



Ellsworth Eagles Rock

# Ellsworth Elementary



**December 2016**

Ellsworth Elementary  
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## A Message From Principal Stimatze's Desk



Ellsworth Family and Friends,

Welcome to December! This month is surely one of the exciting months of the year for most of our students. It is the holiday season and this is a fitting time for all of us to teach our students to be thankful and show them the value of generosity and kindness. The cold weather has arrived, and with it a reminder to send your students dressed appropriately for the temperatures.

As we break for the holidays and look towards a new year, I am reflecting on the hard work and especially the progress our students are making. Each day our students are learning new and important information that they will need for the rest of their lives. I am appreciative too of the work ethic our staff is showing as we prepare our students for upcoming assessments and beyond.

Students will be on the Holiday break from December 21st – January 4th. Students will report back to school on Thursday, January 5th. It is my hope that during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, you have a blessed holiday with family and friends.

**Every Student/Every Opportunity/Every Day**

Sincerely,

Tammy Stimatze, Principal

*Happy Holidays*



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## Ellsworth Elementary Hours

Office Hours: 7:30am to 4:00pm

Campus opens for students: 7:45am

WARNING BELL at 8:10 / TARDY at 8:15

Class Hours: (Mon/Tue/Thurs/Fri) 8:15am - 3:05pm

Early Release EVERY Wednesday Hours: 8:15am - 1:35pm

Half Day Hours: 11:15am LUNCH served



**CHARACTER  
COUNTS!**



### Student Spotlight

This month we focus on:

**Caring**

Congratulations to all the  
Students chosen for the awards  
assembly.

### Calendar

- PTO Fundraiser Buffalo Wild Wings 12/7
- Band Concert (@Simonton) 12/8
- PTO Meeting (Library-4:30pm) 12/13
- Governing Board Meeting (CMS) 12/14
- PTO Movie Night 12/16
- BOX Top Deadline 12/16
- Title 1- Meeting 12/19
- 1st Grade Winter Holiday Concert 12/19
- Early Dismissal - 12:00 pm 12/20
- Winter Break (No School) 12/21-1/4
- Students Return from break 1/5
- Class Pictures 1/12
- Battle of the Books #2 1/19
- Orchestra Concert 6:00pm 1-26
- Take Flight Friday 1-27
- Dec/Jan Awards Assembly 1-27

## Happenings in the classroom.....

**Kindergarten**



*Kindergarten is excited for a December full of learning and celebrating! We began our fun filled month with a breakout session on Holidays around the World. We will also be doing a literature study on all the different Gingerbread books and will conclude the unit by creating our own Gingerbread houses! In FUNdations we are becoming pros on tapping CVC words and are up to 30 sight words in the enrichment class. In math we are beginning teen numbers and getting a lot of practice finding groups of ten and counting by tens.*

# FIRST GRADE



- Shout out to all parents who donated food items and paper plates for our Thanksgiving feast! We appreciate all you do!
  - In Foundations we are learning about words with suffixes. Please continue to review trick words with your child each night.
  - Reading lessons will consist of fables and comparing "Gingerbread" stories.
  - Students are learning teen numbers and doubles facts in math.
  - Our writing focus continues to be writing to explain why. These next two weeks we will be writing about our favorite animal and the reasons why we picked that particular one.
- You are invited to our winter celebration held on Monday, December 19th at 6:00! We hope you see you there!
- Please feel free to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns.
  - Thank you for having your child in school and on time every day!



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# SECOND GRADE



- We had a great time performing our Thanksgiving Play for everyone! It was a great turnout. Thank you those who donated items for our celebrations afterwards!
- Galileo Testing is approaching! Please make sure your child gets a good night's rest, eats a healthy breakfast, and is to school on time. We are ready to show what we know!
- Math : We have finished Unit 2, which focused on addition with regrouping, as well as adding 3 and 4 two-digit numbers. Unit 3 will focus on measurement.
- Foundations: We have wrapped up Unit 5 which continued focusing on suffixes. We have learned about -ish, -en, -able, -ful, -less, -ness, and -ment.
- Writing: We are using our Write From the Beginning and Beyond curriculum to help us write a 5- sentence paragraph. We have also learned a lot about formal/informal language, as well as adjectives!
- Reading: We are exploring both fiction and informational texts. We have focused on main idea, as well as folktales, and reading a diagram in a text.
- Thank you for your continued support from home!



