



December 2016

upcoming dates...

December 5th-16th

-Winter MAP Testing Gr. 2-5

December 22

-End of 2nd Quarter

-Winter Blast!

December 23rd-January 2nd

-Winter Break

January 3rd

-Teacher In-service-No School

January 4th

-School Resumes

January 23rd

-PTO Meeting 7 PM

January 26th

-2/3 Music Programs

2nd Grade-6:00 PM

3rd Grade-7:00 PM

February 15th-16th

-Parent-Teacher Conferences

Early dismissal 2:06 PM

February 17th

-No school

February 27th

-Kindergarten Round-Up

Parent Meeting-6:00 PM

Principal's Note:

As we enter the busy month of December, it is hard to believe the first semester is almost behind us. I enjoy each day watching your children engaged and learning from our amazing staff!

In January, we will begin a new school-wide activity called Falcon Families. The Falcon Families consist of a staff members and group of ten students from each grade level. The students will meet with their "families" once a month where they will work together on activities focused on collaboration and community. Each year, the students will meet with the same Falcon Family. The incoming kindergarteners and new students will be added in the fall. It will be exciting to see the positive relationships created between students across grade levels!

I am so blessed to be part of the Fire Ridge community! I hope you have a wonderful winter break and are able to create special memories with family and friends.

Deb Knutson

Fire Ridge is seeking to identify children who are eligible for kindergarten during the 2017-2018 school year. Parents are encouraged to pre-register their child prior to Kindergarten Roundup. Children who will be five years of age on or before July 31, 2017, are eligible to attend kindergarten as stated by Nebraska State Law. Fire Ridge Kindergarten Roundup will be held on Friday, March 3rd.

A parent meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 27th at 6:00pm in the cafeteria.



Counseling Corner

There are many programs through our school and community for families during the holiday season.

Here are a few programs that are available:

Counseling:

- Arbor Family Counseling

(Every Elkhorn Public School student may have 2 free visits) Phone: 402-330-0960 Website: www.arborfamilycounseling.com

- Nebraska Family Helpline: 1-888-866-8660 or www.nebraskafamilyhelpline.ne.gov

Outside Programs for Parenting Websites:

- Love and Logic: 800-338-4065 or loveandlogic.com (Great Parenting Website) • Parenting with Love and Leadership: John Roseman 1.704.860.4711 or roseman.com

Community Programs for Health Care:

- Healthcare: Kids Connection of Nebraska (DHHS): Health insurance for kids: Medicaid: Omaha (402) 595-1178 and Economic Assistance: Omaha (402) 595-1258
- One World Health: 402-734-4110 • C.O.P.E.: Food, Clothing & Assistance: 3434 North 204th Street Elkhorn, NE 68022 Phone Number- (402) 616-2330

The Fire Ridge Yearbook is now on sale!

It will be sold online only using the following link:
<http://www.buytheyearbook.com/fireridge.aspx>

Dec 1st – Jan. 6th \$20 Buy Now and Save!
After Jan 6th the price increases to \$25

SNOW DAYS Makeup Days for Missed School Days

As we approach the winter months, it is important to note how snow days may affect the calendar. The Elkhorn Board of Education has built in two makeup days to the calendar in the event that school is canceled due to inclement weather (snow days). These days are scheduled for May 24th and 25th.

May 25th will become a vacation day if there are no more than one missed school day. May 24th and 25th will both become vacation days if there are no missed school days.

The first two missed days will be made up; in the event of three or more snow days the administration will reevaluate the calendar at that time.

A teacher in-service will be held on the first business day following the last student day.



PTO NEWS

- The next PTO meeting is Monday, January 23rd at 7 PM in the media center.
- The **yearbooks** can now be purchased on the PTO website. Please visit the PTO website at fireridgepto.com for more information.

CELEBRATION OF GIVING TIME!



With the holidays approaching we hope you'll consider helping an Elkhorn family in need! Elkhorn Elementary Schools are sponsoring a Gift Drive for families within the Elkhorn community. Last year this project helped serve over 80 families in our school district, and we hope to help even more this year.

Please visit the Fire Ridge office before and after school
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15,
choose a mitten that shows an item you would like to purchase.

Please wrap the gifts, and attach the mitten to the outside of the package.
These should be returned to school no later than FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16th at 3PM.

Please join us in making a difference in the lives of some Elkhorn families, and in making a lasting impression on our own children!

Questions? Please contact: Jodi Bartling at jjbartling@me.com



Traffic Reminders

As the weather becomes colder, more students will be transported to and from school. To ensure the safety of our students, please remember to watch for students in the crosswalks, other cars, drive slowly and pull up when dropping off or picking up your children. Thank you for your cooperation and following our rules!