

P W PRINTS

December 2017

[FRIDAY] **Dec 1**

Movie Night

[TUESDAY] **Dec 5**

PTO/PAT Meeting @6:30

[MONDAY] **Dec 11**

School Board Meeting @6:30

[TUES-FRI] **Dec 12-15**

Winter MAP Testing for Grades
2-5 in Reading, Math & Science
(5th grade only)

[FRIDAY] **Dec 22**

Winter Blast

December 25-January 3

Winter Break- Class Resumes
on January 4th

[FRIDAY] **Jan 1**

Report Cards Sent Home

[MONDAY] **Jan 15**

No School- Teacher In-service

[TUESDAY] **Jan 23**

PTO Meeting @ 6:30- Dr.
Habrock will be joining us at our
meeting.

Principal's Message

Hello Westridge Families,

I can't believe that we only have three more weeks until winter break. It will be here before we know it. I know this time of year can be very busy for families. It is a busy time here at Westridge as well. We have a movie night, PTO/PAT meeting, winter MAP testing, winter blast, and more all scheduled for this month. With everything going on, I hope that you and your family will find time to enjoy some quality time together. Also, thank you to all of the families that helped out with the mitten tree. It is awesome that our families are so giving!

Our next PAT meeting will be directly following our PTO meeting on Dec. 5th. We will be looking at the data collected from parents from the previous PAT meetings. We will be clarifying the topics that were discussed, and we will start to prioritize them. We need your input and thinking around ways to continue to make Westridge an amazing school. I hope you will join us in this important discussion.

Finally, you will notice that our January PTO meeting is not on the first Tuesday of the month. We have moved the meeting to January 23rd. It will still be at 6:30 in the Westridge library. This change was made because we will be welcoming Dr. Habrock, EPS Superintendent, to this meeting. Dr. Habrock will be sharing important information about Elkhorn Public Schools. We hope that you will be able to join us to for to hear about the current progress and future plans for the district.

Mr. Broshar



Westridge Elementary Mission Statement:

In an effort to create life-long learners, the staff at Westridge Elementary School working closely with parents and community strives to realize each child's fullest potential in the areas of personal, social, intellectual, emotional, and physical development.

Dear Families,

I just wanted to extend my sincerest THANK YOU to our Westridge families. Thank you for supporting the Square 1 Art Fundraiser! I know there are a lot of different types of fundraisers that we do in our building, I appreciate your continued support of our little fundraiser.

The money raised will go towards new art supplies, art literature, supplemental activities, and games for your student to use and enjoy during their time in the art room. Customized products and packages will be arriving at the end of the November, and I will also be handing back the original art work for you to enjoy soon!!

Mrs. Wellendorf



Question of the Month

What is MAP testing and why is it done three times a year?



MAP stands for Measures of Academic Progress. It is an online test that is adaptive to the students as they take the test. As students answer questions correctly on the test, the test will give the students harder and harder questions. Some students will see problems on their test that they may have not been taught or even seen before. That is okay. As students answer questions incorrectly, the test will give the students easier questions. This process allows the assessment to find a student's RIT score. The RIT score is an overall score of how the student did on the test. These scores are compared to national norms and allow us to look at students' percentile rank. The percentile allows us see where students performed compared to peers around the nation. For example, a student that was at the 50 percentile scored better than half of all the other students that took the same test.

We do these assessments to measure growth over the course of a year. We want to see growth in each individual student's RIT score. MAP testing also gives us projections about where students should be scoring by the end of the year. By doing the test in the winter, it allows us to see if students are making adequate progress towards their goals. MAP testing is a great tool for us to use to monitor students not only within each school year, but also from year to year as the RIT scores are consistent from grade level to grade level. If you have any specific questions about your son/daughter's MAP assessment result, you can always reach out to your classroom teacher or myself. We would be more than happy to discuss the results with you in more detail.

Remember if you would like to submit any questions you have in order to learn more about Westridge Elementary. Please go to the link below. If the link doesn't automatically open, please copy and paste it into your browser window.

Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdb1mM6Eo97sqJAeNdSrAUF36i38HfceX0xikTe3lhd_BItIA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1

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Thank you to everyone who participated in the Cherrydale fundraiser and the Nothing Bundt Cakes fundraiser. Profits raised from these fundraisers goes to field trips, out January family social and many other things around the school.

Thank you to those who participated in the mitten tree. Your gifts and time are very appreciated among those families and our school. Thank you for helping us make an impact in our community.

Mark your Calendars for December 12th. Westridge Spirit night at Texas Roadhouse, say you are from Westridge to support your school. The class with the most students wins a prize!

December 19th from 4-8 is Westridge Spirit night at Chipotle, 2717 South 177th St. Chipotle will give 50% of the profits made from Westridge back to the school! This money is going directly to the technology fund that we have been raising money for.