# THIRD GRADE



- As second quarter is dwindling down, third grade is busy wrapping up our units and reflecting on the first half of the school year! Thank you for checking Jupiter Grades regularly to check on your child's progress before progress reports come out.
- Math: Students are exploring fractions, naming equal parts, identifying part to whole relationships, and labeling fractions bars and number lines. This will seamlessly translate into our future units on time and measurement.
- ELA: We have changed courses from fiction to nonfiction, and will be spending the remainder of the quarter learning how to implement text features for researching and becoming information experts. Students are writing an expository essay in class after researching an important topic .
- Social Studies: We are on one of our favorite units to teach--Ancient Greece and Rome! Students will do independent research to explore the many aspects of Greek and Roman culture that have heavily influenced modern Western culture. After weeks of hard work and becoming information experts, we will celebrate with a toga party complete with traditional foods and of course, togas!

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## FOURTH GRADE

- Hope everyone is having a wonderful holiday season!
- Please continue to check Jupiter Grades for grade updates, Class Dojo for behavior updates, and backpacks for important flyers.
- In math we are working hard on multi-digit division. This has been a struggle for us, but with new math manipulatives, we are starting to rock it!
- In ELA and Science students are working on the text structures of biographies, locating important information, and how to conduct research to write an informative essay.
- In ELA, students will be reading a variety of biographies and will be using thinking maps to compare and contrast.
- In science, students will be working on conductors and insulators. Students will be working with hands on materials to create circuits .
- These 4th graders are going to ROCK the 2nd Quarter Galileo tests!!
- Thank you very much for your support from home!





# Happenings in "SPECIALS" areas.....

## IT'S ALMOST CONCERT TIME!

Now that the 2nd quarter is rolling, the band students are preparing for their first concert of the year! The Ellsworth band students will be combining with Simonton Elementary for a concert on Thursday, December 8, beginning at 6:00 p.m. This concert will be at Simonton, and the two groups together will make an awesome band! Mark your calendars!

**BAND PARENTS:** Band students will need to arrive about an hour early, so the 2 groups can rehearse together before performing. Please plan for this well in advance. We look forward to a great audience on December 8!

**Don't forget Practice Records!** Every band student is given a blank practice record each Friday. They are to write the number of minutes each day that they practice in that week (starting on Friday). Practice records are to be signed by parents and turned in on the following Friday.



## Band

## Orchestra



Dear Ellsworth Parents,

Please mark your calendars to attend our Orchestra Concert, which will be in the Ellsworth Elementary School Cafetorium on January 26 at 6:00 pm. I am very proud of the progress our orchestra students have been making, and I would love for you to come cheer these wonderful deserving students on. See you there!!!!

Sincerely,

Mr. Guido Lavorata,



## Music

**'Tis the season to be jolly and we are very festive in the Music room! We are singing and dancing as we learn holiday songs of all types from around the world!**

**We are continuing to work with a steady beat as we work on dancing and marching in time.**

**We are also learning about traditions and music from around the globe!**

## Physical Education P.E.



**Make sure your child has shoes to wear for PE class, otherwise they won't be able to participate.**

**This month 3-6 will be learning basketball skills and K-2 will be doing rolling, throwing, and catching.**





CHARACTER COUNTS! in a Digital World

# Technology

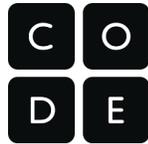
Students around the world are CODING!

The annual HOUR OF CODE encourages students across the world to participate using hands-on and online activities to learn how code is used. This year the CODE.org website has added even more games that students can play as they learn the steps to code. To learn more about the Hour Of Code go to the links below.

<https://code.org/about>

To try a tutorial go to

<https://studio.code.org/>



Hello Ellsworth Parents,

It's almost time once again for our annual Ellsworth Career Expo! This year's event will be held on February 10th and we hope you will be able to participate. The goal of the fair is for professionals from the community to meet with our students and discuss their careers and how their education led them to be successful. This interactive event will support our students in planning for future careers, encourage college readiness, and serve as an instructional tool by allowing our students to explore the relevance of learning in everyday life. If you or anyone you know would be interested please contact Elfida Telles in the Counselor's office (480-882-3528).

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## Young Coyotes

Young Coyotes daycare services children ages 3-5 years old and combines play and learning in a child centered environment where exploration is encouraged. Children are provided opportunities to grow socially, emotionally, and academically through hands on activities involving music, art, and dramatic play. Young Coyotes is taught by a veteran preschool teacher with 20 years experience in early childhood. We now have 2 schools that will have our Young Coyotes program, Ranch Elementary and Ellsworth Elementary. Young Coyotes is licensed by Department of Health Services and approved by the Department of Economic Security. Children must be potty trained and current on shots. Parents must provide a sack breakfast and/or lunch.

