

NOVEMBER 2018

BLUE SAGE ELEMENTARY

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

Veterans Day Assembly
Lunch with a Loved One
Book Fair Information

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November

- 5 Health Screenings
- 6 PTO Meeting 6:30p.m.
- 6 Author Visit: Bruce Arant
- 7 Cub Circles
- 8 4th and 5th Grade Music Program 6:00p.m.
- 12 Veterans Day Program 1:00p.m.
- 12-16 Book Fair
- 14 Lunch with a Loved One
- 14 Mid-Quarter Report Sent Home
- 13 Oscars (4-9p.m.)
Family Dinner Night
- 19 Celebration of Giving-Mitten Pick-Up
- 22-23 No School-Thanksgiving Break

Subscribe to both the Blue Sage online calendar and the Elkhorn District calendar to stay informed about important calendar events.
<https://www.elkhornweb.org/bluesage/calendar/>

Spirit Days

Every Friday is a spirit day at Blue Sage. Wear your Blue Sage gear or our school colors (blue and green) to show your BEAR pride!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As an educator and a mom, I always find that time, while a constant in our lives, passes by far too quickly. It amazes me that we are already into our second quarter. I would like to pause for a minute though to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your continued support of your child's education at Blue Sage. The Blue Sage staff and I are truly grateful for the overwhelming support you have given us in many areas as we work together to educate the children of our community.

It was wonderful to see so many families attending the fall conferences. A HUGE thank you goes out to everyone involved in providing the meals for the staff both nights during conferences. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were greatly appreciated.

We will be celebrating Veterans Day at 1:00p.m. on Monday, Nov. 12th. Family members are welcome to attend. We also hope you'll be able to join us for Lunch with a Loved One on Wednesday, Nov. 14th.

Please know that throughout the school year my door is always open. Never hesitate to set up a time to meet with me. You can also email me (achrist@epsne.org) or call me (402-332-0125)!

Mrs. Christ
Blue Sage Principal



Together we will ensure academic, social, and personal success to craft the best possible future story for our students.

Traffic Reminders

- Please drive under 20mph in the drop-off/pick-up lane.
- If you are using the family/visitor parking lot for drop-off and or pick-up, you must park your car first. It should not be used as a second drop-off/pick-up lane.
- You may drop-off along the curb once you have passed the firelane road on the north side as long as you have pulled all the way forward.
- If you are able to assist with drop-off in the morning one or more days a week, please contact Jason Kyzer at jason.kyzer@gmail.com.

INSIDE OR OUTSIDE

In or Out? I hear this asked several times during the winter months. The district's guideline for elementary buildings is that walking club and recess will occur outside if the temperature is 20 degrees or above. That being said, there may be exceptions. For example, if we have been inside for several days and the temperature with the wind-chill figured in is 19 degrees, we may go out. On the other hand, if the temperature is 25 degrees, but we have new ice that has formed due to melting and refreezing we may stay inside.



We have a few of these shirts available in youth sizes (small, medium and large) for \$10 a piece. Please call the school at 402-332-0125 if you would like one. They will be sold on a first come first serve basis.

Veterans Day Assembly
Monday, November 12 at 1:00 p.m.
(Please note time change)



If you would like to recognize someone in your family who has served, or is currently serving in the armed forces, please email a photo to Mrs. Nielsen (tnielsen@epsne.org), along with the veteran's name, your contact email, the military branch served in and the Blue Sage student connection as soon as possible.

Before School

Please remember, students are not supervised (or let into the building when it is indoor walking club) until 7:55. Teachers do not report until 7:45, and then they are setting their things down to get to their posts by 7:55. Please do not drop off your child before 7:55 unless he/she is having school breakfast, working with a teacher or on safety patrol.

Thank you!

NOVEMBER 2018



Celebration of Giving Mitten Tree

The Blue Sage Mitten Tree will appear in the office on Monday, Nov. 19! It will be loaded with colorful mittens, listing a gift wish/request for kids and families in our Elkhorn community.

If you can help this year, here is what you need to do:

1. Select a mitten with an item(s) that you are comfortable purchasing from the mitten tree in the Blue Sage office. (An adult must come with students to select a mitten.)
2. Record the mitten(s) you have taken in the Celebration of Giving notebook and leave your contact information.
3. Purchase the item(s).
4. Gift wrap the item(s).
5. Firmly secure the mitten(s) to the outside of the wrapped item. This is the only way we know what is inside of the gift and who the gift belongs to.
6. Return the wrapped items(s) to Blue Sage no later than Friday, December 7th.

