DECEMBER 2026

Eagle Tales

Message from Mr. Erickson

Dear Elgin Elementary School Families,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoyed some well-deserved time with family and friends. As we return to school, we have a very short window of time before Winter Break begins. Our last day of the first semester will be Thursday, December 17th.

Although the holiday season brings plenty of excitement, it is important that we stay focused and finish the semester strong. Every school day matters! Consistent attendance is one of the most important factors in student success. With only a few weeks remaining in the semester, I encourage all families to make school attendance a priority and ensure that students are at school, on time, and ready to learn each day. Every day missed is an opportunity to learn, grow, and connect with classmates that students don't get back. Let's keep our attendance strong and continue to Row the Boat all the way through December 17th!

Veterans Day and Field Trip: I also want to take a moment to thank everyone who helped make our Veterans Day celebration and field trip to the Pima Air and Space Museum such a wonderful experience. It was a special opportunity for our students to honor the men and women who have served our country while also learning more about our nation's military history and aviation. Thank you to our staff, parent volunteers, and everyone who helped make the day possible. Most importantly, thank you to our veterans and active-duty military members for your service and sacrifice. We are grateful for you!

A few important announcements and reminders:

- Governing Board Meeting: Our December Governing Board meeting has been postponed from December 1st to Tuesday, December 8th at 5:00pm.
- Missoula Children's Theatre: We are excited to announce that the Missoula Children's Theatre performance will take place on Saturday, December 12th! We look forward to sharing this special experience with our students, families, and community. Please watch for additional information and details coming soon.
- As we move into the winter months, please remember to dress students appropriately for cooler morning temperatures. Also, continue to encourage reading at home. Even a few minutes of reading each day helps students maintain and build upon the progress they have made this semester.

Finally, I want to thank our families for your continued support of Elgin Elementary School. Our students have accomplished a great deal this semester, and that reflects the partnership between our school, families, and community. Let's keep working together and finish 2026 on a high note!

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season!

David K. Erickson

In this Issue:

- **Student Spotlights**
- **Classroom Spotlights**
- **Missoula Children's Theatre**
- **PTC & Upcoming Events**

Congratulations

November 2026
Students Of The Month



Liam Collins



Maverick Peterson

Eagle Eye - Student of the Week

Recognizing elementary students who practice good character and citizenship





In the Spotlight

4th Grade – Mrs. Rachel Lyman

Fourth grade is a challenging grade, and our students are really pushing themselves. From long division, challenging reading, engaging science, and yummy social studies, our class is diving into our learning with enthusiasm. These are just a few of our current learning opportunities.

This quarter our fourth graders have been challenging themselves with long division and learning many ways to find the quotient. We are completing repeated subtraction, partial quotients, standard long division, and visual and area models to extend our big brains. Next, we will jump into fractions and decimals. We are full of math experts in our room, and everyone is working hard.

We love our Art Everywhere module in reading and are learning a lot about different artists and inventors. We found out that The Beatles rock band from the 1960's is still popular with our students, and they recognize many of their songs almost 60 years later. Researching famous inventors is another way we are connecting our science, writing, and reading standards.

Closing out our rock and fossil unit in science led us to explore the Queen Mine in Bisbee, AZ. We had a great time going directly into the mine shaft to explore mining and ways to extract precious minerals. We are excited to continue our earth studies by learning more about volcanoes and other natural disasters in science and will design ways to stop lava flows in towns near volcanoes. Be on the lookout for us when we test out our theories by setting off an eruption to see how our designs work.

In Social studies, our cultural feast was a big hit. This celebration of cultural recipes helped us learn more about each other and the identities that make us unique and wonderful. Our class would like to thank Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC) for their generous donation of outdoor seating on our back patio where we held our feast.

As you can see, we are busy learning in fourth grade. If you see us, stop us and ask about what we are learning next. We love to share our experiences!











THEATER! DRAMA! MUSIC! COSTUMES! FUN!!!!

The renowned Missoula Children's Theatre is coming to Elgin School December 7th—12th! This week-long residency is made possible for Elgin students through tax credit and parent donations. A little red truck will pull into our town with everything it takes to mount a full-scale musical production of "The Wiz of the West." The truck will have a team of directors, lights, costumes, props, and make-up, everything except the cast. That's where Elgin students come in. The school has declared that week "No Homework Week" for participants, so any student who would like to try out for this performance must be able to attend the week-long rehearsals if given a part. Up to 50 students are needed for this production!

