

## DATES TO REMEMBER

## Jan. 3

Parent/Student meeting for Grades 9-12 EPS gym 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 4
School resumes for students

Jan. 10
School Board Mtg. in ITV Room 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 18
During the Ewing
Ballgames in EPS Gym:

* Bball Parent's Night
* 1st Grade Canned Food Drive
* EPS Hall of Fame Induction



# 1:1: Lappop Computeres To Expand in 2013 

For years, educators have been tossing around the idea that if every student had a laptop with them at all times we could expand students' educational opportunities. Many schools across the nation and the state of Nebraska have issued a laptop to each student for this very reason. Now Elgin Public School plans to implement such a program in Grades 9-12.

Every student in grades 9-12 was issued a laptop computer last semester but had to return the laptop at the end of the day to be recharged. Beginning in January 2013, students will be allowed to take those laptops home with them! On January 3, 2013 all parents and students in Grade 9-12 will meet in the EPS gym to finalize paperwork for the students to check out their computer for home use. Mr. Patrick will go over the Laptop Computer Usage and Security Guidelines. Students and parents must acknowledge their understanding of this policy as
 well as the guidelines. After signing the Computer Loan Agreement with Elgin Public Schools, students will be allowed to take their laptops home with them.

If the students have internet access at home, they will be able to go online using their laptop. The laptop will use the school's internet protection to deny them access to undesirable websites.

All parents and students in Grades 9-12 must attend the 1:1 computer meeting on January 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. Students cannot take their laptops home until paperwork has been completed.


## Bloodmobile Held at EPS in December

 Elgin Public School hosted the bloodmobile on December 19th. National Honor Society members and student council members volunteered to call possible donors and work at the event throughout the day. They also helped load and unload the bloodmobile equipment. The event surpassed the goal of 64 units with a total of 74 units. Thanks to all donors and volunteers that worked so hard to make the day a success!
## Snow

Days

## CALLING SCHOOL

 OR ACTIVITIES OFF DUE TO WEATHER is a very difficult and somewhat controversial decision sometimes. Please be advised that if you EVER disagree with the decision and wish to keep your children home or have them come home that is completely within you discretion. Just let the school know.

## UNK HONOR CHOIRS

Last November was a busy time for the music department. We had deadlines for the UNK at Kearney Honor Choirs in which we needed to prepare audition music to record on CDs. Elgin Public had 10 students in choir make audition tapes - that was fantastic! The auditions were voices only - the piano could NOT play their parts as they sung - making it all that more difficult. There are over 950 tapes sent in statewide for the judges to listen to and decide which students to place in each of the three choirs. Students are competing for spots from all classes of schools - A, B, C and D-against each other.

The results are in! We are pleased to announce that Zach Polk was chosen to sing in the top choir: the "Honor choir". I'm proud of Zach as this was his first attempt at an audition CD and he was chosen to sing with the best of the best. Joining the "Festival Choir" is Ashlyn DeWald and Madison Voborny. Sharla Schindler, Hayley Stamp and Kao Takaya will be performing with the "Women's Choir". It will be an exciting time for Kao to be able to experience singing with 100 female voices. The clinicians for the event are Dr. David Bauer - UNK, A.J. Reimers Bellevue West in Bellevue, Nebraska and Cheri Helmer-Riensche - Papillion-LaVista South in Papillion, Nebraska.

The students will rehearse with the choirs all day and conclude with a concert on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Health/Sports Complex on UNK campus. There will be an admission charge for the concert. It will be a great musical experience for these students and hopefully they can come back to the Elgin choir with some positive things to share.

## CHORAL EXTRAVAGANZA

Where can you find over 600 youthful voices making music together? At the Boone Central Choral Clinic on Monday, January 21, 2013. They will rehearse songs, which each individual choir has prepared ahead of time with the clinician during the day. They will perform these songs on the concert that evening at 5:30 p.m. There will also be performances by small groups from individual schools. The clinician this year is Mr. Kurt Von Kampen from Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. The students are sure to have a wonderful musical experience. It will be a concert you won't want to miss. So..........drive over to Albion on January $21^{\text {st }}$ for an evening of music!

