

March 29, 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.”



2019-2020 EMES Family Newsletter

Alicia Lyford, Principal

Dear EMES Families -

Wow! What a LONG, STRANGE week it's been! We recognize that finding a new "normal" is not easy for anyone, but I have been so impressed with the many ways I've witnessed first-hand the amazing community that East Montpelier is during even these toughest of times. Seeing the posts on the EMES PTNO Facebook page has been such a delight for me, as I'm sure it has been for you. If you haven't had the chance to visit the page yet, please do! There are so many examples of EMES families making the most out of the current situation. I've personally heard from many of you, and have kept in close contact with each of your children's teachers—I am hopeful that you're accessing the supports you need during this time at home with your children. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if there's anything that you need—we are here and want to support you!

This coming week will look much the same as last week did in regards to your child's education. Packets are prepared to go in the US Mail tomorrow morning and teachers and other staff members will continue to reach out to you this week. Online learning will also continue in the same ways it did last week—through virtual read-alouds, Zoom classrooms and conversations, Screencastify lessons, and SeeSaw videos. As we better understand what the weeks ahead will look like, we will make sure to keep you informed.

Two special highlights for this coming week are Spirit Week #2 (details on page 4) and another all-school writing prompt. I've attached a copy of the prompt on page 7 below. A hard copy will also go home in your child's packet tomorrow. Please have your child spend some time this week working on this prompt—you're welcome to join them if you'd like to write as well! I'd love for you to send me a picture of the completed prompts—my hope will be to compile these and share them in the next newsletter! Children love reading each other's writing, and they love hearing about acts of kindness!

For more information from either WCUUSD or the Vermont Agency of Education on COVID-19, please visit the following pages:

[WCUUSD Site for COVID 19 Updates](#)

[Vermont AOE Site for COVID-19 Updates](#)

Enjoy the rest of your Sunday evening!
Alicia

A Few Highlights from EMES Staff This Week....

Mrs. Fitch:

Seeing the great smiles of my students on flipgrid
Sharing the postcards we are still receiving from across the country (virtually of course)
Having time to connect with students in new ways
Taking walks with my family
Completing Mr. B's workouts with Walker...
Reaching out to friends and family we don't always get to connect with

Mrs. Parker:

Seeing my kiddos' smiles as we pulled into their driveways.
I also love getting pictures of my student's writing!

Mrs. Christy:

Walks with friends around Berlin Pond
Cooking meals that my husband said were, "SCRUMPTIOUS"
Smiles and laughs on numerous video chats
Team work~ from "Rhyme Time" to copying, stuffing, stapling, finding stuff, supporting each other
ALWAYS
Learning more and more about tech...EVERY.SINGLE.DAY!



Mrs. Christiano:

I had the pleasure of listening to one of my students play their piano for me over the phone (I never knew they played!)
I heard voices of students that I miss
I heard about how many of our families are getting outside and getting creative
I was sent photos of scones and cookies from a fraction cooking assignment
I curled up and listened to my own boys read

Mrs. Lyford:

Participating in 4th Grade Lunch Bunch "Just Like Jackie"
Seeing all the families participate in EMES Spirit Week
Watching the amazingly creative ways teachers are teaching their students
Being able to "see" our staff and students through Zoom!
Having the opportunity to be a part of my own children's learning at home

Ms. Arlyn:

Seeing my 4th grade friends during Virtual Lunch Bunch
Talking with students individually over the phone and through the computer
Taking long walks with my Budminster
Reading
Getting funny messages from loved ones far away

Mrs. Zeilenga:

Still finding a way to have our dance parties
Getting to be silly with Kathy, Kim and Susie making videos for our kids
Seeing families spend more time together

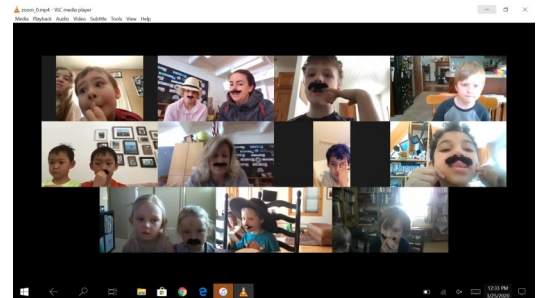


Jodi Parker:

Seeing staff come together to make this challenging time look easy so kids get what they need.
Long walks with Paige and Bailey and Lisa and Murphy in the fields
Seeing EMES family photos on the EMES PTNO page staying connected.
Playing games with Paige that are school work related and then just for fun.
Belly laughs

Mrs. Gannon:

Teachers and students learning new technology together
Talking with and checking on family members every day
Talking with colleagues
Problem solving with colleagues about homeschooling and figuring out technology
Getting outside for walks every day
Helping grandsons with their schoolwork
Puppy time
Thankful for Kim and Susie to help put packets together
Thankful for Jodi's positivity
Talking with families and students
Photos and email from kid's projects and work
Seeing photos of student's new home offices
Families playing together - board games and outside time

**Mrs. Gariboldi:**

Keeping communication open with students and families
*Students sending me daily updates: pictures, texts, emails, FaceTime, phone calls, Seesaw
*Families playing math games together
*Learning technology
*Finding out that it's not just me that's technology challenged, but apparently my school computer is too!!! (this helped me to laugh during some real struggles, thank you Craig M.)
*connecting with staff
* I find myself constantly thinking about new ways to help my students. Knowing that I will conquer my technology fears.
*Watching my own kids make dinners! Homemade pasta, gnocchi and breads.
My family has time every night for a game or two of Pitch. Boys against the girls, and yes, we keep score
*I walk Murphy each day. He averages about 12 miles a day. I probably get a fourth of that, but it feels so good to be outside on the trails and in the fields!!!

Mr. Sherwin

Zoom calls with students
Seeing things that make students excited at home
Helping parents
Walking the dogs

Mrs. Giammusso:

Talking with students and their families and hearing about the fun things they are doing at home and outside in the snow
Seeing students' short videos on Flipgrid
Getting out for walks with family and friends
Zoom calls with my parents, siblings, and nephews
Game nights with my girls
Helping my girls with their work at home
Finishing a good book
Working on a craft project
Seeing and hearing some signs of spring!



EMES Spirit Week....Take 2!!

We had so much fun participating in Virtual Spirit Week with you last week that we want to keep it going!! For this week -

Monday - Fort Day! You can build this indoors or outdoors - it is up to you.

Tuesday- Pictures For Patients Day! Paint or color a picture for patients in quarantine and hospital workers so they have something beautiful to look at and to remind them of brighter days ahead. If you would like them passed on you can contact Spunqi Young at spunqi@yahoo.com.

Wednesday—Board Game Day/Night. What is your favorite game to play as a family?

Thursday - What's For Dinner? Let make dinner as a family and inspire others with our meal to-night!

Friday - Virtual 10 Second Dance -off! What is your best 10 second dance moves? Think anyone can top them? Extra points for costumes.

You're welcome to share pictures of your experiences on the PTNO Facebook Page...go to Groups and look for EMES PTNO! We hope you have a great week. Please be sure to check out Mr.Q's riddle of the week. Mr.Q is a beloved retired teacher at EMES.

A Message From Mrs. Morse, EMES Art Teacher

Hello Families,

As we enter into the second week of distance learning, I hope everyone has a few bright moments to reflect upon. In my household, we have been making time each day to go outside, be creative, and laugh with each other. I am hopeful that during our time away from school, many families will turn to art to fill their time in a meaningful way and bring joy and creativity into their daily lives, even if it is just observing the natural world through an artist's eye. Last week, I sent home a [menu of art activities](#) for students to choose from. Please choose 2 different choices for this week, or add more details to work from last week. My hope is that these ideas might provide inspiration and guidance or act as a jumping-off point for students to take their own creative ideas and run with them. Frequently students share their wishes that we could have more time for art, so let's take advantage of this unconventional schedule and provide as many opportunities for creativity and expression as possible! If you are looking for additional ways to explore your creativity, check out this list of [Art Resources](#). This week students are not required to share work, but I would love to see what artists are up to! I have created an [EMES FlipGrid](#) for students to share their artwork with each other and myself. Students use their school email to join, and the flipcode for our gallery is emesart. Please feel free to email me at almorse@u32.org for any questions.

