

December 23, 2020



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.”

Alicia Lyford, Principal

2020-2021 EMES Family Newsletter

Dear EMES Families -

We MADE IT to the end of 2020!! On behalf of all the staff at EMES, thank YOU for working with us these past four months to ensure that we were all safe and able to stay in school. We weren't quite sure it would happen, but with everyone doing their part to keep us all healthy, it WORKED!! I hope you're all enjoying this spectacular first day of the holiday break with your children. I know we were ready for this break to come after the long but well-worth-it fall we all had together.

I am sure by now you have seen the Governor's most recent guidance that came out yesterday morning. All schools in WCUUSD will adhere to this latest guidance. We are working to remove the question about gathering on Base Camp and hopefully by the time you come back on the 4th, it will no longer be on there. Please continue to be safe in all your activities over break—we want to continue our amazing streak of staying in school!

Beginning on Wednesday, January 6th, we will go back to our 3:00 dismissal time on Wednesdays. We appreciate the accommodations you made for yourselves and your children over the past five Wednesdays, but we realize that this is a hardship for families AND we want your children in school! If we ever do have to go remote for a period of time, I believe we are as ready as we will ever be! Thank you for your flexibility with us as we spent these afternoons planning and learning together.

The following pages of this newsletter show some of the magic that happened within the walls of EMES over the last month. While we are sad that families cannot see these things in person this year, it's important for you to see our opportunities to learn and engage together. And, if you haven't seen today's Times Argus yet, EMES made the front page!

I wish you all a most wonderful, healthy holiday break. We look forward to seeing your children back on January 4th!

Best,
Alicia

Upcoming Dates To Note:

December 23—January 3: Holiday Break

January 6: WCUUSD Board Meeting (final budget meeting)

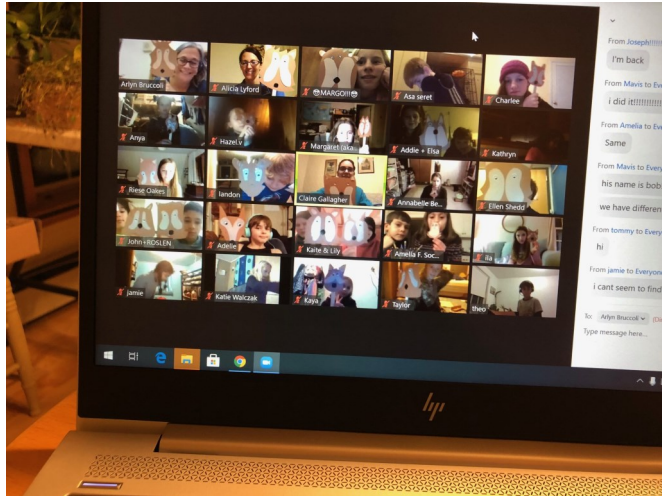
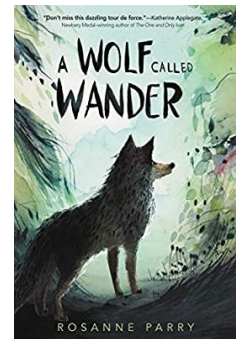
January 15: Second Marking Period Ends

January 18: MLK Day—No school for students

February 20—March 2: February Break

A Wolf Called Wander Book Club

About three dozen EMES Book Club members joined together on Zoom on December 8th to discuss the book and participate in activities together.



EMES student artwork donning the halls



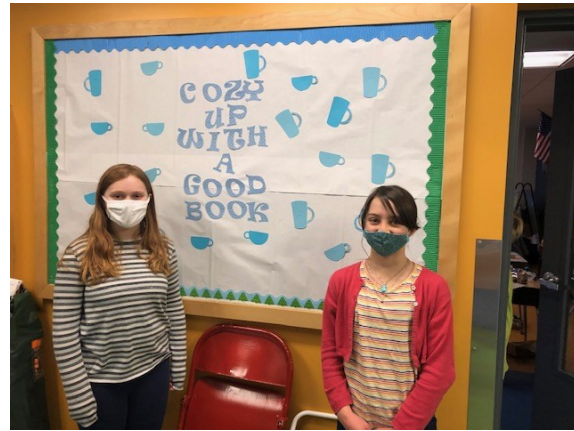
Lunch time at EMES...a HUGE shout-out to Annie, Jen, and Marlana as they prepared meals for all of EMES and Calais students during the months of November and December.





Sixth grade big buddies with Mrs. Zeilenga's K/1 classroom. To the left, Elliot Zeilenga reads to class while they work. Below, making gifts for animal friends during Eco.