## Elgin Public PASS System



## Parents and students can access

 student's current grades through the EPS website:www.elgineagles.org
Click on Schoolmaster and enter the student ID number and PIN. If you have questions, please call the school.
 ELEMENTARYART The Elementary Art students were busy with several projects during first semester. Projects included learning about color, pencil drawing, pumpkin drawing, turkeys, oil pastel drawing, painting a still life and sunsets, sculpting clay projects and designing Christmas giftbags. They also continued their bellringer from last year which was Zentangling.

Second semester will see them creating radial designs better known as snowflakes, printmaking and practicing their drawing skills that were introduced first semester. They will continue the zentangle bellringer but will be allowed to stop using the grid pattern if they want and create their own design.

Students are shown how to draw people and objects using shapes and should practice this at home as well. A person is drawn using a rectangle for the body, an oval for the head and two rectangles for each arm and leg. The body is drawn first because the head and limbs all attach to the body. If a child draws the head first it usually turns out too large for the body and their proportion or balance is off. After they have the correct proportion they may begin adding details such as clothing, facial features, hair, shoes etc. They erase any lines they do not need at this point and may color and/or shade their drawing.

Encourage your child to draw using shapes and have plenty of paper and drawing supplies such as pencils, crayons and colored pencils to draw with on hand. Mrs. Heithoff


# Recycling Challenge 



Elgin Public students and other community members brought in 6620 pounds of recyclable paper during the 3 week Green Fiber challenge! This averaged out to 35.4 pounds per student, enough to earn us a 3rd place prize! The school earned $\$ 50$ in prize money, plus $\$ 66.20$ for the paper itself. Thanks to everyone who donated their paper, magazines, etc to our cause! Though we currently are not involved in a challenge, we encourage everyone to keep recycling in their homes.

Paper donations are accepted every day of the year in the bright green bins north of the gym building!


The third graders came up with New Year's resolutions for 2013!

Here is what each student is going to improve or work on for 2013:

* Vanessa- I will do better on my Reading Mastery homework.
* Riley- I will read more carefully and do better on my AR quizzes.
* Jessica- I will try to remember to feed my hamsters more often.
* Shelby- I am going to work harder in spelling.
* Brittney- I am going to be a better listener and be quiet when I am supposed to.
* Jeslynn- I am going to try to get up in the morning without my mom telling me.
* Erica- I am going to try harder on my Reading Mastery homework.
* Donovan- I will do better on my handwriting.
* Norman- I will clean my room when I am told.
* Jace- I will eat healthier foods.
* Kali- I will get good grades in all of my school subjects.
* Colton- I will try to make my AR goal for both the third and fourth quarters.
* Cyrus- I will try not to fight with my brothers.

We wish everyone a great and prosperous new year in 2013!

Mrs. Eisenhauer and the third graders

Check our website for the most current news and calendar!

by Mrs. Barb Bode
Webinars will help parents and students prepare for the FAFSA
Students and parents are encouraged to participate in a free EducationQuest webinar on "How to Complete the FAFSA." The webinar will explain financial aid basics and how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This is the same information provided during EducationQuest's Financial Aid Programs. Webinars are scheduled for:

Wednesday, December 19-7:00 pm (CT) -
Webinar link: http://eqf.org/QSr92Q
Monday, January 14-7:00 pm (CT) -
Webinar link: http://egf.org/SsgDSz
Wednesday, January 16-7:00 pm (CT) Webinar link: http://eqf.org/XToPN4

The password to log on to the Webinar is Presentation. After logging on, participants will be given a phone number and access code to join the webinar.

If you have questions, call EducationQuest at 800.666.3721 or email info@educationquest.org.

# FCCLA MENBERS ATTEND CLUSTER 



FCCLA members pose for a picture during their trip to Oklahoma City, OK. Members are: (back row) Sharla Schindler, Steph Bode, Tia Lierman, Hayley Stamp, Madison Voborny, \& Devon Baum. (front row) Hannah Kerkman, Hunter Thramer, Sponsor Mrs. Barb Bode, \& Ivy Prater

On November 16-18 nine members of the Elgin FCCLA chapter attended the National Cluster Meeting held in Oklahoma City. This year's theme was Make Your Mark. After numerous sight- seeing activities, leadership sessions, and of course fun, the members enjoyed their trip up to OKC! Those attending were: Stephanie Bode, Ivy Prater, Hannah Kerkman, Hunter Thramer, Madison Voborny, Hayley Stamp, Sharla Schindler, Devon Baum, Tia Lierman, and adviser Mrs. Barb Bode.

