



Parent meeting for rising 5th, 6th, and 7th graders

MRIS Parent Orientation

February 4, 2025

ENGAGE



Something About You

Who was your favorite teacher in 5th, 6th, or 7th grade?



The Why.

What made that teacher come to mind?

Our Mission:

Creating challenging and meaningful learning experiences for every student while building strong, positive relationships.







Dates to Remember

- **Friday, February 7**
 - Encore Elective Forms go home
- **Monday, February 10**
 - Encore forms due back to Homeroom Teacher
- **Wednesday, May 21**
 - Student Orientation Day
 - Spend time in next grade level



Instructional Teams



Grasslands

5th Grade



Marine

6th Grade



Desert

7th Grade



Grasslands

5th Grade



Lions

Dee Dulin - ELA

Kelly Metcalf - Social Studies

Chip Woods (interim) - Math

Kyra Kauffman - Science

Leopards

Maria Bradley - ELA

Elijah Arquette- Social Studies

Joni Brown - Math

Stacy DeFord - Science

5th Grade Notes

- In fifth grade, your student will attend an Encore Elective class of their choice every other day for 60 minutes.
- Elective classes rotate with Wheel classes (Art, Library, and PE) which all fifth graders take. As we begin planning for the next school-year, it is time to work with your student to choose his or her Elective.
- Fifth grade Encore Elective choices are Band, Orchestra, STEM, Art, and Chorus/Music.
- Please read through the course descriptions with your child, and together choose an elective for next year. Please mark your choice on the back of the registration form, sign, and return it to your student's homeroom teacher **Monday, February 10.**

Student Name: _____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian Signature _____

**5th Grade Elective Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year
(for current 4th Graders)**

Please fill out this registration form carefully and return Monday, February 10.

Choose Your Encore Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	ENCORE ELECTIVE CLASSES 60 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Band	
	Orchestra	
	Art	
	Chorus/Drama	
	STEM	

Academic Success (Sped) and/or Intervention

Students who qualify for Academic Success and/or Intervention classes will be placed in one or both electives, depending on the level of intervention the student qualifies for.

Changing Electives

Elective choices may be changed during the first two weeks of the school year if there's a spot available. After this time, we ask that students honor their elective choice.

Band (5th)

- Students will learn to play band instruments – woodwinds, brasswinds, and percussion.
- Fifth grade students will choose one of five instrument options--flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, or percussion.
- Percussion consists of drums AND melody percussion such as mallet keyboard instruments. Percussion is on an “as available” option on some years in the 5th grade.
- All instrument choices will be determined by student interest and teacher recommendation in the first few weeks of school. Selecting this Encore Elective requires instrument rental at a cost of approximately \$25.00-38.00 a month.
- Rental information will be sent home at the beginning of each school year

Orchestra (5th)

