

October 29, 2021



Alicia Lyford, Principal

2021-2022 EMES Family Newsletter

EMES Mission Statement

“The purpose of our school is to teach all children to become competent, caring citizens and life-long learners through a challenging and relevant curriculum.”



Dear EMES Families -

We have made it to the end of October and are still going strong! It was great to meet with so many parents at our virtual parent informational night last week. In total, we had over 100 different zoom participants on this night. We recognize that it was not possible for all families to participate and are looking forward to more personal connections with each of you at our parent/teacher conferences on November 11th. Your child's classroom teacher will work with you to set up a time to meet to discuss your child's progress to this point in the year.

This week has been a bit challenging for our students and teachers as our access to Wi-Fi has been intermittent and spotty after the cyberattack. Our tech department has been working diligently to get us back up and running all week. In the scheme of things, it's a small problem. It has, however, thrown some of our classrooms a bit of a curveball as we rely heavily on technology, especially in the upper grades.

At our staff meeting on Wednesday, we began talking about the upcoming budget season. We looked at the changes in some of our structures this year, which include having a full time school counselor, (increase of .4FTE), increasing our UArts time to 45 minutes a day (from 40), increasing math blocks to 80+ minutes a day, and adding a full time instructional interventionist. In addition, we have welcomed over 20 new students to our school community this year. I have asked staff for feedback on what is going well and what some barriers are to our work. There will be opportunity for community involvement at our upcoming Budget Community Forum on November 3rd.

There are several big announcements included in this newsletter that I will highlight here and provide more details on the following pages.

- * We will be supporting EMES families again at Thanksgiving and during the holidays. If you would like assistance with either or both of these, please be sure to let us know!
- * We are sending fundraising packets home with students in Friday folders. Our neighboring school, Berlin, has participated in this fundraiser before and it sounds like a good opportunity to bring some funds into our classrooms!
- * After over a decade of not having a formal EMES Mascot, we are going to being the process of identifying a mascot for our school and our recreation program. We are excited to bring our school and family community together to participate in this process.
- * Winter sports guidance came out earlier this week. We are very hopeful this means we will have a basketball program through the EM Rec again! Each district is asked to determine the details of all of this and we do not yet have these. Thank you for your patience as we work through this as a district.
- * We have received information about consent forms from the state to be able to enact Test to Stay. [Take a look!](#) We are also hopeful that in-district vaccination clinics for children age 5-11 will take place in the next few weeks. Stay tuned!

Enjoy this final weekend of October!
Alicia

Upcoming Dates to Note:

- ⇒ **Wednesday, November 3rd:** 12:30 early release Wednesday
- ⇒ **Wednesday, November 3rd:** Community Forum on Budget Process 6pm
- ⇒ **Thursday, November 11th:** Parent/Teacher conferences—no school for students
- ⇒ **Wednesday, November 17th:** Take Home Harvest Feast!
- ⇒ **Wednesday, November 17th:** 6:00 WCUUSD Board Meeting (virtual)
- ⇒ **November 22nd—November 26th:** Thanksgiving break. No school



EMES Library News:

If you weren't able to visit Ms. Arlyn on Parent Informational Night, she created a video that provides families with a virtual tour of the library. Please take a look at this video to take [a virtual tour of our library!](#)

The picture to the right shows members of our Student Leadership Team reading picture books as part of a library audit. Students are auditing our books to find out what type of characters are represented in our stories.



5th Annual Diaper Drive



It's a bum wrap...

1 in 3 
VT families struggle with diaper needs.

\$1,200.00

The cost of diapers per baby each year.

Please Support the Family Center's 5th Annual Diaper Drive - October 2021!

The demand for our services, including food, meals, diapers and formula, has increased. Due to COVID, we have seen an increase in the numbers of families we are serving through our Diaper Bank and Food Pantry. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have seen a dramatic increase in families using our Food Pantry & Diaper Bank, making 679 diaper deliveries to local families between April 2020 through June 2021. Diaper donations can be dropped off at the following locations: **Family Center; Lenny's Shoe & Apparel in Barre; or Kinney Drugs in Barre.** Donations can also be made online by visiting www.FCWCVT.org. Thank you for your support.