Our trip started by visiting the Oklahoma City National Memorial \& Museum. We learned about the history of the tragedy as well as its significance. As we walked through the doors, there was a sign that read "We come here to remember those who were killed, those who survived and those changed forever. May all who leave here know the impact of violence. May this memorial offer comfort, strength, peace, hope and serenity." The memorial not only informed us about what happened that day, but how it impacted our lives forever. We also heard from one of the survivors. Her story was something an ordinary person could not imagine. Her life was changed forever as she continues to face the unthinkable difficulties regarding that tragedy. She told us that if we left that day with anything it would be to remember that, "You cannot choose what happens to you, you can only choose how you handle it." Before we left, we put our hand prints on the wall of remembrance to leave a little bit of ourselves. We also wrote our names in chalk to show our respect to those who died and whose lives were changed forever.

We attended many sessions and heard many speakers over the course of the trip. During the opening session of the Cluster meeting we learned how we can Make Our Mark as FCCLA members. Our keynote speaker for opening session was Harriet Turk. Her motto was "Peace Makers in a Violent World. She gave us skills and attitudes that changed negative thoughts into positive thoughts. Harriet also talked about conflict resolution, anger management, and bullying. She left us screaming, "LIFE IS GREAT!"

Other sessions that we attended included: It Can Wait, Speak Out for FCCLA, Bringing Leadership into FCCLA, Go Fight, Win, and many more! Our closing Session was a wrap up of our ultimate leadership experience. Our keynote speaker was Patrick Grady. His motto was "A Humorous Look at Family, Career, Community, and Personal Success!" His high energy and interactive presentation assisted us in developing skills that taught innovative ways to motivate FCCLA members to be leaders.

## TO CHECK YOUR LUNCH ACCOUNT ONLINE:

$\Rightarrow$ Go to the school website www.elgineagles.org
$\Rightarrow$ Click the "Lunch Account Balance" button on the right-hand side of the home page.
$\Rightarrow$ Enter your family ID number and PIN (If you do not know your family ID or PIN, please call the school)
$\Rightarrow$ Your lunch account balance will be shown. If you would like to see a detailed statement, scroll to the bottom of that page and click on a detailed version. If you have any difficulties with access or questions about the program, please contact Anney Beckman 843-2455 or anney.beckman@elgineagles.org

## JH Wolfpack Girls

The Wolfpack Junior High girl's basketball team started their season the first week of November, practicing hard and showing improvement every time they take the floor! With four games under their belt, both the A and B teams boast 2-2 records! The first game of the season saw them take on Madison on November 29, 2012 at EPS gym. The A team took over in the second half of that game and won 18-10. Leading scorers were Liz Selting with 10 points and Amy Nelson, Taya Voborny, Nicki Payne, and Elianne Heilhecker with two apiece. The B team also easily handled Madison by a score of 16-8. Zoey Bergman led all scorers with 6 points, followed by Marie Meis with four and Kelsey Welding, Lydia
 Behnk, and Katie Copeland with two each.

On Monday, December 3, 2012 the Wolfpack faced two tough Burwell teams, coached by former Elgin Ag teacher Phil Simpson at the St. Boniface Gym. The B team faced a 33-4 setback, seeing only Zoey Bergman and Marie Meis put points on the board. The A team then took the court, coming off with a double overtime win, 15-13. Leading scorers for the A team were Liz Selting with 8 points, Jordan Mescher with four, and Paige Meis with three.

On Thursday, December 6, the teams traveled to Neligh to play the Neligh-Oakdale Lady Warriors. The A team suffered a 3611 setback with Liz Selting putting 6 points on the board and Jordan Mescher five. The B team, however, showing great defense, beat Neligh-Oakdale by a score of 16-12. Leading a balanced scoring attack were Emily Seier with 5 and Taylor Sehi with 4. Shantel Preister, Zoey Bergman, Kelsey Welding each had two points and Jaime Hoefer sank a free throw to score one.

