

# Elliott's Fin-tastic News

## October 2019



### “SHELLEBRATIONS”

Solomon Lopez, Addeline Erzen, Kaitlyn O'Brien, Vivienne Hebert, Allison Ferrigan, Preston Tran, Skander Yako, Ryan Ford, Chase Canupp, Chloe Price-Ducar, Gaven Nugent, Collin Vavro, Dylan Langham, Thomas Hartley, Madeline Selmeyer, Maddison Shurmantine, David Foreman, Sathvik Gundam, Evelyn Condie, Avalynn Palmer, Connor Denison, Karah Quintero-Simon, Mila Abbott, Kainen Lindsay, Trent Davies, Uhmareah Cohen, Robbie Davies, Sebastian Passariello, Cali Moore, Ava Ward, Roslyn Potter, Raymond Moore, Stryder Fountain, Lily Allen, Kaden Magruder, Silas White, Edmund Krzyminski, Xzavier Grover, Rosalynn Spalding, Jason Williams, Zeke Centeno, Katie Sharp, Adri Osmani, Olivia Troub, Elianah Slavik, Aiden Hernandez, Genesis Grant, Jaren Stepp, Scarlett Combs, Maren Rusnak, Marleigh Heger, Jayden Boggus, Avery Stadt, Andrew Rice, Zoe Weldon, James Ewen, Adeline Erzen, Andrew Rice, Leland Vergeson, Brielle Rieder, John Spannagel, Wesley Elder, Danica Woldt, Meara McCormick, Bryce Shier, Jayden Boggus, Aleaha Rieder, Alexander Vincent-Hopkins

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Alban Hisenaj  
 Adelaide Neuenschwander  
 Rosario Garza  
 Mark Hoogendyk  
 Trendelina Shabani  
 Nicholas Bauer  
 Caleb Urban  
 Zay'vion Bradley  
 Kyree Reese  
 Frank Schmidt  
 Nathan Lawton  
 Maddison Shurmantine  
 Mila Abbott  
 Jason Pineda-Burns  
 Kentyn Humes  
 Raymond Rowe  
 Quentin Rusnak

### EARLY DISMISSAL WEDNESDAYS

1:50

November  
 6<sup>th</sup>  
 13<sup>th</sup>

**Picture Retakes**  
 Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>

**Thanksgiving Break**  
**No School**  
 Nov. 27-29

**P.T.O. MEETING**  
**November 12<sup>th</sup> @**  
**6:30**  
**IN THE LIBRARY**

### “FIN-TASTIC WORK”

Kailyn Sowards, Carter Moreno, Emma Willard, Ryan Cypher, Brody Cornelius, Cayden Dziachan, Cody Bryant, Rem Piper, Adalynn Norris, Josiah Zavala, Preston Tran, Lyiera Thompson, Eisley Myers, Cody Bryant, Cash Le, Makenzie Lindsay, Clayton Moreno, Mikayla Dickens, Teagan Schram, Donavon Williams, Henry Thomason, Emaline Barnes, Jillian Reynolds-King, Wesley Elder, Caleb Urban, Scarlett Combs,

Walking School Bus is starting again. We will walk on Tuesdays & Thursdays. We will begin walking from the Holt Trailhead Park on Holt Rd, just west of Delhi Manor on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. We will start walking to Elliott at 8:10am. If the neon "Walking Wally" sign is not out, we will not be walking that day. Any questions, please contact Lisa Bean at [lisabean69@hotmail.com](mailto:lisabean69@hotmail.com)



## **TK**

It has been an eventful and very busy month here in TK. The children are picking up the routines of school quickly, as well as the classroom and hallway expectations. In literacy, we have begun working on specific letters by naming them, practicing the sounds they make, and even a little bit of writing as well. We have starting practicing name writing as well and building on the skills they already have there. In math, we are always counting, whether it's in line or large group, we frequently count how many students we have. We are looking forward to building on these skills and learning new ones as we move farther into the school year!

## **SECOND GRADE**

2nd grade is gearing up for Halloween! We can't wait to show off our costumes during the Halloween parade. Check out the 2nd grade teachers... we've combined our love of cats with our underwater school theme.

In reading we're covering an important topic for the next few weeks, "How can we work together?" We'll discuss helping each other in dangerous situations, working together to change things, and why working together is a good idea. Also, we've started expository (non-fiction) writing. Look for these in the hallway soon!

In math, we're finishing up our chapter on three-digit numbers, then it's on to single digit addition and subtraction. 2nd graders are working to become fluent with one-digit facts so that learning two-digit addition and subtraction is easier. Please ask your child to show you the "grab and count" method at home.