It's always about the family.
383 Sherwood Drive, Montpelier VT
802.262.3292





East Montpelier Recreation had a wonderful soccer season!



Join us for
Peck Farm Orchard's

Trunk or Treat?

When: Saturday, October 30th, 5-7pm
Where: 750 Sibley Road, East Montpelier
Wear: Your Halloween best



Sign up for Trunk or Treat [here!](#)





Help EMES Identify a New School Mascot that Exemplifies Who We Are!

As many of you know, the Road Runner was the long-time mascot of EMES. I'm not sure when or how it originated but I do know that generations of EMES students proudly called themselves the EM Road Runners. Whether the EMES version of the Road Runner was an adaptation of the Warner Brothers cartoon character that originated in 1948, or the fast running bird that is native to Southwestern United States, I'm not sure. The logo looks a lot like the Warner Brothers character, bringing into question copyright violation on more than one occasion. Whichever version of the Road Runner past EMES students remember, this mascot character began to fade out of the spotlight at our school over the years as we couldn't quite articulate how it exemplified who we are as a school.

Several times over my 12 years at EMES, I have been asked to help the school identify a new mascot that better represents who we are. Our East Montpelier recreation department has also asked about a mascot that they can use for sports uniforms and apparel. For a variety of reasons over the years, I was not sure we were ready as a school or a community to officially embark on this process. I know that tradition means so much to all of us and changing tradition, even for good reasons, can be hard.

For nearly a decade, EMES has embraced the tenets of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports, or PBIS as it's often called. Each morning our student leaders get on the PA system for morning announcements and always end by reminding students not to forget to be "Safe, Respectful, and Responsible." Through our PBIS system, we work to teach our students what it means to exemplify these behaviors in all situations and environments. We have also put a lot of our focus into educating our students outdoors; teaching them about the beautiful state we live in. In the past two years we have even created outdoor classroom spaces for each of our eleven classrooms. Given all of this, and the fact that we have not been able to have parents and families participate in our student's education in the ways we know and love at EMES, I am now feeling that the time might be right to come together as a school community to identify a mascot that fully embodies who we are as a school.

You'll see a timeline below for when and how we hope to roll out the plan for identifying a new mascot at EMES. We are looking to have some parent/community participation on our Mascot Committee in addition to students and staff. If you would like to help us move this exciting work forward, please email me at alyford@u32.org. There will only be a few slots open as we don't want this committee to get too big. **All EMES families will have the opportunity to submit proposals for potential new mascots later in November.**

- **October 29 - November 5:** Identify Mascot Committee Membership
- **By November 19:** Hold initial Mascot Committee meeting
- **November 19:** Criteria for mascot submission shared out with EMES students, staff, and families
- **November 29 - December 9:** Collect submissions for potential mascot from students, staff, and families
- **December 10:** Second Mascot Committee meeting - review submissions; narrow down to 3-4 choices
- **December 13 - 17:** Voting on mascot at school only
- **December 22:** Unveiling of new mascot during all school celebration

Future:

January - March: Mascot logo selection process

Join us for a...

**On-Demand Virtual Screening of the Documentary 'LIKE'
Understanding and Creating Balance in Social Media**

November 8-15, 2021

<https://watch.eventive.org/indieflix/play/6154c2ae6671f80062ef90e2>

WCUUSD will be hosting a facilitated community discussion with parents and caregivers to discuss the movie on Tuesday November 16th from 6:00-7:30pm on Zoom. Click [here](#) to register for this discussion.

Please register to join several U32 staff who teach media literacy and internet safety with students at U32.

This discussion will provide a space to share experiences and ideas with each other as we all navigate the complexities of balancing social connection with our efforts to support the mental and emotional health of our children. We look forward to discussing with you on November 16th.



LIKE breaks down why we find social media so irresistible, examines who is controlling who, and gives you the tools to pivot to a more balanced and contented relationship. It features Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, including the co-creator of the 'LIKE' button, experts in brain science and regular teenagers.

SchoolStore Fundraiser!!

We are joining other schools in our district in the SchoolStore Fundraiser to help raise money for our classrooms and our school! Each student will receive an envelope with information. When the student registers online at SchoolStore they will get a student prize code. On their envelope they will put their name, the prize code and their teachers name. Return the envelope and get a prize.

