

Eagle Tales

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Message from Mr. Erickson

Every Day Matters

As we settle into another great school year at Elgin Elementary, September gives us an opportunity to focus on something that truly matters: attendance. September is Attendance Awareness Month, and it is a perfect time to remind ourselves that every day, every class, and every student matters.

Last year, our Elgin Elementary community made tremendous progress in attendance. Our chronic absenteeism rate improved from 20.54% in FY25 to an incredible 13.79% last school year. That improvement didn't happen by accident. It happened because our students came to school, our staff continued to make learning engaging and meaningful, and our parents and families made school attendance a priority.

This year, we have set an ambitious goal: fewer than 10% of our students chronically absent. With 152 days in our school year, missing more than 10% means missing 16 or more days of school. Every day a student is present is another opportunity to learn something new, build a relationship, strengthen a skill, or experience success.

Of course, we also understand that sick students need to stay home. We want our students and staff to be healthy, and families should never feel that a child needs to attend school when they are genuinely ill. Our goal is consistent attendance when students are healthy and able to learn. Also, be sure to schedule appointments for Fridays or over one of our school breaks

Row the Boat. Be 1% Better

Our attendance goal connects directly to the culture we are building at Elgin Elementary.

Row the Boat reminds us that we are all moving in the same direction. Students, teachers, staff, parents, and community members each have a role to play. When we all pull together, we can accomplish great things.

And this year, we are challenging everyone to Be 1% Better. That doesn't mean being perfect. It means looking for small opportunities every day to improve—to learn a little more, work a little harder, help someone else, or take another step toward reaching our goals.

Simply being present and ready to learn is one of the most important ways our students can be 1% better each day.

Continued next page

Friday Academy Is Coming!

We are also excited to begin Friday Academy in September. Friday Academy will provide additional tutoring and support for students who would benefit from extra time to strengthen their academic skills.

Our goal is about more than improving test scores or completing assignments. We want students to strengthen their skills, experience success, and grow in confidence. Sometimes a little extra time, encouragement, and individual attention can make a tremendous difference for a child.

We are fortunate to have a staff that believes deeply in our students and is willing to provide these additional opportunities to help them succeed.

Thank You, Elgin Families!

None of this is possible without the partnership of our families. Thank you for making education a priority, supporting your children, encouraging them to come to school ready to learn, and working alongside our teachers and staff.

Together, we will keep rowing the boat, keep getting 1% better, and keep doing what we do best, putting our students first and helping every Eagle reach their full potential.

With appreciation,



Elgin School

School-to-Home Communication

Elgin School uses email as our primary communication.

- Please ensure any parent/guardian email addresses are current in ParentVUE during online registration and the "Mailings Allowed" box is checked.
- Any changes to email, phone numbers, or addresses after the online registration period can be communicated to Ms. Paul.

Emergency/Urgent communication:

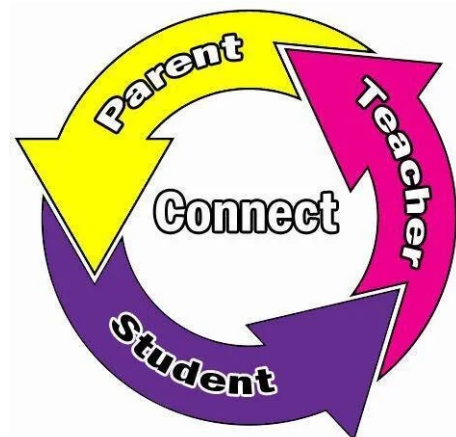
- Messages will be sent via the Bloomz Messaging System.
- Follow up information will be sent via regular email.

Classroom to Home communication:

- Teachers will utilize email and ParentVUE.
- Teachers may also utilize the Bloomz app.

ParentVUE app features:

- Submit absences in advance
- Communicate directly with teachers
- Check current grades
- School Calendar



In the Spotlight

Middle School Social Studies – By Mrs. J. Cranston

From Gold Mines to the Constitution: A Great Start to the Year!

It's been such a fun start to the year! Our students have jumped in with curiosity, creativity, and a real "keep rowing" attitude. Here's a peek at what they've been up to:

Sixth Grade: Finding Their Way

Our sixth graders settled into middle school like pros! They kicked things off by mapping the classroom as gold miners and geologists, then put those map skills to work designing travel brochures for places they'd love to visit — Paris, San Diego, and Ontario, Canada were some of the cool choices. This is a fun, chatty group that loves working together, and it shows.

Seventh Grade: A Sharp Eye for History

Seventh graders are deep into European history, and they've shown a real eye for art — many students spotted a church from an earlier painting reappear later in the unit! Their questions have been sharp and curious, a great sign for all the history still ahead. We also welcomed two new students this year, who've fit right into the class community.

Eighth Grade: Becoming Citizens

This year's focus is U.S. Civics, and eighth graders are already off to a strong start — they've mastered their first set of ten questions from the U.S. Naturalization test. As they dig into the legislature, they'll soon be "grading" Senator Mark Kelly or Senator Ruben Gallego. They also wrote letters thanking James Madison for his role in shaping the Constitution — we'll be sending those letters to the county fair as part of the celebration of the United States's 250th birthday!