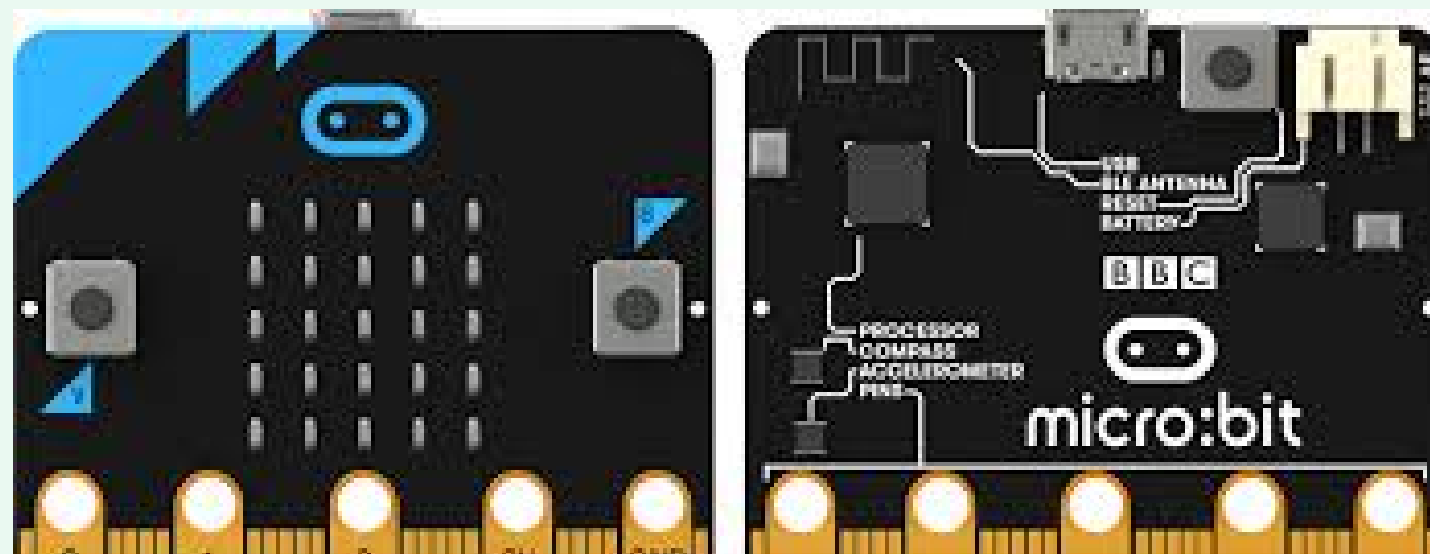
- Students will learn to play a violin, viola, cello or string bass.
- This beginning instruction focuses on correct hand positions, note reading, proper tone production, and personal performance skills.
- Most students rent an instrument for the first year from a local music dealer for approximately \$20.00 - 45.00 a month.
- Rental information will be sent home at the beginning of next year.
- A non-required fun summer jumpstart camp to Orchestra will be offered for any interested. More info will be sent home later this semester.

Chorus/Drama (5th)

- Combines vocal performance and dramatic expression.
- Students will put on a play (just acting, no singing), AND a musical (with singing).
- Some students will have the opportunity to work as a “techie” and help with behind the scenes play production such as lights, sound, stage managing, etc.
- Our production titles for next year are TBA- but in the past we have enjoyed presenting productions such as “Aladdin, Jr.”, “Annie, Jr.”, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”, “Frozen”, and more!
- Next year, all musical rehearsals will occur after school instead of during class.

STEM (5th)

- The course is called Computer Science Innovators and Makers.
- Students learn to code by building carnival games using Lego Spike Essential Kits.
- As the students' coding skills grow, they learn to code micro:bits to complete a variety of challenges.
- Finally, students put all their skills together to create interactive toys and art projects.
- This is an interactive class that both boys and girls enjoy!



Art (5th)

- Students in this course will use a variety of media to focus on “Art Through The Ages”.
- Students will explore artwork from the prehistoric era through contemporary times and produce their own interpretations of the same types of artwork.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

**5th Grade Elective Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year
(for current 4th Graders)**

Please fill out this registration form carefully and return Monday, February 10.

Choose Your Encore Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	ENCORE ELECTIVE CLASSES 60 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Band	
	Orchestra	
	Art	
	Chorus/Drama	
	STEM	

Academic Success (Sped) and/or Intervention
Students who qualify for Academic Success and/or Intervention classes will be placed in one or both electives, depending on the level of intervention the student qualifies for.

Changing Electives
Elective choices may be changed during the first two weeks of the school year if there's a spot available. After this time, we ask that students honor their elective choice.

• • • • • • • •
• • • • • • • •
• • • • • • • •
• • • • • • • •
• • • • • • • •
• • • • • • • •

Marine

6th Grade



Sea Dragons

Emily Price - ELA

Wendy Chambers - Social Studies

Tim Carnes - Math

Whitney Tipton - Science

Sea Hawks

Michelle Russell - ELA

Donna Allen - Social Studies

Sarah Shuler - Math

Tracy Luttrell - Science

6th Grade Notes

- In 6th grade, your student will attend an Encore Elective class of their choice every other day for 60 minutes and an E/I Elective class of their choice every other day for 30 minutes.
- Encore choices - Band, Orchestra, Chorus/Drama, Art, STEM
- E/I classes rotate with Library, Technology, and PE which all sixth graders take.
E/I choices: Art(project-based), Creative Music, Leadworthy
- As we begin planning for the next school year, it is time to work with your student to choose his or her electives (one 60-minute Elective and one 30-minute E/I Elective).
- Please mark your choice on the back of the form, sign, and return the registration form to your student's homeroom teacher on
Monday, February 10.

