

# EYES ON EASTLAKE

Volume 27 Issue 1

October 14, 2021

## *Principal's Message*

Hello Eastlake Community!!

We had an amazing start to the 2021-2022 school year. It has been great to see all of the students and staff back in Eastlake School. I would like to thank everyone in the community who has been a part of our successful start this Fall.

Special thanks go out to our PTA, our township volunteers, and our parent volunteers, for their efforts in enhancing our academic experience. I would also like to advise our parents and guardians to not be afraid to be a part of the amazing things we are doing here at Eastlake School. It is a fact that when the school and community work together, that the production and potential of the student increases exponentially.

Our teachers and staff are working hard to ensure all of our students get back on track and we have great academic momentum to start the year. In order to maintain that momentum, I would like to stress the importance of reading with your child every night for 10-15 minutes. The reading topic can be on anything you and your child want because it is the act of reading that counts the most. Nightly reading will ensure that your child builds reading stamina and the ability to naturally utilize reading skills as a necessary tool.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the Fall.  
ROAR LIONS ROAR!!!

Sebastian Powell  
Principal  
Eastlake Elementary School

## Pre-K Half Day Schedule

Mrs. Pepe & Mrs. Torres:  
9:00am-1:00pm

Ms. Bruss, Ms. Fairweather and Ms. Munro:



## *Just a Note*

The instrumental music students have started lessons and we are starting to recognize how rewarding and challenging playing an instrument can be. Some of the skills the beginning students have learned are how to properly assemble and care for their instruments. We have also discussed the importance of posture, embouchure and hand position when working to produce a good tone. The students have also discovered the importance of knowing their note values and note names. These skills were introduced in third grade. However, we continue to reinforce and strengthen these skills throughout the year.

Our advanced students are continuing to refine and review the skills we learned last year. They are working at performing two concert scales and beginning to explore and rehearse with a full band. This year we will focus on the significance of musical markings and articulations. We will discuss how to share the composer's story with our audience by reading the music more closely and understanding there is more than just note names and values.

I encourage you to emphasize the importance of practice at home and its direct relationship to success in both individual and group performance.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Perry

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 10/15 – Spirit Day – Wear Pink  
Fire Truck Visit
- 10/19 – 10/22 – Book Fair
- 10/26 – Virtual PTA Mtg 7PM
- 10/28 – Spirit Day – Wear Black & Orange
- 10/29 – Halloween Parade
- 11/1 – Half Day 1:00pm Dismissal K-5
- 11/2 – School Closed for Students

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	11/3 – Half Day 1:00pm Dismissal K-5 11/4 & 11-5 – School Closed 11/12 – Spirit Day – Wear Rainbow Colors
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## *Looking Ahead*

### **Pre-School:**

Inclusive Preschool Classes

(Ms. Bruss, Ms. Fairweather,  
Ms. Munro & Mrs. Rodzen)

Our preschool classes are off to a terrific start with our Beginning the Year study! We spent the first few weeks learning about our new friends, our families and our school and classroom setting! We also learned about apples and did a fun apple investigation! We kicked off October with learning about fire safety and are looking forward to a special visit from one of our Eastlake dads who is a volunteer firefighter to show us a firefighter in full turnout gear! We are also looking forward to the fire truck visit! We will spend the rest of October learning about fall and the changes it brings and pumpkins! We are excited to be bringing back to Eastlake our Preschool Pumpkin Patch! Please remember to send your child to school in sneakers every day, we do gross motor activities inside or outside daily. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather, we do spend time outside as often as we can for gross motor and sometimes snack and/or story to give the children a mask break when possible! We are looking forward to a fun filled year in Preschool full of learning!



Mrs. Pepe's preschool class is off to a great start! We have been working on getting to know each other. The students enjoy playing in the Discovery Center, building in the Block Center and painting in the Art Center. This month we are learning about Fire Safety and we will be visiting the fire truck. In the Art Center, we will be making a fire truck craft, a ghost, and shape monsters. We have a variety of fantastic themes and activities prepared for this year. We look forward to an exciting new school year at Eastlake!

**First Grade:** Welcome First Grade Families!

Mrs. Torres and her preschool class have been off to a great start! In just a few weeks, we have done so much! We have been learning about apples, mixing colors, and fall! We have been enjoying ourselves making crafts in the Art Center, making constructions in the Block Center, and the Dramatic Play Center has been visited a lot by our girls! This month we are learning about Fire Safety and we will be visiting a fire truck. We will also enjoy a presentation about Fire Safety and fire equipment by Firefighter Mr. DiMaggio. We will continue exploring our Fire theme and other holidays celebrated in our community.

**Kindergarten:** Kindergarten has been off to a great

### **ART NEWS**

We are getting off to a great start! We began the year with collaborative class art projects, which will be hung in the halls soon. This was a great way to open the school year with discussions about working together and being supportive and kind. We drew our September self-portraits, set up our Art Folders and have Activity Sketchbooks that we will work on during the year.

We will be completing 3 units of study during the school year: Color, Design & Portrait. We are currently working on our Color unit, observing Landscape and Still Life Paintings, and learning about experimenting with Color. Students will learn that mixing colors will create new colors, shades or tints. We will use supplies such as watercolor paints, watercolor crayons and colored pencils and markers. We will use creative & critical thinking skills through observations and discussions about finished artwork.

start! We are currently learning about fire safety. We are excitedly anticipating a special visit from the fire department and will have the chance to see a real-life fire truck! In math, we are learning about comparing numbers. We are learning about the parts of a tree in science. In Reader's Workshop, we are looking at pictures to help tell a story. In addition, we are practicing how to sound out words in Writing Workshop. In Phonics, we are learning all about the letters C and O. Please continue to work on letter/sound relationships at home. We look forward to the rest of the year!