You may select mittens(s), before, during, and after school starting on
Monday, November 19 through Friday, November 30

Thank you so much for participating! If you have questions please call the office at 402-332-0125.



Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Safe

Kindergarten: Colin Heusinkvelt and Lucy Kolb

First Grade: Leona Buller and Luke Corrigan

Second Grade: Chase Urbanec and Mahi Dholakia

Third Grade: Madison Skarperud and Grady Stephens

Fourth Grade: Olivia Boggess and Ericka Murphy

Fifth Grade: Maddie Maboussou

Art: Jake Vlcek

Music: Cameron Jennings

PE: Garet Reetz

Media: Werner Watson



Students will enjoy their lunch with Mrs. Christ on Thursday, Nov. 1st.



Regular attendance by students at school is essential for children to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program offered at Blue Sage. Parents and students are encouraged to ensure regular and timely attendance at school. Absences from school should be minimized whenever possible.

This year, parents or guardians will receive letters from the school when their child has exceeded 5 absences per quarter. Letters will also be sent home when a child exceeds 10, 15, and 20 days for the entire school year. Meetings with the teacher, counselor and principal maybe set up throughout the year to help solve problems with attendance.

Letters will also be sent home for late arrivals at 10, 15, 20, etc. We know regular school attendance helps to develop habits of punctuality, self- discipline and responsibility along with helping to ensure student success. It is our goal to have all kids accounted for and fully present at the beginning of each school day.

We ask for your cooperation with attendance. Contacting the office when your child is sick or has an appointment is always appreciated.



NOVEMBER 2018



As Elkhorn Public Schools continues to experience significant growth throughout the District, our student population continues to diversify and the need for extra student support increases.

As a result of this growth, EPS recently made the decision to transition our current, district-run Partners in Education Mentoring Program into a chapter with the TeamMates Mentoring Program. The TeamMates program provides more structured support for the wide variety of backgrounds and interests that can be found in EPS students and brings more mentors into our program while allowing us to retain the majority of our current mentoring relationships already in place.

If you are interested in becoming a TeamMates mentor in the EPS District, please complete the online application by clicking [here](#) or contact Kara Perchal at kperchal@epsne.org for more information.



INCLEMENT WEATHER ALERTS AND WINTER REMINDERS

Cool weather is headed our way! Coats, hats, and mittens will be needed most days for walking club and recess. It is helpful if you can put your child's name in coats. We can easily return items to your child if there is a name on the tag. Please visit our Lost and Found for items that are missing. All unclaimed items will be donated during winter break.

School closings will be announced on radio station KFAB (1110) and TV stations. Elkhorn families will also receive an announcement via School Messenger, the automated telephone announcement service. When it begins snowing during the day, we receive telephone calls asking if parents can pick up their children. Our answer is that it is a parent's choice to come and pick up their children in cases of inclement weather.

2019 Yearbooks

ON SALE now!

The 2019 Blue Sage Elementary hardcover yearbooks are on sale now for \$22.

Order online today!

www.buytheyearbook.com/bluesage

Questions? Contact Jane Terry, Yearbook Chair bluesageyearbook@gmail.com

BUY YOUR
Yearbook





WHEN IS MY CHILD TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

Proper care in the early stages of an illness can reduce recovery time for the ill child and reduce the possibility of spreading the illness to others. Proper diet, adequate rest, and good personal hygiene (especially frequent handwashing) can assist the body's ability to fight infection.

The following are guidelines to assist you in deciding when your child should stay home from school:

Irritability, poor appetite, tiredness, achiness are vague symptoms. Changes in a child's normal behavior can often signal the beginning of an illness.

Fever of 100 degrees or higher. Take your child's temperature if he is complaining of feeling tired, headache, sore throat or stomach ache. **A child should be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication before returning to school.**

Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Keep your child at home for the duration of these symptoms. No vomiting or diarrhea for the past 24 hours is recommended. Be sure your child is able to tolerate food without difficulty before returning.

Nasal secretions and coughing/sneezing spread respiratory infections easily when these symptoms can't be controlled.

Suspected communicable conditions such as undiagnosed rashes, pink eye, ringworm, or chickenpox. A child must be sent home until identified symptoms are evaluated and conditions for return to school are provided by a healthcare provider.