In their last game before Christmas break, the Wolfpack traveled to Tilden to take on the Elkhorn Valley Lady Falcons on Thursday, December 13. Both teams suffered losses to an aggressive Falcon team. Leading the A team, who lost 15-26, was Liz Selting with 7, Paige Meis and Calli Krebs with 3 each, and Elianne Heilhecker with two. The B team lost 10-18 and was led by Lydia Behnk with 4, and Shantel Preister, Zoey Bergman, and Taylor Sehi with two each.


The Junior High Wolfpack girl's basketball team has three games remaining on their schedule. They will face Ewing at 1:30 on January 17 at the EPS gym and will travel to Chambers on Monday, February 4. Their final game will be a road game at Humphrey on Wednesday, February 6 at 1:00 p.m.

## The Fribay before Christmas

by Mrs. Shoe


'Twas the Friday before Christmas and all through the school, The staff and students worked diligently; they simply had much to do. The grades would soon be posted on Schoolmaster with care.
Soon the halls would be quiet and empty, as if they'd all vanished into thin air.

The students were all focused on getting things done.
In the backs of their minds were visions of Christmas break fun.
And the teachers were all dreaming of tests and papers being finished.
And being able to enjoy a restful break, as large paper trails diminished.
When inside the English room there arose such a clatter, Startled, everyone wondered just what was the matter.
The Seniors were raising the roof and really woo-hooing!
The teachers ran right out to see what they were doing.
The celebration was not due to any snow accumulation, So the rest of the students could not understand their jubilation. But by golly they were happy and proud--they were finished! Their research papers were in the tray to be graded this very minute.

With their little old teacher, also beaming and proud, These papers were on time, so who cared if they were loud? They'd tackled this project and made it look like a cinch. Not anyone could ruin their cheer . . . not even The Grinch!

Now the Juniors were jealous, for an end they, too, were a wishin'.
They would finish those persuasive essays--they were on a serious mission.
They applied those persuasive strategies and logical fallacies they did avoid They would become master manipulators, these once innocent girls and boys.


As Junior noses were at the grindstone, the Sophomores began to ask,
"Why shouldn't we celebrate, too, for the finishing of a task?"
They read passage after passage and determined organization.
They would soon be able to choose a format for any topic, purpose, or occasion.
And then in a flurry, the Freshmen followed suit.
They worked away feverishly on friendly letters to the big man in the red, fuzzy suit. Using apostrophes, italics, quotation marks and even correct capitalization, Carefully applying all they had learned to such an important situation.

They were all working hard, including Creative Writing.
The students were so engrossed in their short stories that today they weren't even fighting. A ton of ideas, they impressed on each and every page.
Developing stories to be appreciated by individuals of any age.
The clock finally revealed it was time for all work to be completed.
And their proud and overjoyed teacher collected all the papers that she needed.
The students were exhausted, but satisfied with what they'd done.
They had all worked extremely hard, but this feeling was kind of fun.
They sprang to their cars, jumped in and sped away fast, for it was Christmas break time and for only two weeks would it last. But they were all heard expressing as they drove on in search of fun:

"Merry Christmas to all, and congratulations on a job well done!"

## 2nd Grade News



Learning doesn't slow down in the second grade room it has been another busy month. In Math we have been adding 2 \& 3 digit numbers and we have learned to regroup ones to tens and tens to ones. We are just starting 2 digit subtraction and learning to regroup from the tens back to the ones.

Second Graders have been busy writing many sentences in Language and starting to write friendly letters. We wrote to Santa for the Elgin Review. Our first letter arrived from our Ag in the Classroom family right before Thanksgiving; we are in the process of composing letters back to them.

Everyone is reading so much better than when we started school in August. We did out DIBBLES reading benchmark and the results revealed that the students have been working hard to be fluent readers.

In Social Studies we have discussed a variety of subjects, landforms, bodies of water, map grids, compass roses, and characteristics of cities, suburbs, and rural areas. We are now learning about our continents and oceans.