## **KINDERGARTEN**

"It's been another busy month in kindergarten. The teachers have really enjoyed watching the students grow and become active learners. The students have been working hard on learning their letters/sounds and are becoming readers and writers! They are reading and writing words and sentences. In math the students have been learning a lot about the numbers 0-10. They have been fluently reading and writing the numbers, counting objects, solving story problems using pictures or models, and comparing numbers (identifying the number that is greater or less). Kindergarten has also started community meetings where we are learning to share with peers our thoughts and feelings. We are learning to express our feelings through words and how we gauge our day by how we feel, and we are learning how to calm ourselves."

## **FOURTH GRADE**

September ended smoothly and October is rolling right along. In math students have been learning different strategies for multiplication. Mr. Math Blog is a great resource for parents to keep up on what your child is expected to know. We ended the first 6-week unit of Reading Street and are finishing our personal narratives in writing. By the time you read this we will be writing summaries. Did you know we have an outdoor classroom? It is a large fenced off area out by Kyle's clubhouse. A big shout out must go to the girl scouts, some from Elliott, that have cleaned and beautified the space. Stop by sometime.

## **FIRST GRADE**

First graders have been working hard on reading fluency. We are working on reading stories with our short vowel sounds. While reading, we are focusing on different comprehension skills to make sure we are understanding what we read. Team Time Book Bags have started, and students should be bringing home new books each week to practice fluency at home. In math we have learned many different strategies to add single-digit numbers. Some of these strategies include count on, doubles, doubles +/- 1, make a ten, and adding in any order. While learning these new strategies, many students are becoming more fluent at adding two single-digit numbers in their head! We have also been working hard on writing informational stories about wild animals.

## **THIRD GRADE**

Our week at ABNL was a huge success! Despite the weather, our students learned a lot about nature and what life was like for a Pioneer child. Thanks to all the parents for their support throughout the week.

This month we're working hard on using strategies to multiply as we finish up Chapter 4 and begin Chapter 5. Students have learned how to multiply in many ways. We have begun Team Time, where each student is working with a teacher on Reading skills at their level. We are also beginning our Science unit-all about forces that make an object move. We are excited to be fully into the curriculum as we learn together this month!

## MUSIC/ARTS

The Music Room has been buzzing with beautiful music this October! Kindergarten is working on keeping a steady beat and using their singing voices, First Grade is playing a steady beat on instruments and reading rhythms, Second Grade is exploring dynamics and writing rhythms, Third Grade has been working with ostinatos, and Fourth Grade are playing recorders! Our musical performances are coming soon! Please be on the lookout for more information coming home about your child's musical performances. First up: First Grade will perform on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> during our "long" Wednesday! Second Grade will perform on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, and Third Grade is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. A flyer with more information will be sent home.

Thank you to everyone who entered a pumpkin into our Pumpkin Decorating Contest! All of our entries were so creative! Thanks to Texas Roadhouse, all of our participants received a "Free Kids Meal" Coin for participating! Our winners include:

Kindergarten- Madelyn Cousino from Mrs. Kalchik's class (Black Cat)

First Grade- Lincoln Stuttman from Mrs. Folino's class (Clown)

Second Grade- Ava Ward from Mrs. Getter's class (Ghost and Spider)

Third Grade- Landon Thurston from Mrs. Klauka's class (Popcorn bucket)

Fourth Grade- Katelyn Cousino from Mrs. Freed's class (Unicorn)

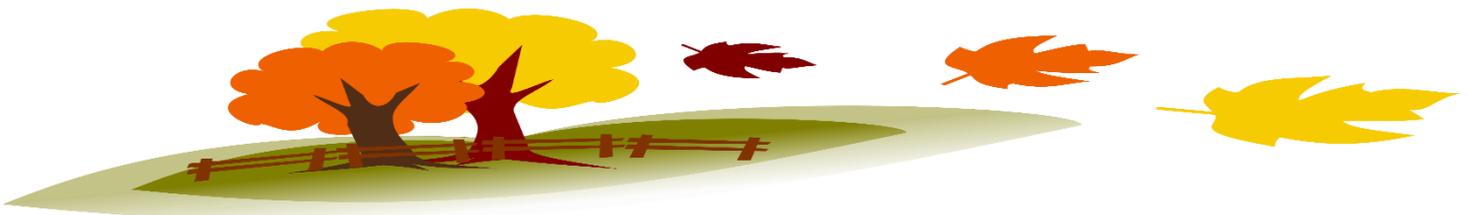
Thanks to a donation from DEFY Lansing, they will be receiving a free jump pass to their trampoline park!

Our Grand Prize Winner with the most votes was Nicholas Hilton from Dr. H's Fourth Grade Class, with his "Nemo" pumpkin. Thanks to a generous donation from EDRU, Nicholas will receive a Family Four Pack of tickets for a skate night!