Please note that if a student is given a part in the play, he/she needs to be available Monday through Friday from 2:00-6:30 PM, and on Saturday, performance day, for morning dress rehearsals and the 6:00 PM evening performance. Students who commit to this endeavor will be expected to follow through on that commitment. More details will be sent home with the students.

Mark your calendars for this incredible opportunity for our Elgin community.



Permission Slips must be returned by Wednesday, December 2nd!

Please join us for a free community performance!

Presented By: Elgin School Students

Saturday, December 12th

6:00 PM

Elgin School Gym



Elgin Elementary School

PREKINDER
Story Time

- *Join us to meet new friends, get to know our campus, and learn Kindergarten readiness skills!*
- *Story Time is open to students eligible to enroll in Kindergarten in Fall 2027. (Must be turning 5 by 9/1/2027)*



Wednesdays at Elgin School
8:00 AM - Flag Ceremony, Gym
8:10-8:45 AM - Story Time & Activities, Room 14



Childfind Screenings

If you have concerns about your child's development from ages 3 to 21 years of age in these areas:

VISION/HEARING * SPEECH/LANGUAGE * THINKING SKILLS
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT * BEHAVIOR *
NORMAL DEVELOPMENT

Your school's CHILDFIND can help – with a free screening, and if needed, referral for diagnostic evaluation and/or early intervention programs (birth to three). If you have any concerns about your child's development, certain benefits are available through your local school district.

Screenings are available **by appointment**. To schedule your appointment or for more information please contact:
Christine Clouse– Student Services
455-5514 cclouse@elgink12.com

AZ FIND
FIND • HELP • SUCCEED

Look for these changes in your growing child.

When should he walk? When should she talk?
For the best and brightest future, have your child's development checked often during the first five years.



3 Months
- Lifts head regularly when on tummy
- Makes cooing noises
- Quiets when spoken to
- Grasps objects placed in hand
- Begins to bat at objects

6 Months
- Sits with light support
- Babbles when alone or with someone
- Reaches for objects
- Holds objects with either hand
- Turns eyes and head toward sounds and voices
- Begins to crawl (Moves around other than on hands and knees)

9 Months
- Sits without support
- Begins creeping (up on hands and knees)
- Imitates cough, bye-bye, hand clap, mama
- Drops and looks for an object
- Can find a toy hidden under cloth
- Likes to dump out and pick up things

1 Year
- Pulls up to a standing position and cruises around furniture
- Begins to say ma-ma and da-da to refer to parents
- Finger feeds self solid food
- Follows a simple direction such as "bring me the ball"
- Points to object she knows when asked "where is it?"
- Begins to use a spoon and hold a cup



1 - 1½ years
- Walks well and runs
- Can push, pull, carry, and lift objects
- Names some objects
- Can point to simple pictures
- Brings an object he knows when asked

2 Years
- Walks up and down stairs, two feet on each step
- Can name more than three body parts
- Scribbles
- Stacks two to four objects
- Uses two-word sentences
- Enjoys doing things for self
- Gets easily frustrated
- Uses objects as they should be used

3 Years
- Uses three to five-word sentences
- Sings simple songs
- Can jump in place
- Begins to ask questions
- Enjoys "pretend" play (for instance, pretending to be mom, dad, brothers, and sisters)
- Can help brush teeth, wash hands, undress, etc.

4 Years
- Can use the toilet (with few accidents)
- Can balance on one foot, then the other
- Can name up to three colors
- Can retell parts of a familiar story
- Begins to play with other children rather than alongside them

5 Years
- Likes playground challenges
- Dresses self completely, including buttons; beginning to zip and tie
- Can play cooperatively with a small group of children
- Draws people in two parts—head and arms or legs
- Can tell parents about something that happened while they were gone
- Says number words to ten

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
AZED.gov/SpecialEducation/Parents/AZ-Find

For more information on developmental screening, talk to your doctor or for infants and toddlers call the AZ Early Intervention Program at 602-532-9960. For preschoolers call your local school district.

Exceptional Student Services

AZ FIND
ENCONTRAR • AYUDAR • TENER ÉXITO

Manténgase pendiente de estos cambios el crecimiento de su niño o niña.

¿Cuándo debería él andar? ¿Cuándo debería élla habar?
Para un futuro mejor y brillante, revise a menudo el desarrollo de su niño(a) durante los primeros cinco años.