**Hours of Operation:** Monday- Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. not including school holidays.

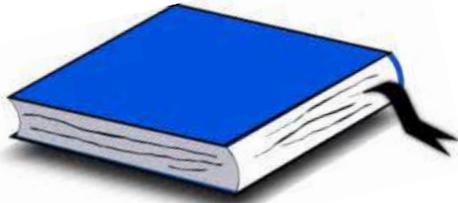
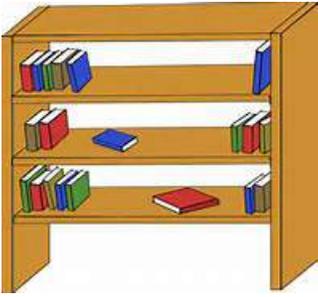
**Pricing:** Parents have a choice of either full or part day options.

Half day \$20 per day or \$75 per week

Full day \$40 per day of \$150 per week



# Library



Friendly reminder if your child has an outstanding book from last year please contact me , Lora Rael at 480-882-3520.



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## Take Flight Fridays



Take Flight Friday is taking the Month of December off.

It will resume on January 27th with more fun and educational activities for the students to participate in and learn from. Enjoy the Holiday Break.



# Ellsworth Cafeteria News



Breakfast is \$1.25

Lunch is \$2.65



Reduced breakfast and lunch continues to be \$ .30 and \$ .40

Several families received a verification letter last month from the district in the mail that states you need to verify income for your students free or reduced Lunch benefits to continue. If you have not turned this in, your child will be charged \$1.25 for breakfast and \$2.65 for lunch or given a cheese sandwich. It is never too

late to turn in your proof of income. Please make sure you mail it in right away if you have not already done so.



# LOST & FOUND



Each year students misplace their backpacks, lunch pails, coats, hats, and even their glasses.

When these items are found they are placed in the 2 large cans inside the breeze way. Eye glasses will be turned into the front office.

Please remind your child to check for their belongings.

Twice a year these items will be laid out on tables for students and parents to look through. Please take the time to check for any of your child's things.

Ellsworth Elementary will donate all unclaimed items at the end of the year to local charities that can place these items in the hands of those who need them.



# Resource

Math , Math, Math

## Show your kids math at work in their world.

Get your kids used to math by thinking out loud when making calculations. Then, let your children work out some real-life puzzles themselves. For example:

Let them measure when you bake. Ask them to figure out how long of a hose you need to reach from the faucet on the side of the house to the garden. Let your child figure out how many miles you'll be driving on your next trip by using the information on a map. Sort silverware by knives, forks, and spoons. Sort cards by suit or numbers.

Mrs. Telfer- K-4 Resource Room Teacher

Mrs. Harris-5-6 Resource Room Teacher

Mrs. Kleinknecht-Speech Pathologist

# Title 1 Reading

## Title 1 Parent Informational Meeting

December 19th at 5:30 p.m. Ellsworth Elementary will hold a Title 1 Informational Meeting in the Library for parents of Title 1 students in Kindergarten through Grade 6. This meeting is an opportunity for parents to meet the Title 1 Reading Specialist, Lhea Carbajal, and receive information regarding the Title 1 program and curriculum, and address questions and/or concerns.

As we finish up the first semester of this school year, I want to remind you and your students not to stop reading! Reading at home, whether it be silently or out loud to a family member, is so beneficial to our students. Any exposure to text is good exposure. If you would like some resources on how to make reading at home fun, please let me know!

Mrs. Carbajal

# ELL

**Our ELL students have been working really hard on vocabulary, reading comprehension, speaking listening and writing skills. Mrs. Roy and I are proud of their growth this semester.**

**Happy Holidays**

**Mrs. Bencomo**

**Mrs. Roy**

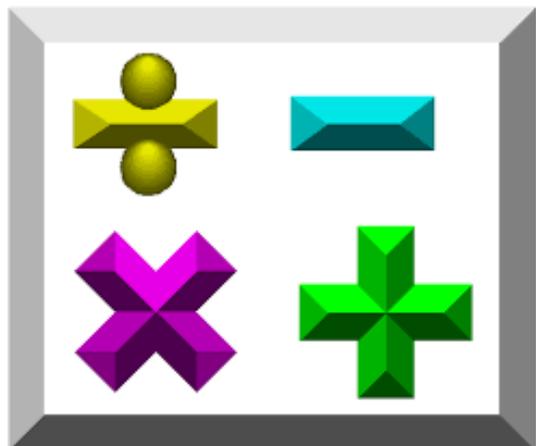
# ACADEMIC COACHES CORNER

Are you looking for math resources for you as a parent and for your child to use at home? Here are some websites with videos and online practice for you and your child.