Step 1: Choose Your Encore Elective
In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	ENCORE ELECTIVE CLASSES 60 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Band	
	Orchestra	
	Chorus/Drama	
	STEM	
	Art	

Step 2: Now Choose Your Encore E/I Elective
In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	E/I Elective Class 30 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Instrumental Practice – Band or Orchestra Band students must have selected Band as their 60-minute Encore Elective and orchestra students must have selected Orchestra as their 60-minute Encore Elective. 1 st year band/orchestra students are required to have Instrumental Practice during EI.	
	Art: Project-Based	
	Creative Music	
	Leadworthy	

Step 3: Now Choose Your Encore Elective for Friday
In the event your 1st choice may be full, please select all THREE choices.

Check 1 st Choice	Check 2 nd Choice	Check 3 rd Choice	Friday Encore Elective Class 60 Minutes, <i>every Friday</i>
			Band Students that choose Band for their Encore elective will also have it on Friday
			Orchestra Students that choose Orchestra for their Encore elective will also have it on Friday
			Fiber Arts and Photography
			Max Flight Motions
			Choir
			LEGO & Layers
			Reader's Quest
			Eagle Assist

Band (6th)

- Band students will focus on ensemble skills and beginning band literature while continuing individual musicianship.
- Students with one school year of experience in the 5th grade, some students can now branch out to other instruments such as oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, horn, baritone euphonium and tuba.
- If you did not take band in 5th grade but would like start now in the 6th grade, we welcome you!
- First-year band students in 6th grade are required to register for the 30-minute E/I Elective Instrumental Enrichment which allows for everyday music instruction.

Orchestra (6th)

- Orchestra students expand and refine the skills developed in 5th grade.
- New skills involve the development of vibrato and shifting.
- If you did not take orchestra in 5th grade but would like start now, we welcome you!
- First-year orchestra students in 6th grade are required to register for the 30-minute Encore E/I Elective Instrumental Enrichment, which allows for everyday music instruction for our beginning musicians.
- Orchestra students that take orchestra everyday will be considered for Chamber Orchestra and participate in orchestra competitions

Chorus/Drama (6th)

- Students will put on a play (just acting, no singing), AND a musical (with singing).
- Some students will have the opportunity to work as a “techie” and help with behind the scenes play production such as lights, sound, stage managing, etc.
- Our production titles for next year are TBA - but in the past we have enjoyed presenting productions such as “Aladdin, Jr.”, “Annie, Jr.”, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”, “Frozen”, and more!

Art (6th)

- Students in this course will use a variety of media to focus on “Art Through The Ages”.
- Students will explore artwork from the prehistoric era through contemporary times and produce their own interpretations of the same types of artwork.

STEM (6th)

- This course is called Design and Modeling.
- Students use the engineering design method to design and build products to solve problems.
- Some of the products that students design and build: skimmers, puzzle cubes, bird houses, foot orthosis and therapeutic toys.
- Students also learn how to design and draw in three dimensions using Tinkercad.
- Students really enjoy 3D printing their Tinkercad designs. Design and Modeling is an interactive class that will challenge your imagination and building skills.
- Both girls and boys will enjoy this class!