The EMES student leadership team decorated winter-themed bulletin boards for all to enjoy.



A surprise visitor from the North Pole arrived just in time for dismissal on Tuesday afternoon.



The PTNO and Student Leadership members delivered hot cocoa and coffee to students and staff on December 22nd.



1/4/21	1/5/21	1/6/21	1/7/21	1/8/21
Chicken Nuggets Carrots Apple Milk	Macaroni & Cheese Broccoli Florets Peaches Milk	Ham & Cheese Croissant Sun Chips Cucumber Raisins Milk	Corn dog Baked Beans Pears Milk	Chicken Salad Sandwich Celery Apple Milk

1/11/21	1/12/21	1/13/21	1/14/21	1/15/21
Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Baby Carrots Cantaloupe Milk	Hot Dog Sun chips Cucumbers Mango Milk	Baked Ziti w/ Meat Sauce Garden Salad Apple sauce Milk	Meatball Sub Tomatoes Peaches Milk	Popcorn Chicken Corn Apple Milk

All Students eat free

Milk \$.50

Adult lunch \$5.50

Breakfast available in front of gym everyday

Sandwich of the day:

Monday: Turkey & Cheese

Tuesday: Egg Salad

Wednesday: Ham & Cheese

Thursday: Tuna Salad

Friday: Chicken Salad

Our schools encourage those in our community to heed the recommendation to celebrate only with those who live in your household. While we recognize that staying at home this holiday season is best, we want to acknowledge that some will choose to travel, gather with others or host guests. Governor Scott announced Tuesday, December 22 that families may gather with **one** other trusted household. We have revised the wording on the **Base camp** question that relates to Traveling and Gathering to reflect this change. The new question will read:

Within the last 14 days, have you traveled outside of the state of Vermont for a non-essential purpose OR gathered with more than one other trusted household?

Below are links to online resources to help you answer specific questions about your family's plans.

[Household Gatherings](#)

- Governor Scott announced on Tuesday, December 22, that families may gather with **one** other [trusted household](#) from the dates of Dec 23 through Jan 2.
- State officials stress that, while gathering with **one** other household is allowed, anyone over the age of 65, those with pre-existing conditions and those who work with vulnerable populations should avoid gatherings.
- The Vermont Department of Health strongly recommends COVID-19 testing 7 days after the gathering.
- If the other trusted household with whom you choose to gather resides outside of Vermont, both households must follow the guidance noted in [Hosting any out of state travelers](#).

[Multi-Household Social Gatherings](#): Gathering with **more than one** other household

- Stay home for 14 days after the gathering you attended.
- Alternatively, if you have no symptoms, you may stay home and take a test on or after Day 7. You must continue to stay home and wait for a negative test result before returning to school.
- Example: *If you host or attend a party on New Year's Eve and your gathering ends on January 1st (Day 0), the first day you can be tested is January 8th (Day 7). It is currently taking about 3-5 days to receive test results.*
- [Why are social gatherings prohibited right now?](#)

[Hosting any Out of State Travelers](#):

- Stay home for 14 days after your **last** day of contact with the person traveling.
- Alternatively, if you have no symptoms, you may stay home and take a test on or after Day 7. You must wait for a negative test result before returning to school.
- Example: *If your guests **leave** your home on December 26th (Day 0), the first day you can be tested is January 2nd (Day 7). It is currently taking about 3-5 days to receive test results.*
- [Can I travel to VT? Are out of state visitors allowed?](#)
- [Travel and Quaranti](#)

Travel: [VDH](#) and [ACCD](#)

- If you travel out of state and return, you must quarantine for 14 days from the time you arrive in Vermont. Day 0 is the day you arrive back home.
- Alternatively, if you have no symptoms, you may stay home and take a test on or after Day 7. You must wait for a negative test result before returning to school.
- Example: *If you return to Vermont on January 2nd (Day 0), the first day you can be tested is January 9th (Day 7). It is currently taking about 3-5 days to receive test results.*
- [Is it okay to travel within the United States?](#)

Testing

- If you plan to test to end your quarantine early, we encourage you to make an appointment. This appointment should occur on or after your Day 7. You must wait for a negative test result before returning to school.
- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, check with your medical provider for guidance on testing. The pop up sites are primarily for asymptomatic individuals.
- Visit [Where to get tested](#) on the Vermont Department of Health Website for more information. Please note that testing sites are closed Dec 24, 25 and 31. Results may take up to 5 days during this holiday period.

Thank you in advance for your continued partnership in keeping our schools open for in person learning and safe for all.