Then you will help the student send emails to family and friends to invite them to join the fundraiser. Once that is done, family and friends can shop at over 300 stores listed in SchoolStore and we will start earning money for our school. Anyone can also opt to purchase a gift card for the teacher that they can use later for supplies for their classroom. Each purchase made earns students points towards other prizes. It's that easy, no checks to write, deliveries to be made or sorting through anything. This fundraiser will last until October 2022.



Take Home Harvest Feast

Wednesday Nov 17, 2021

*East Montpelier Elementary School presents a Take Home
Harvest Feast.*

Adults \$7

Students \$4.50

Menu

Chicken Stew or Vegetarian Stew

Ambrosia Salad

Garden Salad

Manghi's Roll

Chocolate Cream Pie

All meals must be paid for in advance, no lunch accounts will be charged.

As this is not a school luncheon, no free or reduced meals.

Choose your pick up time:

3:00_____

4:30_____

Please return form by Nov 8, 2021

Please drive up to the school, and your food will be delivered to your car.

Name_____

Number of meals: Adults_____ Students_____

Chicken Stew_____

Vegetarian Stew_____



October 29, 2021

Re: Holiday Assistance

Dear East Montpelier Families,

The holiday season is around the corner and it is our hope that you will have a peaceful and safe holiday season. Here at EMES, we have been able to provide some assistance to families during the holidays through donations and some fundraising in cooperation with the East Montpelier Fire Department. If your family could use some assistance this year, please fill out the signup sheet (or the google form) on the back of this letter.

Please list clothing sizes and one special interest/toy of your child(ren). You can also check if you need some assistance with food for Thanksgiving. Return the attached wish list to the school office (attention: Michael Sherwin) by **Friday, Nov 12, 2021** to ensure that your name is considered for assistance. We will follow up with families by Friday November 19.

If you'd like to contribute to our EMES Cares Fund, which is used throughout the year to help our school families, just send in your tax deductible contribution payable to 'EMES Cares Fund'.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Michael at 223-7936 x 356.

Sincerely,

East Montpelier Holiday Giving Committee

SIGN UP FOR EMES HOLIDAY HELP

Parent Name: _____

Tel#: _____

Address: _____

Please check below the assistance your family would like and return the form to school. You can also fill out [this google form](#).

☐

We would like some assistance with Thanksgiving food.

☐

We would like assistance for my child/children this holiday season. Please complete the following form for each child.

	Child's Name	Age	Clothing need and sizes (please describe your clothing needs e.g. winter boots, long sleeve shirts etc.)	Special Interest/Toy
1				
2				
3				
4				