Science finds the $2^{\text {nd }}$ grade class discussing the 4 seasonal changes and now we're talking about how living things change as they grow.

We hope everyone has an enjoyable break and will be ready to continue our learning in January.


## The 5 Main Internet Safety Rules:

* Don't give out personal information
* Never agree to get together with someone you meet online.
* Don't believe everything you read online.
* Only use your first name.
* Don't give out your account password



## Volleyball Wrap-Up

On Wednesday December $12^{\text {th }}$, the Wolfpack concluded the fall sports seasons with a potluck banquet and award presentation. Awards presented to volleyball team:
Student Managers: Taya Voborny, Liz Selting, Jordan Mescher, \& Grace Henn
Participant Awards: Whitney Walker, Lexi Heithoff, Terri Seier, Katie Polk, Jill Schindler, Korissa Dicke, Nikki Beckman, Nadja Jakupovic, Kao Takaya, Kayla Nelson, Morgan Childers, Hayley Stamp, Sharla Schindler, Taylor Schumacher, Baylie Schiltmeyer, \& Ivy Prater Letter Winners: Jenna Parks, Casey Pelster, Mallory Fangman, Madi Voborny, Stephanie Bode, Corin Pelster, Sydney Schumacher, Courtney Schumacher, Chelsi Mescher, Maddie Schiltmeyer, Marin Heithoff, Jennifer Tharnish, Natalie Beckman, Justine Heithoff

Team Awards/Voted by team members:
Most Improved: C-team Nadja \& Kao JV: Hayley Stamp Varsity: Jenna Parks
Best Offense Player: C-team Terri Seier JV Corin Pelster Varsity: Chelsi Mescher \& Marin Heithoff Best Defense player: C-team: Morgan Childers JV: Baylie Shiltmeyer Varsity: Courtney Schumacher Hustle Award: C-team: Nikki Beckman JV Taylor Schumacher Varsity: Courtney Schumacher Most Valuable Player: C-team: Nicki Beckman JV: Baylie Schiltmeyer \& Varsity: Chelsi Mescher Wolfpack Award: C-team: Morgan Childers and Nicki Beckman JV:Ivy Prater Varsity Courtney Schumacher

## Niobrara All Conference Awards:

Courtney Schumacher and Marin Heithoff Honorable Mention and Chelsi Mescher made $2^{\text {nd }}$ team All conference

Chelsi Mescher was voted Norfolk Daily News All Area Honorable Mention, Lincoln Journal Star All State Honorable Mention, \& Omaha World Herald All State Honorable Mention

Records broken this season: Chelsi Mesher holds the most ace serves in career with 87 and the most attack attempts in a career with 1284. Chelsi also has the most kills in a career with 424. Jenna Parks has the most sets in a season with 1134 and most assists in a season with 302. For a complete list of records please see the Elgin Eagles website.

The 2012 Wolfpack Volleyball season ended with a 13-12 record. Thanks to the 30 girls for a great and fun season.

## Engineering Class Collaborates with NASA

The Introduction to Engineering students finished the year strong with a joint project with NASA to build a glider out of a shoe box. A video conference with a NASA instructor provided some history on NASA and its roll in aerospace and aeronautics, the science behind flight, and a glimpse of the activities that go on at various NASA facilities. We saw live shots from space and the mock-up of the international space station in Houston which is under water to simulate weightlessness. The NASA instructor then challenged the students to use their engineering skills to research, design, and test shoe-box gliders. The goal was to create a


Levi Kerkman, Garet Schindler, and Nick Heithoff create their glider. glider with the best glide slope ratio. We finished the project with presentations via video conference to the NASA instructor of each group's results. More pictures and videos can be found on the school's website at www.elgineagles.org.

## 4 th Grade News

Oh so busy!
Fourth graders have learned a lot this semester. They have tackled the chore of having three teachers, instead of one, for core classes.


In English we've learned about sentences, nouns, action verbs, linking verbs, adjectives, and pronouns. The grammar jar, which we put a marble in for each grammatical error somebody catches, has been filled TWICE! They are on their way to becoming grammatical geniuses!

Place value, decimals, fractions, multiplication, and division have kept their wheels turning in their brains. They have even begun to check their work on their own without it being assigned. That's milestones!