Khan Academy <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

Learn Zillion <https://learnzillion.com/math>

Math Playground [http://www.mathplayground.com/common\\_core\\_state\\_standards\\_for\\_mathematics.html](http://www.mathplayground.com/common_core_state_standards_for_mathematics.html)





## District News:

Thank you for supporting the Bond Election and making this election year a win for our students! Once the sale of bonds commences in July, the community will start to see their bond dollars at work over the next several years with the construction of the Combs High School auditorium, new busses, updated technology, and a district transportation and service center. Follow the progress of these projects on Twitter @JOCombsUSD #CombsBond2016

Mark your calendars for Polarfest on December 10th from 11am - 5pm at Combs Middle School! Enjoy a fun filled day with carnival rides and pictures with Santa. Many Combs school organizations will be there with booths or student performances. Don't miss out!

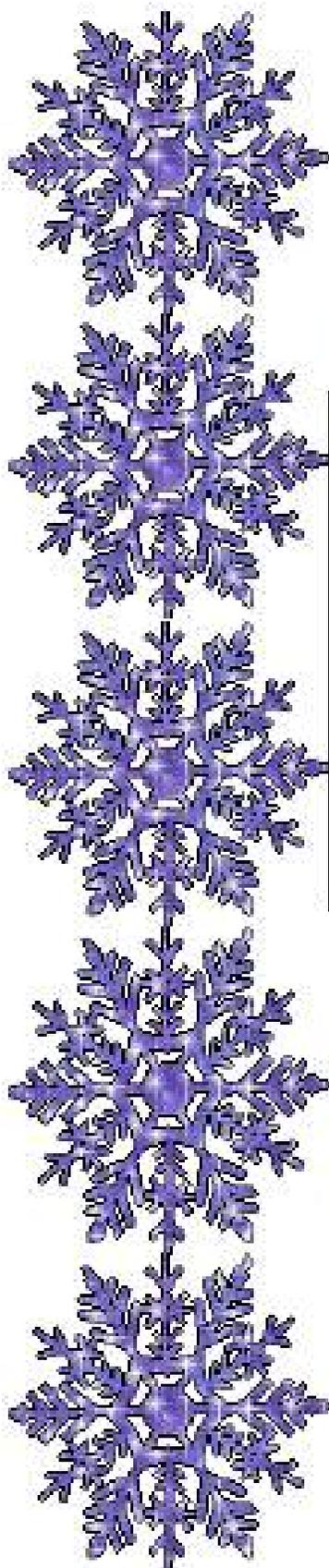
On January 4th at the district professional development day, community members are invited to attend the Rejuvenation Vendor Fair at Combs High School from 12:30pm -1:30pm Help set your New Year's Resolutions in motion by visiting with representatives from colleges, gyms, credit unions, and health offices. While you're there, don't forget to stop by a food truck for lunch! We hope to see you there.

Combs is currently hiring for a number of positions including paraprofessionals, a high school science teacher, a middle school math teacher, and emergency substitutes. If you or someone you know is interested, please visit the Employment tab on the district web page at [www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org).

Thanks!

## Community Education News:

Winter Camp is just around the corner and registration is now open! Students ages 3-12 have fun with friends and enjoy a variety of activities like the new "Makers Space" and science projects. Register online at [www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org) under the Community Education tab.



*Combs Kidz  
Winter Break Camp  
at  
Ellsworth Elementary*

We look forward to a fun-filled Camp on the following dates:

Wednesday, Dec. 21  
Thursday, Dec. 22  
Tuesday, Dec. 27  
Wednesday, Dec. 28  
Thursday, Dec. 29  
Friday, Dec. 30  
Tuesday, Jan. 3  
Wednesday, Jan. 4

- \$30/full day or \$15/half day.
- 20% Sibling & Employee discount.
- DES payments are accepted.
- Register online by Dec. 16.
- [www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org) website, please choose the "Community Education" tab at the top.
- For more information contact Tracie at (480) 987-5310 in Community Ed

# ELLSWORTH PTO



## Upcoming Events

- December -

7th (Wed) Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser 6pm

13th (Tues) General Monthly Meeting in Library 4:30-5pm

16th (Fri) BoxTop Deadline

16th (Fri) Movie Night

## ELLSWORTH PTO FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!

**FRIDAY, December 16th, 2016**

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:15 ~ MOVIE STARTS AT 6PM**

*Come in your pajamas and get comfy to watch a fun movie with the family!*

*Admission is a ream of copy paper **OR** a 4pk of dry erase markers **per family**. Remember to bring your sleeping bag, pillows, and blankets!*

*A concession stand will be there with snacks and drinks for every craving!*

**No children can be left unattended. Parent or adult guardian must be present during entire time.**

*Students will be voting on their choice of movie in class this week!*



**Congrats to our BoxTop winning class for the first quarter, Mrs. Hartz /Mrs. McGuire in Kindergarten!**

**Second Quarter deadline is Dec. 16th!**