Return to Michael Sherwin by **Friday, November 12, 2020**



NOVEMBER 2021

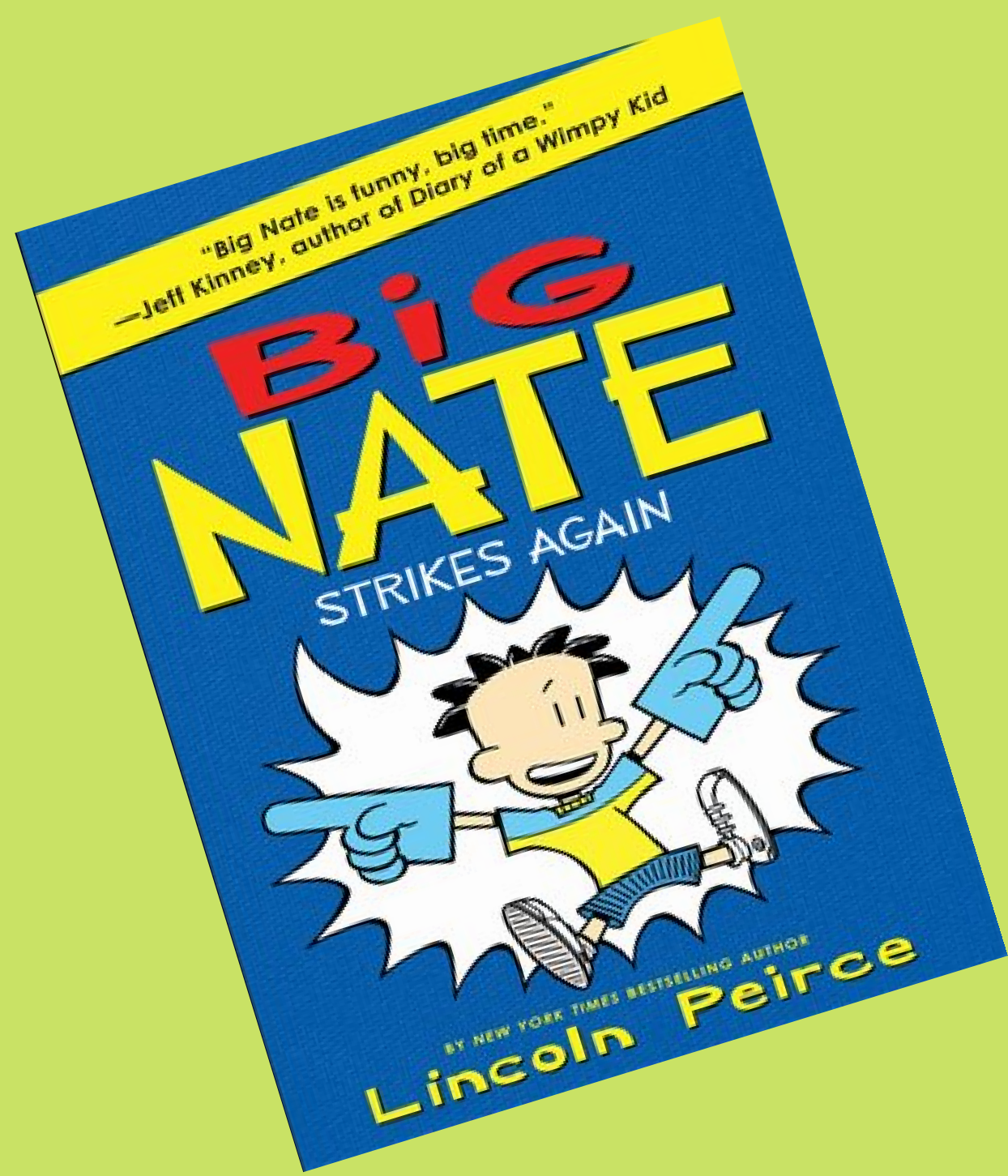
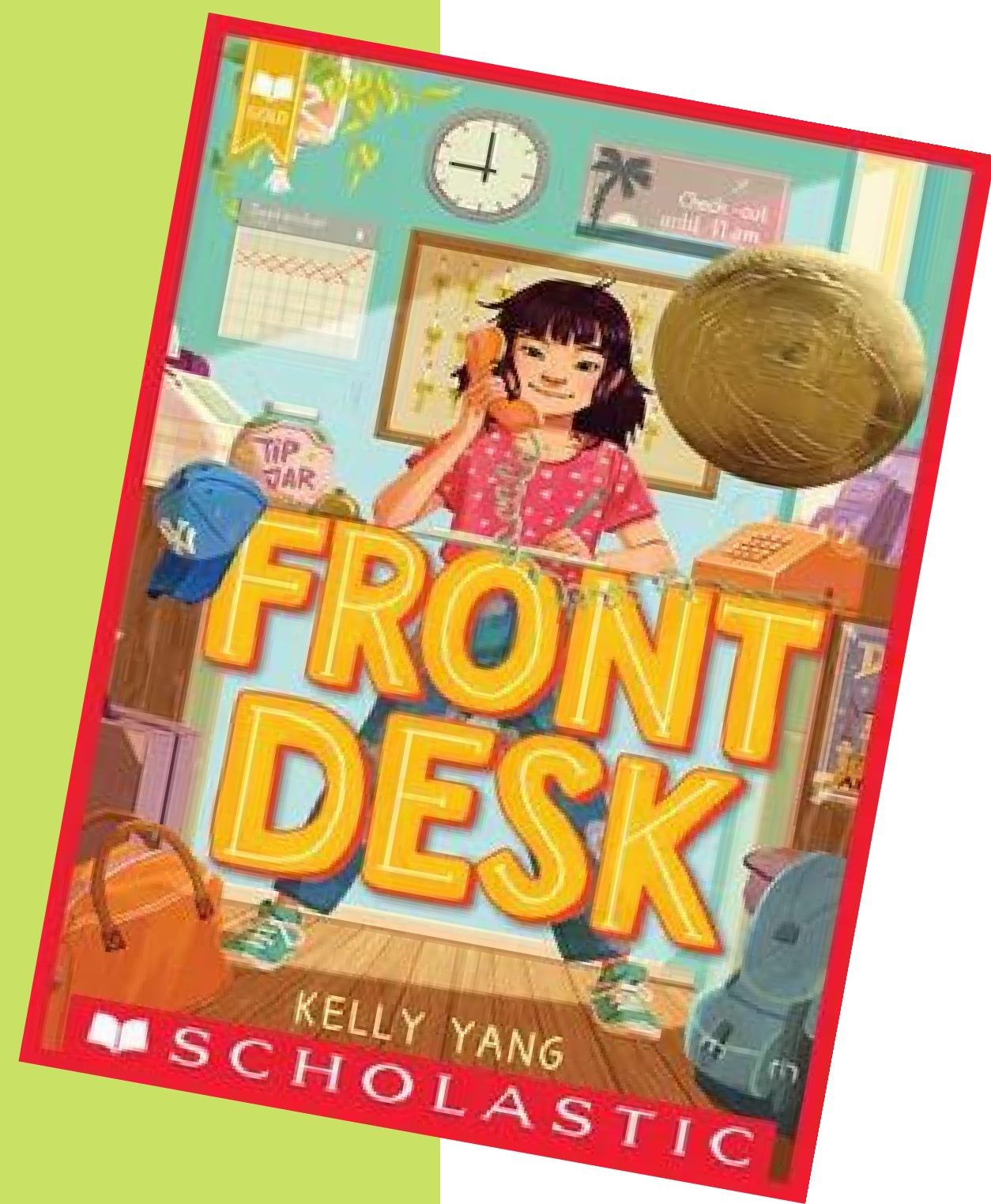
East Montpelier Elementary School