**Second Grade:** We're off to a great start in second grade! In Reading Workshop, we have been building

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We have officially completed our first month of school and it was a success! It's wonderful to see students back in the classroom, filled with excitement about the new school year. We all know that last year was difficult and your child's social and emotional well-being is of our utmost concern. We've spent a great deal of time introducing classroom routines and taking time to build our classroom community. Students are making new friends and have become important citizens of the Eastlake community. We've been very busy and the students are working really hard. Here are just a few of our September highlights:

- Making new friends
- Learning classroom routines
- Learning how to be independent in the classroom
- Reviewing our letters, sounds and how to write lowercase letters
- Building good reading habits
- Making important decisions as writers
- Sharing our thinking as mathematicians
- Understanding how to be responsible digital citizens

Looking for ways to support your child at home? Here is a helpful tip to strengthen their communication skills: Instead of asking, "How was your day?" Try asking specific questions:

- Can you name three things you learned today?
- Who did you play with at recess?
- What special did you have today?
- What was your favorite part of the day?

Thank you for all of your support and we are looking forward to an amazing school year!

Best,  
Mrs. Breiten & Ms. Hebbelinck

**Third Grade:** Trick or treat?! Third grade has been so neat! We've been off to a great start for the new school year. It's so wonderful to have all the students

our reading stamina by applying new reading strategies, like giving a book a sneak peek before we read, and deciding how to change our voice as we read. In Writing Workshop, we've established routines and are writing small moment stories, familiarizing ourselves with the work that mentor authors do, and using the writing process revising and editing. In Math Workshop, we've learned the difference between even and odd numbers and have written numbers in standard, expanded, picture, and word forms. In Social Studies, we identified the differences between urban, suburban, and rural communities. We are excited to begin our first Science unit studying and observing rocks! Gentle reminder students should be reading at least 20 minutes at home to continue growing those 'reading muscles'!



Media  
Mrs. Gareffa

It looks like Fall in the Media Center! Students have had a chance to read in our newly renovated courtyard after choosing their books! And there are so many new books to choose from! Students are enjoying listening to fun read alouds, learning about how to be good researchers and celebrating Hispanic American Heritage month with new biographies about famous Hispanic Americans! Kindergarten especially enjoyed listening to *Don't Push The Button!* by Bill Cotter. It has been a great start to our school year!

**Fourth Grade:** The fourth grade is off to a great October start! In language arts, we are working on our realistic fiction unit which focuses on story

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back in school. Science has been very exciting for the students. Last week students conducted an investigation to observe the properties of water. They compared how water droplets interacted with four materials: paper towels, waxed paper, aluminum foil, and writing paper. With their table group, students drew and wrote in their science journal what they observed when water was placed on the different materials.

In Math we completed our chapter on representing and interpreting data. Students even got to create their own picture graph with data they collected from a survey. Our next chapter will focus on addition and subtraction with regrouping. Please be sure students continue to practice their addition and subtraction facts at home. In Reading, students are learning skills and strategies to build a successful reading life. We discussed the importance of setting goals and working on building our reading stamina by reading more and more. Students are enjoying listening to our read aloud, 'Stone Fox'. Be sure your child reads at home every night to build those reading muscles!

Students are continuing to write small moment stories. They are getting writing ideas from their heart map that they created. Third grade has been so inspired by our mentor author, Karen Hesse, who uses a variety of craft moves in her writing. Students have also started to learn how to revise and edit their pieces.

We are completing Unit 1 in Social Studies. Students learned all about characteristics of urban, suburban, and rural communities. We also worked on map skills such as using a compass rose and finding symbols on a map key. We encourage students to review all the communities at home as well as any other skills they've learned in Unit 1.

We are enjoying the fresh air and fall leaves this season. We will continue to eat snack outside with weather permitting. As the temperature gets cooler, please send your child in with a sweatshirt or jacket.

elements and character analysis. In math, we are exploring place value and applying our understanding to addition and subtraction strategies using large numbers. Map skills has been our focus in social studies. We have learned how to use cardinal and intermediate directions and map scale to locate places on a map (if your Waze app stops working on a family road trip, we can help you out!). In science, we have learned about online etiquette and internet safety and will be soon be moving on to our unit on soil, rocks, and landforms. We certainly have been busy!



**Fifth Grade:** Can you believe it's already October? We have been so busy working hard in all our subject areas. In reading, book clubs "are a go." The children are working with their "just right books" to analyze and annotate the text looking for similarities in character and theme. Our math workshop rotations are a hit!! The children are enjoying learning a new concept and moving around the room to different centers reflecting that lesson. In science the children have been given the task of designing a container for a Pringles potato chip. They have been working collaboratively with their groups to design and build a package that will be sent to Lake Hiawatha School containing one pringle chip. We're keeping our fingers crossed that they come back intact. In health, the children are learning all about mental and emotional health and how all 3 parts of health are related and affect one another. In social studies, the students are learning all about how the first people came to America, where they settled and how they lived. They will gain a greater understanding of the different Native American tribes, their way of life and culture. Before you know it, Halloween will be here. We look forward to seeing many of you at our parade!