Want to give your spirit stick loving kid a surprise for Christmas? Watch for a flyer coming home with more details.

January's PTO's meeting will be January 23rd and will feature Dr. Habrock to discuss Elkhorn school news with us.

In January we will be selling Omaha coupon books. Watch for information about these to come home and check out all the great deals in the book!

Thank you again for all your support and volunteering. Without YOU we could not accomplish so much for our school.

PTO MEETING SCHEDULE	
Next Meeting: December 5 th	
January 23 rd	April 3 rd
February 6 th	May 1 st
March 6 th	
All meetings are held in the library at 6:30 PM.	



www.facebook.com/westridaeelkhorn



Internet Safety Tips

Taking an active role in protecting your kids from Internet predators and explicit materials is vital to keeping them safe. Below are some helpful tips and ways parents can stay involved and aware in order to ensure their children's safety online.

- Become computer literate and learn how to block questionable material.
- Keep the computer in a common area, not in individual bedrooms, where you can watch and monitor its use.
- Share an email account with your child so you can monitor messages.
- Bookmark kids' favorite sites for easy access.
- Spend time online together to teach your kids appropriate online behavior.
- Block private chat rooms by using safety features provided by your Internet service provider or with special filtering software. Be aware that posting messages to chat rooms reveals a user's email address to others.
- Take your child seriously if he or she reports an uncomfortable online exchange.
- Forward copies of obscene or threatening messages you or your kids get to your Internet service provider.
- Call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at (800) 843-5678 if you're aware of the transmission, use, or viewing of child pornography online. Contact your local law enforcement agency or the FBI if your child has received child pornography via the Internet.
- Ask your Internet service provider about disabling "cookies" that track specific user information including a user's name and email address.

Keeping children safe online is an on-going task that requires diligence in the monitoring of online activities and usage. In order to best protect them, parents must remain vigilant and always know what their child is doing online.

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Apps to Know

While parents know that nearly all mobile devices used today have the ability to send and receive text messages, they may not fully understand that beyond that inherent, built-in ability, students are also able to download additional apps that are specifically used for sending and receiving text messages. Below are some popular texting apps and concerns that are linked to their use. *For more information on any of these apps, please visit: www.common sense media.org.*

- **GroupMe:** allows individual and group messages with no user fees or limits. Users are able to send and receive photos, videos, and calendar links.
 - **Concern:** embedded GIFs included in the app have adult themes that are not suitable for children under the age of 18.
- **Kik Messenger:** ability to send and receive limitless messages that do not show up on an individual's phone messaging service
 - **Concern:** allows users the ability to connect with anyone who shares their Kik username, opening up the pathway for online predators

Elkhorn Public Schools Policy 507.13—Internet Safety Policy was written in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. Tech Savvy Parent tips are intended to inform and educate parents of technology that may be available to their students. Tips may feature apps that are educational as well as those that may be a cause for concern to parents.

Student Council

Student Council member will be selling candy canes for \$.50 after school on Wednesday, December 13th and Thursday, December 14th. There will be an array of candy canes to choose from! Sales will be 3:06-3:30 on both days.



SCHOOL SPIRIT TASTES GREAT



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support Westridge PTO. Come in to the Chipotle at **2717 South 177th Street** in Omaha on **Tuesday, December 19th** between **4:00pm** and **8:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to Westridge PTO.



MEXICAN GRILL

If placing an order online during your fundraiser, please note you must choose the pay in-store option and inform our cashier of your participation before paying. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.

NOTES FROM THE NURSE...

ERIN BRYANT, RN
ebryant@epsne.org

Thank you to our awesome health screen volunteers. We couldn't have done it without you!

If your child had results that indicated a need for further evaluation, you should be receiving those referrals in the mail. Please return a copy of the completed referral, so I can update your student's health information. Thank you!

As we head into the winter months, we see an increase in cold and flu symptoms. Please keep your child home if they have a fever of 100* or greater, vomiting/diarrhea, persistent cough, unknown rashes, pink eye, or in general not feeling well. This helps your child get well faster, and helps reduce the spread of germs.



FLU	CHARACTERISTIC	COMMON COLD
SUDDEN	ONSET OF SYMPTOMS	GRADUAL
OCCASIONAL	SNEEZING	COMMON
EARLY	SORE THROAT & COUGH	MILD COURSE, PEAKING DAY 2-3
OFTEN SEVERE	MUSCLE ACHES	SLIGHT
SEVERE	MALaise, FATIGUE	USUALLY MILD
SUBSTERNAL BURNING, COMMON	CHEST SYMPTOMS	MILD, IF ANY
6-7 DAYS	DURATION	3-4 DAYS
HIGH (102° - 104°)	FEVER	NONE OR MILD (LESS THAN 100°)