Take Care,

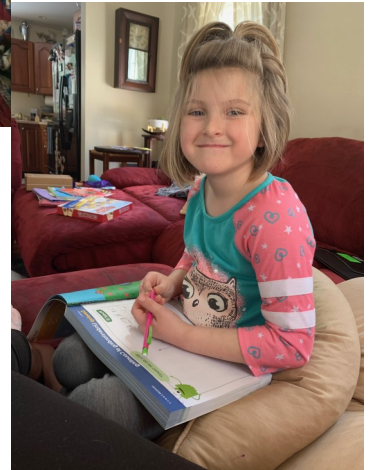
Mrs. Morse

Dear Families,

We hope you are well. Our food service would like to remind all families that school breakfast and lunch is free to everyone. If you have not been accessing food and would like to, you can email Jody Emerson at jemerson@u32.org and let her know when you want to start accessing food. They are making a breakfast and lunch available to everyone free of charge if you wish.

Thank you!

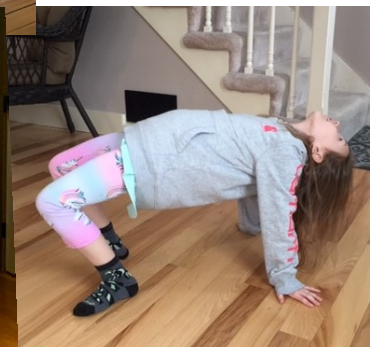
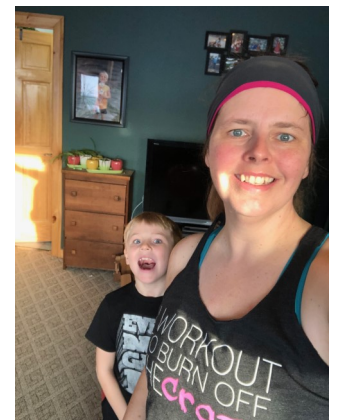
Pajama Day!



Decades Day



Work Out Wednesday



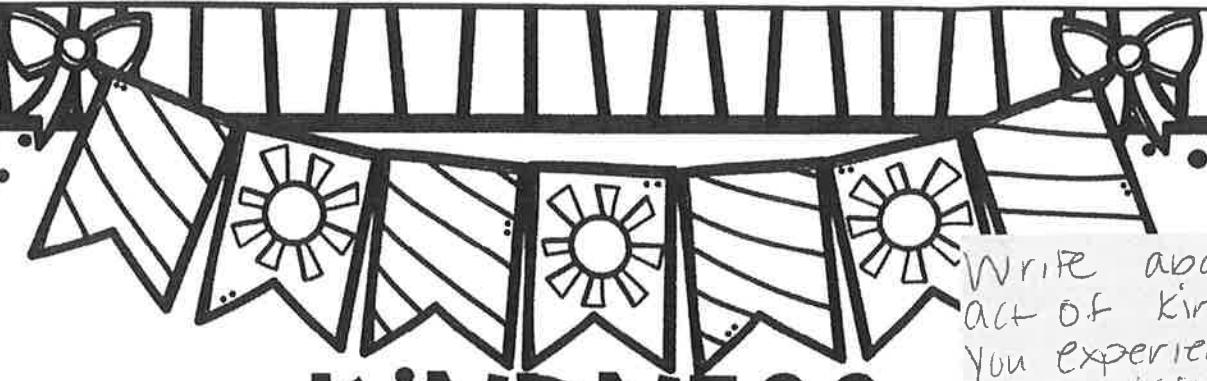
World Color Day



EMES

PRIDE DAY!





KINDNESS

by _____

Write about an act of kindness you experienced in the last 2 weeks that had a positive impact on you