3 Meses
- Levanta la cabeza periódicamente cuando está acostado boca abajo
- Hace sonidos de arrullo
- Se calma cuando se le habla
- Agarra objetos colocados en su mano
- Comienza a palpar objetos

6 Meses
- Se sienta con poco apoyo
- Balbucea cuando está sólo(a) o con alguien
- Trata de alcanzar objetos
- Sostiene objetos con cualquiera de las manos
- Gira los ojos y la cabeza hacia los sonidos o las voces
- Comienza a movilizarse (se arrastra, pero no en las manos y rodillas)

9 Meses
- Se sienta sin apoyo
- Comienza a gatear (en sus manos y rodillas)
- Imita sonido de la tos, aplausa, dice adiós con la mano, dice ma-má
- Deja caer y busca objetos
- Encuentra un juguete escondido debajo de una cobija
- Le gusta tirar y recoger cosas

1 Año
- Se para y camina apoyándose de los muebles
- Comienza a decir ma-má y pa-pá para referirse a sus padres
- Se alimenta comidas sólidas a sí mismo con los dedos
- Sigue instrucciones simples, como "tráeme la pelota"
- Señala objetos que conoce cuando le preguntan "¿dónde está?"
- Comienza a usar una cuchara y a sostener una taza



1 Año y Media
- Camina bien y corre
- Puede empujar, jalar, acarrear, y levantar objetos
- Nombra algunos de los objetos
- Apunta hacia dibujos simples
- Le trae un objeto que conoce cuando se le pide

2 Años
- Sube y baja escaleras, con ambos pies en cada escalón
- Puede nombrar más de tres partes del cuerpo
- Escribe garabatos
- Apila de dos a cuatro objetos
- Se expresa en frases de dos palabras
- Disfruta de hacer cosas por sí mismo(a)
- Se frustra con facilidad
- Utiliza objetos de la manera en que se deben utilizar

3 Años
- Se expresa en frases de tres a cinco palabras
- Canta canciones sencillas
- Puede saltar en un mismo lugar
- Comienza a hacer preguntas
- Juega a "imitar" (por ejemplo, pretender ser la mamá, el papá, los hermanos, y las hermanas)
- Puede ayudar a cepillarse los dientes, las manos, a desvestirse, etc.

4 Años
- Puede utilizar el baño (con pocos accidentes)
- Se puede equilibrar en un pie y después el otro
- Puede nombrar hasta tres colores
- Puede repetir partes de una historia familiar
- Empieza a jugar con otros niños en vez de solo(a)

5 Años
- Le gustan los desafíos que le presenta un patio de recreos
- Se viste completamente por sí mismo(a), incluso abotonar botones; subir y bajar cierres, amarrarse los zapatos
- Puede jugar conjuntamente con un grupo pequeño de niños
- Dibuja a las personas en dos porciones– la cabeza y los brazos o las piernas
- Puede contarle a los padres algo ocurrido durante su ausencia
- Puede contar hasta diez

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
AZED.gov/SpecialEducation/Parents/AZ-Find

For more information on developmental screening, talk to your doctor or for infants and toddlers call the AZ Early Intervention Program at 602-532-9960. For preschoolers call your local school district.

Exceptional Student Services



Fresh Perspectives Series

Examining common misconceptions surrounding school meals to offer guidance on how to steer the conversations within your community!



Claim: "School Meals are High in Sugar"

Let's Take a Closer Look...

Response: Starting July 1, 2025, School Food Authorities must adhere to revised nutrition standards for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP). These updated standards aim to **reduce the amount of added sugars** in school meals, promoting healthier choices for students. The revisions emphasize the importance of **offering a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins**, while limiting sodium and saturated fats. By prioritizing nutritional balance, the programs strive to support students' overall well-being and academic performance.

Added Sugars Versus Total Sugars

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, **total sugars** "encompass the sugars that naturally occur in various nutritious foods and beverages, such as milk and fruits, along with any added sugars that might be included in the product."

Added sugars refer to "sugars incorporated during the food processing, those found in packaged sweeteners, sugars derived from syrups and honey, as well as sugars from concentrated fruit or vegetable juices."

Final Rule: Added Sugar Limit Updates as of July 1, 2025

- **Breakfast cereals:** no more than **6 grams** of added sugars per dry ounce
- **Yogurt:** no more than **12 grams** of added sugars per 6 ounces
- **Flavored milk:** no more than **10 grams** of added sugars per 8 fluid ounces or, for flavored milk sold as a competitive food for middle and high schools, **15 grams** of added sugars per 12 fluid ounces

Crucial Points to Chat About...

Here are our recommended points to offer during any discussion to effectively **express your commitment and efforts** to serve foods with less sugar at your sites.

