April/May 2015

Calendar Dates
(see the full calendar)

March 30-April 6
SPRING BREAK-NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, April 7
School resumes

Tuesday, April 14
Parent info session, 6:00 p.m.
PTO meeting, LMC, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 16
Kids Night at LaFollette, 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 17
Staff Development
Dismissed at 11:35 a.m.

Monday, April 20
Aldo Leopold Field Trip,
Kdg. 9:00-11:00

Friday, May 1
Art & Culture Night, 5:00 p.m.

Principal Corner

Dear Families,

Laughter, smiles, excitement filled the halls this month. Many families, students, and staff visited at conferences, the Fun Fair was very well attended and lots of fun! As we near the end of the year, there will be many more events like the Spring Sing, Elvehjem Art and Culture Night, Field Day among others. Please join us in celebrating our community and all the hard work this year.

Summer Registration

Elvehjem will register new students on Wednesday, August 19th from 8:00-noon.
Returning students will register on Thursday, August 20th from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Please update your information online at home, library or neighborhood center the week before registration. Enrolling ahead of time will make the registration process much quicker. Pay fees online. Print the pages and bring them to registration. Mark the date on your calendar.

Sennett School Orientation
Monday, May 4
Staff Appreciation week

Wednesday, May 6
5th grade Track Meet, 8:40 -2:00

Friday, May 8
Music Spring Sing
5th grade students visit Sennett

Tuesday, May 12
Parent info session, 6:00 p.m.
PTO meeting, LMC, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, May 22
Field Day, 1:30 p.m.

Monday, May 25
Memorial Day, no school

Thursday, May 28
Cave of the Mounds, 3rd grade

Friday, May 29
Alternative Field Day

From the Office…

Attendance
Just a reminder that school begins at 8:30. Students can be on the playground beginning at 8:15 and the bell rings at 8:27. Students who arrive between 8:35-8:45 will be marked tardy. Student attendance is crucial for student learning.

When calling the Safe Arrival line 204-1406, please remember to give the reason. If taking hot lunch, please specify hot lunch choice A or choice B.

5th grade students will be going to Sennett Middle School on Friday, May 8th at 1:15 p.m. for orientation.

Parent Orientation night will be Wednesday, May 13th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The 5th Grade Parent Orientation Meeting at Sennett Middle School is in the Dowden Auditorium. This is an informative meeting presented by staff, students, PTSO members and administration. A Q & A will follow.

Safety Patrol Trip

The Washington DC Safety Patrol trip will be April 22-26, 2015. Several Elvehjem Safety Patrollers expressed an interest in representing Elvehjem Elementary School, however only two students can represent our school. Madison Feldhausen and Jordan Massie are the 5th graders chosen by lottery. We know they will be outstanding role models. We would also like to say thank you to the Elvehjem PTO for contributing part of fees for this trip. The Safety Patrol will have two fundraisers coming this spring to additionally help fund this trip and the Patrol end of the year trip. Watch for more information coming home soon.

Spring Sing

Friday, May 8
Kindergarten is performing "Three Piggy Opera" at 2:30
1st - "A Day In the Country" at 12:30
2nd - "Sounds a Little Fishy To Me" at 1:30
3rd - "Goin' Buggy" at 11:00
4th - "School Daze" at 10:00
**Specials**

**Gym Helpers Club**
On Friday March 27th from 1:15-1:30 all gym helpers are invited to a "Thank You" party in Gym B. Forty 4th and 5th graders have been volunteering all year to help set up, take down or keep track of the gym equipment. Gym helpers will receive an invitation the week of 3/23-3/27.

Thanks and see you at the party.

Mrs. Stein

---

**Technology Tips...**

There are many Databases available through the Library Portal. Students enjoy using these in class.

- Bookflix and Pebble Go have high quality books to watch and read.
- BrainPop Jr. has fun videos and activities that teach about all sorts of topics.

To access from Home:

- Login: elvehjem006
- Password: qwerty

~Ms. Ocho-Podell

---

**Reading Tips and Strategies...**

One thing I get asked often is how parents can help their child in reading. Reading with your child at home is critically important. The amount of free reading done outside of school has consistently been found to relate to achievement in vocabulary, reading comprehension, verbal fluency, and general information. Students' reading achievement correlates with success in school and the amount of independent reading they do outside of school. (Anderson, Wilson, and Fielding 1988; Guthrie and Greaney 1991; Krashen 1993; Cunningham and Stanovich 1991; Stanovich and Cunningham 1993).

Given this, I would leave the teaching of reading to the school. At home, parents are encouraged to engage in positive reading activities (reading to, reading with, or listening to the child read) that develop a love of reading. Exploring different genres, authors, and non-fiction topics would be preferred over teaching reading skills and strategies. Reading online is another way to engage reluctant readers. See our library portal (on website or information above) or librarian for many online resources.

Read More

~Amy Kane, Instructional Coach
PTO Updates:

Fun Fair
Wow, what a great night! And what a success! We’re thrilled to report that the Fun Fair brought in over $4,000! All of the profits will stay in our school, and will be used to support literacy needs for all Elvehjem students. Our sincere thanks to everyone who attended.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers and project coordinators who helped make this year’s Fun Fair a success:

Read More

Metro Market
A quick word of thanks from the PTO to Metro Market, for adopting Elvehjem through the Foundation for Madison’s Public Schools Adopt-a-School program. We look forward to working with Metro Market in helping to promote the academic achievement and personal growth of all Elvehjem students. Welcome to the Bobcat family!

Elvehjem’s Got Talent
We are looking for talented kids in grades 2-5 who would like to perform in the school talent show! Some talents include singing, dancing, gymnastics, juggling, karate, comedy, or any other fun skills you can think off. Please look for a note to come home in backpacks the first week of April for more information. Please contact Lindsay Mefford with any questions.

Labels in April
Next month, we’ll be doing a big push for labels that can earn money for Elvehjem. Look for more information in the PTO email, and to come home in backpacks. In the meantime, don’t forget to clip the following (and ask family, friends, and neighbors to help out, too!)
· Boxtops for Education
· Campbell’s Labels for Education
· Tyson Project A+
· Prairie Farms milk caps

Foundation for Madison Public Schools
Did you know that Madison’s public schools have an outstanding tradition of creating leaders in our community. The Foundation for Madison’s Public Schools brings community partners, parents, friends, businesses and educators together to continue the excellence of our schools, creating a brighter future for every student and our community. With the support of the Foundation, Elvehjem has just been adopted by Metro Market. This partnership will support both our students and the community.

There are many ways to be a part of the important work the Foundation is doing.
*Like FMPS on Facebook or follow them on Twitter -learn about the wonderful things going on in the Madison schools.
*Donate directly to the Foundation or to Elvehjem's Endowment through the Foundation. Visit fmps.org for additional details.

*Make an effort to learn more about the Foundation and how it supports our schools.