining some of the math and engineering skills we have been learning about in order to complete a fun gingerbread house activity!



**Fifth Grade:** It's the holiday season and 5th graders are working hard to finish the calendar year strong. In reading, the children are creating mind maps that summarize their book club books. Mind maps allow students to show their creativity and understanding of the novel while including key words, vocabulary, sequencing of events, and summarizing. Make sure to ask your children what's on sale in rooms 20 and 21. The children are showcasing their addition and subtraction of decimal skills by creating menus using grocery store circulars. Who said, "Research is boring?" not 5th grade! They just love continuing their research on their narrative inquiry writing project. We look forward to seeing you all at the holiday concert and class parties.

**Happy Holidays!**

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## Notes From The Music Room

Mrs. Mickey Hamell

Kindergarten students are moving, dancing, and playing instruments while listening to music from all the holidays about light starting with Diwali and ending with Kwanza. They are working on music m pairs; fast and slow, high and low, soft and loud.

First graders are becoming great musicians hearing one and two sounds on the beat with holiday music



## Nurse's Notes

Well, the cold weather is here! Students should be coming to school in a winter jacket, hat, gloves/mittens, & scarves. Winter jackets should NOT be worn inside the school. I recommend layers such as a sweater or sweatshirt while inside to be comfortable without becoming overheated.

Many of us seem to be fighting with a cold this time of year. Anyone with excessive coughing, congestion or discolored nasal discharge should stay home. Students must be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school. Covering your cough and proper handwashing prevents the spread of colds. And please drink extra fluids and get plenty of sleep.

Let's all have a healthy winter!

Debra Molloy  
School Nurse