## KINETICS

We've been doing some great learning in Kinetics! We have already worked on basketball skills including dribbling, passing and shooting. Ask your child about using BEEF to help them shoot the ball better. We've also been having some great discussions and activities on Nutrition. Our nutrition unit centered on My Plate <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/myplate>.

We discussed making good food choices, portion sizes, the five food groups in My Plate (Fruits, Vegetables, Protein, Grains and Dairy) and more. Ask your child about My Plate and to name some of the foods in each food group! Next up is a unit that students love - bowling! Have a healthy and wonderful Thanksgiving!



## DEAN'S REPORT

We met in our school families on October 2nd. During "Family Time" we talked about the values and beliefs our school families have. We put our thoughts on posters to display around the school. Our Social Emotional Learning focus areas for the month of October have been: Friendship Skills, Setting Goals, Self-Reflection, Rituals, and Self-Regulation. We discuss these important topics during our morning meetings and throughout the day.

One of the most important things your child can do to reach the goal of success is also one of the most basic: attend school every day on time! By attending school regularly, your child is more likely to keep up with daily lessons and assignments and take quizzes and tests on time. Research has shown that your child's regular attendance may be the greatest factor influencing his/her academic success. Monitoring attendance is an important part of my job here at Elliott. I try to post our total number of absences and tardies on the board by the main entrance each day to set goals for having less absences and tardies. Please let me know if you have any questions about the district's attendance policy. You can expect to hear from me once your child has reached seven absences and from Mr. Wise once your child reaches 10 absences.

We continue to promote safety, respect, and kindness in everything we do here at Elliott. Here is a favorite Mr. Rogers quote. "There are three ways to ultimate success: The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind." ~Fred Rogers

### IS YOUR CHILD SLEEP DEPRIVED?

Children in elementary school need 10 to 12 hours of sleep per night. Regularly sleeping the recommended number of hours has been directly associated with better health outcomes like improved behavior, memory, learning, attention, quality of life, emotional regulation, and physical and mental health.

As well as learning and behavior, lack of sleep impacts physical health, and teenagers who get insufficient sleep are at greater risk of suicidal thoughts and self-harm.

Your child should follow these steps to get a good night's sleep:

- . Follow a consistent bedtime routine.
- . Establish a relaxing setting at bedtime.
- . Stop screen time at least one hour before bedtime.
- . Get a full night's sleep every night.
- . Avoid foods or drinks that contain caffeine
- . Do not go to bed hungry, but don't eat a big meal before bedtime either

If your child snores heavily, this could indicate a sleep disorder which should be addressed with the physician. Another sign of sleep deprivation is daytime sleepiness. If your child falls asleep in school, in the car, or anytime other than bedtime, this is indicative that he/she is not getting enough sleep.

Elliott Families,

As October is nearing its end, and November is around the corner, a few thoughts come to mind...

1. We have focused tremendously as a team in supporting the learning of the “whole” child. When you hear about this type of teaching, we are incorporating academic, social-emotional, and behavioral learning within our daily framework. Each day we have specifically incorporated vocabulary and quotes to help foster this environment.
2. We focus daily on communicating exactly what we want our students and parents to know. We use the term “explicit communication” to describe this philosophy. We are focusing on teaching our students in this manner in the classroom, communicating among our staff this same way, and extending these opportunities to our parents/community in the same fashion.
3. As weather changes so do some of the logistics within a normal day. Please make sure your children are coming prepared for the elements daily. We want our kids to have the opportunity to enjoy being outside before school, during recess, and after school.
4. We have had numerous highlights to start the year including our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade trip to Woldumar Nature Center. I would like to specifically thank the team at Woldumar, our teaching staff, and our parent volunteers for helping create such an enjoyable experience for our students.
5. Our PTO is working very hard to help grow the organization. Please feel free to reach out to President Alexander or Vice-President Doss if you have interest or questions regarding the organization and what their goals are for the year. PTO does many things that help support all our children here at Elliott.

Several reminders to keep our students growing mentally, emotionally, and physically are:

1. Set a goal to read with your child 20 minutes per day. The research behind this is staggering.
2. Ask about specifics of your child’s day more so than a “How was your day.” Example... “Tell me what you learned in Math today? What are your vocabulary words in Reading this week?” The specific questioning helps your student remember what they learned that day.
3. All children need love... we communicate this daily at Elliott. Are you?

I will continue to communicate with our parents on a weekly basis through Skyward Message (weekly emails.) Our team will also continue to communicate with our parents in these monthly newsletters as well. We are still looking to make some modifications within Elliott’s social media accounts, and they will be relayed to our families asap.

We wish everyone a healthy and happy month of November!

Sincerely,

Andrew Wise

Principal

Elliott Elementary School