Reading has been filled with, well, reading. We have broken down several different short stories- all having to do with journeys, and read the novel, Shiloh. Shiloh is a book by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, about a boy who comes across a mistreated beagle. The book teaches life lessons about what's right and what's wrong. With that, they have learned what it means to be a responsible pet owner. Now they will put those lessons to the test with a new addition to our class, a beta fish.

We have been working on our writing skills in about every subject, but have done specific writing projects also. We have done a newspaper, called The Paw Print, started writing to our ag pen pal, and have written several different papers- about a time when you were scared during Halloween, a ride on a magic carpet, and others.

They've done all of this with enthusiasm and a smile on their faces!

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With the New Year comes' lots of new things for the Elgin Public Schools in the way of technology. Old dogs and new tricks will become synonymous with the path we are heading down. When talking about technology, age makes no difference in trying to define the "old dogs". Things are changing so rapidly some of the kids could even be classified in that category.
Regardless, the junior high finally has their own daily computer to check out and use for their educational work during the school day and as of January 4 th the \(9-12\) students whose parents have had the required meeting and paperwork completed can take their laptops home daily for educational purposes. The teaching staff has also received iPads to learn on and gain experience with the possibility of adding iPad technology to the lower grades in the fall. We are very excited about the education that we deliver at the Elgin Public Schools and are even more excited about updating and expanding the use of technology in that education.
The mandatory meeting for parents AND students to obtain home privilege for their laptops (grades 9-12) is to occur January \(3^{\text {rd }}\) at 7:00p.m. in the high school gym. At that time we will also go over the discontinuance of saturday school and the new program that will take its place as well for anyone that may have questions about that change. Hope you have a WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!!!
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## Math Logic Problem!

Five houses of different colors are in a row. Each is owned by a man with a different nationality, hobby, pet, and favorite drink. The Englishman lives in a red house, the Spaniard owns dogs, coffee is drunk in the green house, the Ukrainian drinks tea, the green house is directly to the right of the white one, the stamp collector owns snails, the antique collector lives in the yellow house, the man in the middle house drinks milk, the Norwegian lives in the first house, the man who sings lives next to the man with the fox, the man who gardens drinks juice, the antique collector lives next to the man with the horse, the Japanese man's hobby is cooking, the Norwegian lives next to the blue house.

Who drinks water, and who owns a zebra?
Answers will be on our website: www.elgineagles.org. Look under lesson plans>math!!!

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Residents of District 18, Elgin, are notified that School District 18, Elgin, NE participates in all required Special Education Services for all resident students, ages $0-21$. If you know of any student not currently being serviced by an appropriate educational program or have questions concerning the Special Education Program, contact the Superintendent's office at Elgin Public School.

Elgin Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. Further, the school complies with all Title IX and Equal Employment Opportunity guidelines as determined by Federal directives.

There will be a change in procedure beginning second semester, January 4, 2012.

## This procedure will take the place of Saturday School.

## Late Work/Failing Grade Procedure (Grades 4-12)

If a student does not hand in an assignment when it is due the following procedure will be followed:

1. The assignment will receive a $10 \%$ deduction.
2. If the assignment is not turned in by $4: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ it must be documented by the teacher. An AlertNow call will be placed to the parents/guardians informing them that their child has work that is not turned in. The call will inform parents that the student will lose $10 \%$, on their grade and the child needs to turn in the assignment the next school day or plan on staying until the work is done or 5:00 p.m. (whichever comes first). The parent/guardian will need to make transportation arrangements for their child.
3. Students failing to turn in the assignment the second school day will be expected to stay until the assignment is done or 5:00 p.m., whichever comes first. If they do not turn in the assignment by the end of the second day it will be recorded as a zero.

Also:
Students who are failing a class, are expected to come in and work on the class they are failing two days of their choosing each week and work on that subject until $4: 30$ p.m. Students who are failing a class will need to meet with me during study hall on Monday and decide which days they are staying.

If you have any questions please contact me at the school, (402)843-2455.


## $\mathcal{H}$ Happy $\mathcal{H}$ olidays! Schooโ resumes January 4th

## POSTAL PATRON