30 Minute Elective Classes - Every other day - 6th Grade

Instrumental Enrichment

- Band students choosing this class must also be registered for Band for their 60 minute Encore Elective class.
- **First-year band students are required to take this class.** This 30 minute E/I Elective is an opportunity to prepare for wind ensemble, junior band clinic, explore jazz, and commit to a higher skill level.
- While a beginner will always take both the 60 minute Encore Band class AND the 30-minute Instrumental Enrichment class, all band students are highly encouraged to enroll in both band classes as for the advancement of our band program.
- Orchestra students choosing this class must also be registered for Orchestra for their 60 minute Encore Elective class.
- **First-year orchestra students are required to take this class.**
- This 30 minute E/I Elective is an opportunity to prepare for chamber orchestra, explore alternative styles (fiddle, jazz), and commit to a higher skill level.

Art - Project-based

- Various art projects and elements of art examined in student work.

30 Minute Elective Classes - Every other day - 6th Grade (continued)

Creative Music

- Creative music students may choose from keyboard, ukulele, or guitar.
- We will learn how to play the basic chord structures in contemporary music such as pop, rock, folk, etc.
- Guitar and ukulele students learn how to read tablature, and keyboarding students play some “pop” piano and some traditional style.

Leadworthy

- This goal of this course is to inspire, challenge, and encourage students to be leaders in the school and the community.
- Leadworthy students will develop critical skills such as personal responsibility, communication, and decision-making skills.
- Most students find this class very rewarding because of the many service opportunities.
- Opportunities to serve include greeting at the doors in the morning, tutoring, welcoming new students, and many more!
- Please note that students must be able to maintain appropriate behavior and demonstrate leadership skills in order to participate in service opportunities.

New - Friday Only Encore Options- 6th grade

LEGO and Layers

- Students will dive into design challenges where they will use LEGOS and 3D printers.

Choir

- An introduction to the joy of singing in a group setting - no prior experience required and open to all students.

Max Flight Motions

- Students can learn about various types of movement to improve strength, flexibility, agility, and other skills through a wide range of physical challenges.

Fiber Arts and Photography

- Fall semester is a focus on the history/use of fiber arts (sewing, mending, felting, cross-stitch). the spring focus will be the elements and practice of photography.

Reader's Quest

- Calling all readers! This is a book club for any student who loves to read, discuss, and share their favorite books.

Eagle Assist

- Taking advantage of service opportunities within the school and community while developing skills to be effective servant leaders.

Academic Success/Intervention

- Students that qualify for this class will be scheduled in it depending on the level of support that they qualify to receive.

Step 1: Choose Your Encore Elective
In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	ENCORE ELECTIVE CLASSES 60 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Band	
	Orchestra	
	Chorus/Drama	
	STEM	
	Art	

Step 2: Now Choose Your Encore E/I Elective
In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	E/I Elective Class 30 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Instrumental Practice – Band or Orchestra Band students must have selected Band as their 60-minute Encore Elective and orchestra students must have selected Orchestra as their 60-minute Encore Elective. 1 st year band/orchestra students are required to have Instrumental Practice during EI.	
	Art: Project-Based	
	Creative Music	
	Leadworthy	

Step 3: Now Choose Your Encore Elective for Friday
In the event your 1st choice may be full, please select all THREE choices.

Check 1 st Choice	Check 2 nd Choice	Check 3 rd Choice	Friday Encore Elective Class 60 Minutes, <i>every Friday</i>
			Band Students that choose Band for their Encore elective will also have it on F
			Orchestra Students that choose Orchestra for their Encore elective will also have it o
			Fiber Arts and Photography
			Max Flight Motions
			Choir
			LEGO & Layers
			Reader's Quest
			Eagle Assist

Desert

7th Grade



Coyotes

Becca White - ELA

Amy Beaty - Social Studies

Cassidy Raulston - Math

Nate Hone - Science

Bobcats

Molly Miller - ELA

Kevin Kissell - Social Studies

Amanda Pritchett - Math

Shannon Weaver - Science

7th Grade Notes

- Student will attend an Encore Elective class of their choice every other day for 60 minutes and an E/I Elective class of their choice every other day for 30 minutes.
- As we begin planning for the next school year, it is time to work with your student to choose his or her electives (one 60-minute Encore Elective and one 30-minute E/I Elective).
- Please read the course descriptions with your child, and together choose electives for next year.
- Please mark your choice on the last page of this registration form, sign, and return the form to your student's homeroom teacher **Monday, February 10.**