All students eat free.
Adult Breakfast \$4.00
Adult lunch \$5.50

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Cheese Ravioli Marinara Sauce Sandwich of the day: Turkey & Cheese	2 Homemade Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni or Ham & Pineapple Sandwich of the day: Tuna Salad	3 Popcorn Chicken Dipping Sauce Sandwich of the day: Ham & Cheese Half Day: Dismissal at 12:30	4 Mini Corn Dogs Oven Fries Sandwich of the day: EggSalad	5 Grilled Chicken Sandwich Sandwich of the day: Raspberry Cream Cheese
8 Baked Fish Brown Rice Sandwich of the day: Turkey & Cheese	9 Taco Tuesday Seasoned Ground Beef, Cheese Hard or Soft shell Sandwich of the day: Tuna Salad	10 Hot Turkey Sandwich Mashed Potatoes Gravy Sandwich of the day: Ham & Cheese	11 No School	12 Brunch 4 Lunch Waffles, Sausage Links, Potato, VT Maple Syrup Sandwich of the day: Raspberry Cream Cheese
15 Chicken Patty Sandwich WG Roll Sandwich of the day: Turkey & Cheese	16 Cheesy Breadsticks Marinara Sauce Sandwich of the day: Tuna Salad	17 Hot Dogs WG Roll Sandwich of the day: Ham & Cheese TakeHome Harvest Feast	18 Chicken Stew Garden Salad Ambrosia Salad Sandwich of the day: Egg Salad	19 Anything Goes!!
22 No School	23 No School	24 No School	25 No School Happy Thanksgiving	26 No School
29 Chicken Nuggets Oven Fries Dipping sauce Sandwich of the day: Turkey & Cheese	30 Nachos Seasoned Ground Beef, Cheese Sauce, Tortilla Chips Sandwich of the day: Tuna Salad			



This institution is an equal opportunity provider
Menu Subject to Change
Vegetarian option available daily, students and staff need to order vegetarian.
Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit and Milk offered Daily