Across All Grades

Whatever the subject, our students have brought curiosity, teamwork, and grit. Older students have welcomed the younger ones with open arms, and everyone's been rowing the boat together — asking questions, seeking feedback, and never giving up. SOAAR has been a great time for kids to finish classwork, help each other, and some students are practicing crochet and chess when they finish!

We can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Elgin School Teacher of the Year

Kyndra Ortiz



My journey as an educator began as the path I swore I would never take. Teacher's kids know the truth. We grow up as unpaid interns. Yet 7 years ago, I found my way home to a middle school math classroom in southern Arizona and began embracing the calling behind the work. Teaching showed me that public schools are crossroads of culture, diversity, and human connection where students and families deserve to feel seen, valued, and supported. It taught me to adapt, advocate, encourage, and lead with purpose and heart. My journey is still just beginning as I pursue Educational Leadership rooted in service and hope.

WELCOME ABOARD!



Kyla Goodling

Kitchen/Custodial Assistant

I enjoy traveling, spending time outdoors, and learning about plants and wildlife. My favorite activity is backpacking in the Grand Canyon, exploring new areas and capturing beautiful sunsets. When I'm not out hiking, I am playing with my 3 cats- Patrick, Gus, and Tiger.



Kinder Readiness - By Dr. Chris Clouse

We wrapped up our first theme of 2026–2027 Preschool Story Time this week—and what a colorful start it was! We had fun making new friends, exploring colors, and trying different activities. Here's a look at the books we enjoyed during our colors theme:

- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr.
- *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh
- *Mix It Up!* by Hervé Tullet
- *Where Is the Green Sheep?* by Mem Fox
- *Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes* by James Dean

Join us next week when we start a new theme!



PREKINDER Story Time



Elgin Elementary
School

- 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

Nurse's Corner



Preventing Bug Bites

Here are some tips to help keep your children more comfortable and healthier during this bug season:

- Wear shoes, long socks, pants, and shirts, preferably light in color.
- If preferred, apply a bug deterrent of your choice to skin before attending school. Do not send these types of sprays or lotions to school with your child. They are considered medication and can possibly cause allergic reactions for other students.
- Talk with your child about refraining from rolling around in the grass, dirt, gravel, and wood chips.
- Consider alternatives to playing on grassy fields. There are two large shaded areas on the playgrounds where you child can sit or stand in the shade and talk, read, or play games.
- Remove clothes and shower before bed every night. Launder clothing every day, if possible, to help prevent bugs from entering the home.
- If bitten, refrain from scratching the bites to help prevent secondary infections.
- Apply anti-irritation lotions or ointments, such as calamine lotion, Benadryl type creams, etc. for itching. Epsom salt warm baths or oatmeal baths can help relieve itching. Naturopathic oils can help with both being a bug repellant, as well as act as a skin irritation reliever. Search the internet for what works for your family.

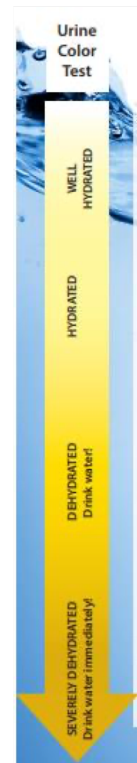
- Websites you can go to for more information are:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/yellow-book/hcp/environmental-hazards-risks/mosquitoes-ticks-and-other-arthropods.html>
 - <https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid/first-aid-insect-bites/basics/art-20056593>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/early-care/communication-resources/outdoor-play-and-safety-for-children-in-ece.html>
 - https://azpoison.com/sites/default/files/u116/bites_stings_broch_v4.pdf



Heat & Hydration

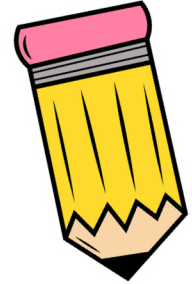
Here are some reminders while we have been under heat advisories. They will also help your child while participating in recess, PE and sports.

- Drink approximately ½-1oz of water per pound of body weight daily.
- Fresh fruits can help with hydration.
- Students should be urinating at least twice while at school for eight hours.
- Urine should be the color of light straw (see diagram →).
- Snacks with some salt and carbohydrates can help replenish lost nutrients with exercise while providing for energy.



PTC Newsletter

August



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to an exciting new school year! On behalf of the Elgin PTC, I hope you had a wonderful summer filled with fun and rest. We are excited to welcome all of our new and returning families back to campus!

The PTC is looking forward to another year of supporting our students, teachers, staff, and community through fun events, volunteer opportunities, and family engagement. We encourage every family to get involved! Together, we can make this year the best one yet!

Here's to another school year filled with learning, friendships, and unforgettable memories!