- **Revised School Nutrition Standards:** Guide your community to the updates to the final rule, which include revisions to regulations for added sugar, sodium, and whole grains.
- **NSLP Products vs Grocery Store Products:** Remind your community that the processed products served at your sites differ from their grocery store counterparts. As an example, General Mills Honey Cheerios were created exclusively for K-12 schools and contain less sugar, more whole grains, and no nuts!

upLIFT
LEARN. INSPIRE. FEED. TEACH.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

PTC Newsletter

November

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

October was an AMAZING month filled with fun, memories, and school spirit!

From Spirit Week and Hawaiian shirts featuring Mr. Erickson's face for Boss's Day to our Fall Festival, Book Fair, and so much more, our school was buzzing with excitement!

November is shaping up to be another busy month with our Veteran's Day performance, Fall Bake Sale, and 8th Grade Banner Sales.

A HUGE thank-you to all of our parents, staff, and community members for your continued support. We couldn't do it without you!

Don't forget all of last season's spirit wear is 25% OFF in the font office. New shirt order forms are going home with students this week!

-Lindsay Taylor
PTC President

WANNA CHAT? CONTACT US TODAY

Elginptc@elgink12.com

HAPPENING NEXT MONTH

8th Grade Banner Payments due - 17 December

IMPORTANT DATES

Veteran'd Day Performance- 10 November
Fall Bake Sale- 20 November
8th Grade Banner Sales- All Month

FUNDRAISERS

Fall Bake Sale In front of National Bank of Arizona at the corner of 82/83. 20 November!



Lacy, Lindsay and Callie show their appreciation for Mr. Erickson on Boss's Day



PTC Members Volunteering their time at the Fall Festival!



Thank you to our Business Banner Partners- The Steak Out AND RBar Remodeling!

SPONSORS

Hawks Family
National Bank of Arizona
Patagonia Regional Times
Grasshopper Landscaping
RBar Remodeling
The Steak Out

Interested in becoming an ELGIN School PTC Sponsor? Please contact us via email. We cannot wait to hear from you!

December Events





Please join us for a free community performance!

Presented By: Elgin School Students

Saturday, December 12th

6:00 PM

Elgin School Gym







Elgin School Calendar
2026-27

Normal School Hours:
7:55 AM-3:00 PM

July						4
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	~~6~~	~~7~~	~~8~~	~~9~~	~~10~~	11
12	~~13~~	~~14~~	~~15~~	~~16~~	~~17~~	18
19	20	21	22	23	~~24~~	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August						17
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September						17
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October						13
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November						12
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December						11
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January						15
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February						15
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March						15
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April						17
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May						16
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	~~31~~					

July 20th-23rd	Staff Returns/Professional Development
July 27th	First day for Students
Sept. 7th	Labor Day - No School
Oct. 5th-8th	Fall Break - No School
Nov. 11th	Veterans Day - No School
Nov. 23rd-26th	Thanksgiving Break - No School
Dec. 21st-31st	Winter Break - No School
Jan. 4th	Students Return
Jan. 18th	Civil Rights Day - No School
February 15th	Presidents' Day - No School
March 15th-18th	Spring Break - No School
May 27th	Last Day of School

This calendar is subject to change.
152 Instructional Days

Report Card Periods
1st Quarter - 7/27-10/1
2nd Quarter - 10/6-12/17
3rd Quarter - 1/4-3/11
4th Quarter - 3/22-5/27

152 Days

- Teacher & Staff In-Service
- First & Last Days
- Vacation - No School
- Special Event Release

Elgin School

Donate your Arizona Tax Credit today!!

The monies received from the Extra-Curricular Tax Credit go directly to help fund student programs. Thanks to generous donations, the students of Elgin School will be able to enjoy many programs that may not have been available otherwise.





Athletics



Field Trips



Marine Biology Club

Ready to donate today? Just send in this form with your donation to:

Elgin School
Attn. Tax Credit
23 Elgin Rd
Elgin, AZ 85611

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

Please use my contribution for the following extracurricular activity:

_____

Make checks payable to Elgin School. Mail or drop off this completed form with your check to Elgin School. The school staff will provide you with a receipt verifying you have contributed to an eligible fee-based extra-curricular activity.



Missoula Children's Theatre Residency





NO TOYS AT SCHOOL PLEASE

Please support your children by reminding them that toys are not allowed at school. This will help to eliminate distractions during learning times.

Thank You For Your Help and Support.