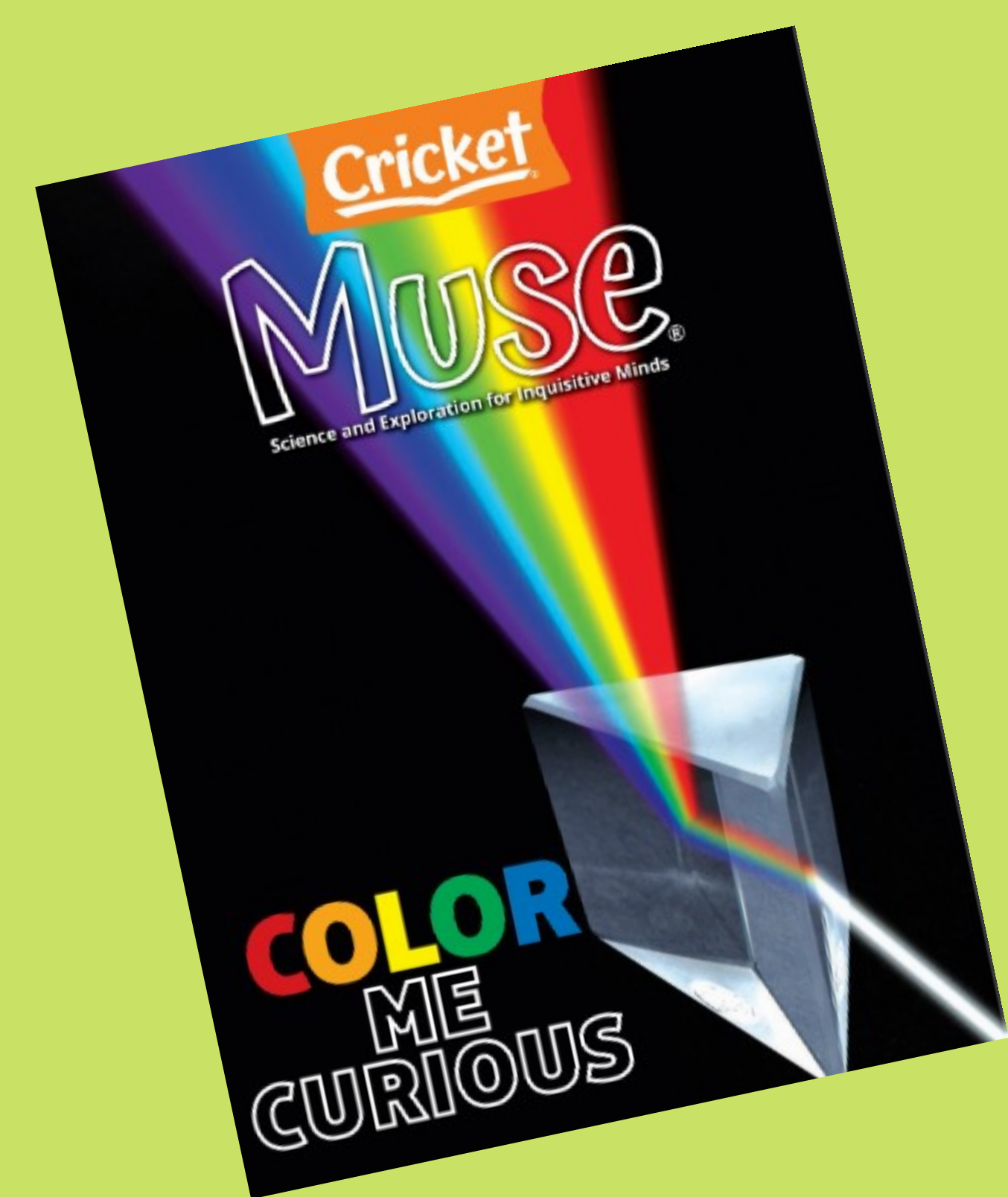
CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE LIBRARY?

Access streaming movies, magazines, newspapers, ebooks, and audiobooks from home using your library card.*

*You can even sign up for a library card online!

NOT JUST BOOKS

Log in online to reserve park and museum passes, games, puzzles, and more!



Picky reader? Let us recommend something.

Chat with a children's librarian!

Children's library open M-F 10-5:30 , Sat 10-2

(802) 223-4665 | info@kellogghubbard.org

www.kellogghubbard.org