Lindsay Taylor, PTC President

IMPORTANT DATES

6 August- Summer Reading Program Pizza Party
12 August- Meeting @7:30am

FUNDRAISERS

6 August-Paint and Sip night
Community Business Banner Sales Start



Paint and Sip Fundraiser!
Special thanks to:
Lacy Beyer
Callie Mattus
Rachel Fail
Rylie Fail
Emma Fail
Lowen Davis
Lehric Davis



Summer Reading Program Pizza Party!
Special thanks to:
Lacy Beyer
Monica Anderson

WANNA CHAT? CONTACT US TODAY



Elginptc@elgink12.com

HAPPENING NEXT MONTH

Dippin Dots @ The Sonoita Rodeo
9 September- Meeting @7:30

SPONSORS

Interested in becoming an ELGIN School PTC Sponsor and have your business name listed here? Please contact us via email. We cannot wait to hear from you!

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us at Elgin School for a

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, November 10th

7:55 AM-1:15 PM	Normal Class Schedule
1:30-2:45 PM	Veterans Day Celebration - Gym
3:00 PM	Normal Dismissal

****Please note that regular school hours will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10th. There will be NO early dismissal that day.****

Save the Date!

All School Field Trip



Pima Air & Space Museum

Thursday November 12th

**6000 E Valencia Rd
Tucson, AZ**

MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE

A PRODUCTION OF MCT, INC.

Save the Date!



Elgin School's Missoula Children's Theatre Residency

December 7th-12th

The performance will be held on Saturday, December 12th at 6:00 PM

A FRIENDLY Reminder

NO TOYS AT SCHOOL PLEASE

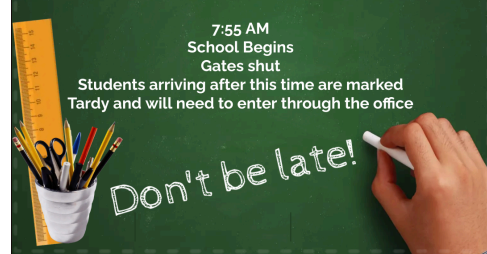
Please support your children by reminding them that toys are not allowed at school. This will help to eliminate distractions during learning times.

Thank You For Your Help and Support.

SCHOOL TIMES REMINDERS

7:30 AM
Gates Open
Supervision begins on campus
Breakfast available until 7:50 AM

7:55 AM
School Begins
Gates shut
Students arriving after this time are marked Tardy and will need to enter through the office



Don't be late!

Capture your memories in this year's

Elgin Elementary School

yearbook!

Customize your 2 free pages

- Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Google Drive and more
- Answer fun memory questions to help remember the year
- The 2 custom pages are free and are printed only in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages are just \$1.99.

To purchase and customize your yearbook, use the QR code below or:

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older

1. Go to treering.com/validate
2. Enter your school's passcode:
1016358278643056

Hardcover: **\$26.60**

Softcover: **\$19.46**

*Does not include sales tax, if applicable

Create custom pages by: **Apr 16**



10% OFF Purchase by October 31

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



CANARY MELONS

TEACH

FIND LOCAL CANARY MELONS IN ARIZONA:

HARVEST MONTHS: July, August, September

- Agritopia Farms, Gilbert, AZ
 - via Sun Produce
- Arevalos Farm, McNeal, AZ
 - via Pivot Produce
- Blooming Reed Farms, Paulden, AZ
 - via Sun Produce
 - via Pivot Produce



Connect with Local Producers!
[SCHOOL INTEREST FORM](#)

ARIZONA HARVEST FACTS!

- Canary melons are named for their bright, canary-yellow skin which resembles the color of a canary bird.
- The flesh of the canary melon is pale ivory or light green and is known for its mildly sweet, tangy, and refreshing flavor, similar to cantaloupe.
- Canary melons are a good source of vitamins A and C, which are important for maintaining healthy skin and boosting the immune system. They also provide dietary fiber, which aids in digestion.
- With over 90% water content, canary melons are a fantastic way to stay hydrated, especially during the hot summer months.
- When selecting a canary melon, look for one that is vibrant in color and feels heavy. A ripe canary melon will have a slight give when gently pressed at the blossom end.
- To test the ripeness of a canary melon, give it a light tap. A ripe melon will produce a deep, hollow sound, indicating that it is juicy and ready to eat.

TASTE

LOCAL RECIPE: SUMMER MELON SALAD

Serving size: ½ cup, Yield 16 servings
NSLP/SBP Crediting Information: ½ cup Fruit

Summer Melon Salad is a zesty, sweet and refreshing salad. It features canary and cantaloupe melons, fresh mint, and lemon juice.

- 4 cups diced Cantaloupe melon
- 4 cups diced Canary melon
- 1 Lemon
- Mint leaves, finely chopped



To ensure food safety with melons always thoroughly wash them under running water before cutting and eating.

QUICK MATH:

CANARY (YELLOW) MELONS



1 pound whole, fresh melon yields approximately **1 cup** of cubed, ready to eat melon

Elgin School Calendar

2026-27

Normal School Hours:

7:55 AM-3:00 PM

July							4
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

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				

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

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							

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

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						