VNA School Nurse

Lunch/Recess Schedule

Kdg & First	Recess 11:00-11:15	Lunch 11:15-11:35
Second & Third	Recess 11:30-11:45	Lunch 11:45-12:05
Fourth & Fifth	Recess 11:50-12:05	Lunch 12:05-12:25

**Sodexo Lunch Prices
2018-2019**

**Elem. lunch \$2.50
Adult lunch \$3.85**

**Breakfast
K-5th \$1.50
Adult \$2.20**

We are excited to announce that Blue Sage is officially on Twitter and Facebook! Give us a follow @ElkhornPS_BSE and give us a like on [Blue Sage Facebook](#) in order to stay up to date with events, news, and highlights from the classrooms.



follow us on
twitter

**STAY INFORMED**

A newsletter in this format will be emailed to you each month. It is also posted on our website <https://www.elkhornweb.org/bluesage/news/>. If you need to change email addresses, please call the office to let us know (402-332-0125). This newsletter is our main means of communication.

THE USE OF MOTORCYCLES,
MINI-BIKES, SNOWMOBILES,
GO-KARTS AND ALL TERRAIN
VEHICLES IS PROHIBITED
ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

ABCDE Calendar

The elementary ABCDE calendar is posted online this year. You can subscribe to this calendar by going to the district website at www.elkhornweb.org. Scroll over the buildings drop-down menu, and select (YOUR SCHOOL'S NAME). Then click on the calendar icon. There you will be able to subscribe the (YOUR SCHOOL'S NAME) calendar and the district calendar. You will also be able to subscribe to the ABCDE calendar. This calendar lets you know what letter day it is at school. Subscribing to this calendar will automatically update the letter days to your own personal calendar. This is a great way to ensure you are always up-to-date.





District Reminders

SCHOOL MESSENGER - ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

EPS uses a parent messaging system called SchoolMessenger to send emails and phone calls to parents, including information about school and events cancellations. To ensure you are receiving important messages from your school and the District, be sure to let the office know of any changes to your email addresses or phone numbers.

TECH SAVVY PARENT TIPS

Healthy Screen Relationships

Being constantly connected can hinder active learning, as one becomes passive in taking in new information because he or she is constantly "learning" new things. Taking a step away from technology and the absorption of information allows one's brain a needed break and creates an active learning environment. By being intentional in determining technology downtime, you are giving your brain that break to be able to focus on other things.

Below are 5 questions you can ask to determine the health of your child's relationship with screens:

- 1) Are they physically healthy and getting enough sleep?
- 2) Are they reported to be engaged and learning while in school?
- 3) Are they pursuing other hobbies and interests?
- 4) Can they interact socially with friends and family without the use of technology?
- 5) Does their digital life appear fun and positive?

For more information on youth and their use of technology, visit www.commonsensemedia.org.

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.

FIND US ON





Blue Sage's Scholastic Book Fair

Scholastic Book Fair will be open for shopping during the following dates/times:

Monday, November 12th from 3:10-4:10

Tuesday, November 13th from 3:10-4:10

Wednesday, November 14th from 11:00-12:30 → Lunch with Loved One

Thursday, November 15th from 5:00-7:00 → Special Shopping Night

Friday, November 16th from 3:10-4:10

Can't Make the Book Fair in person? Shop Online!

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/bluesage>

Every purchase that is made at the Book Fair benefits Blue Sage. We earn books and money for the media center based on our total sales. This money is used to buy books for the library, buy software for the computer lab, cover some of expenses from the author visit and other fun library events!

Love books? Volunteer to help at the Book Fair. You can help decorate and set up, cashier, or help pack up. There are lots of ways to participate!

Interested? Sign up here:

[Book Fair Volunteer Sign Up Link](#)

Lunch with a Loved One

Wednesday, November 14th

Join us for lunch on Wednesday, November 14th and browse the Book Fair with your loved one! If you plan to attend, please go to this website:

<http://bit.ly/lunchwlove>

Reservations need to be complete by Monday, November 12th (No late lunch reservations will be taken).

If you are purchasing a school lunch that day, it will be a grab and go turkey and cheese sub sandwich, carrots, chips and fruit. Your lunch will be charged to your student's lunch account. Your student should also order a grab and go lunch that morning. Feel free to bring in a lunch if your student does not want the grab and go option. Please note recess is after lunch on November 14th, which will give students and their loved ones 15 minutes to shop at the book fair.

Grade	Lunch Time	Recess Time
Kindergarten and 1st	11:00-11:20	11:20-11:35
2nd and 3rd	11:30-11:50	11:50-12:05
4th and 5th	11:50-12:10	12:10-12:25

Parents will eat with their child in the gym. Students may shop at the book fair with their loved ones during their recess time. **ALL STUDENTS MUST BE BACK IN CLASS AT THE END OF RECESS TIME.**