Step 1: Choose Your Encore Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	ENCORE ELECTIVE CLASS 60 Minutes, <i>twice a week</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Band	
	Orchestra	
	Chorus/Drama	
	STEM	
	Art	

Step 2: Now Choose Your Encore E/I Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	E/I Elective Class 30 Minutes, <i>twice a week</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Instrumental Practice – Band or Orchestra Band students must have selected Band as their 60-minute Encore Elective and orchestra students must have selected Orchestra as their 60-minute Encore Elective. 1 st year band/orchestra students are required to have Instrumental Practice during EI.	
	Art: Project-Based	
	Creative Music	
	Leadworthy – Prerequisite required	

Step 3: Now Choose Your Friday Encore Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	Check 2 nd Choice	Check 3 rd Choice	Friday Encore Elective Class 60 Minutes, <i>every Friday</i>
			Band Students that choose Band for their Encore elective will also have it on Fridays.
			Orchestra Students that choose Orchestra for their Encore elective will also have it on Fridays.
			Fiber Arts and Photography
			Max Flight Motions
			Choir
			Skyline Creators
			Reader's Quest
			Eagle Assist

Band (7th)

- Band students will explore and perform more challenging music refining the fundamentals of the instrument.
- This level of music will encourage higher intellect, cross-curricular support, learning the pursuit of excellence in music and have that transfer to life skills.
- Much attention is given to LEADERSHIP development.
- First-year band students in 7th grade are required to register for the 30-minute E/I Elective Instrumental Enrichment class, which allows for additional music instruction for our beginning musicians.
- Any student joining band in the 7th grade for the first time, having missed 5th and 6th grade band will need private lessons on their instrument in order to catch up with the more experienced students in the band class.
- While a beginner will always take both the 60 minute Encore Band class AND the 30 minute Encore E/I Instrumental Enrichment class, all band students are highly encouraged to enroll in both classes for the advancement of our band program.

Orchestra (7th)

- In 7th grade orchestra, students develop the skills to prepare them to participate in Junior Orchestra Clinic.
- These skills include improved sight-reading, more advanced tone production, and development of more advanced shifting to encompass all of the 2-octave major scales.
- First-year orchestra students in 7th grade are required to register for the 30-minute Encore E/I Instrumental Enrichment class which allows for everyday music instruction for our beginning musicians.
- Orchestra students that take Orchestra everyday will be considered for Chamber Orchestra and participate in orchestra competitions.

Chorus/Drama (7th)

- Combines the art of vocal performance with the creativity of dramatic expression. This course emphasizes teamwork, self-expression, and performance skills.
- Some students will have the opportunity to work as a “techie” and help with behind the scenes play production such as lights, sound, stage managing, etc.
- Our production titles for next year are TBA- but in the past we have enjoyed presenting productions such as “Aladdin, Jr.”, “Annie, Jr.”, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”, and more!
- For the 25-26 school year, the musical rehearsals will be after school instead of during class.

Art (7th)

- Students in this course will use a variety of media to focus on “Art Through The Ages”.
- Students will explore artwork from the prehistoric era through contemporary times and produce their own interpretations of the same types of artwork.

STEM (7th)

- In this automation and robotics class, students learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, automation, and computer control systems.
- Students find solutions to various challenges using the Vex robotics platform by designing, building, and programming multiple mechanisms.
- An engineering notebook is used to document and capture their ideas and showcase their creative solutions.

30 Minute Elective Classes - Every other day - 7th grade

Instrumental Enrichment

- Band students choosing this class must also be registered for Band for their 60 minute Encore Elective class.
- **First-year band students are required to take this class.** This 30 minute E/I Elective is an opportunity to prepare for wind ensemble, junior band clinic, explore jazz, and commit to a higher skill level.
- While a beginner will always take both the 60 minute Encore Band class AND the 30-minute Instrumental Enrichment class, all band students are highly encouraged to enroll in both band classes as for the advancement of our band program.
- Orchestra students choosing this class must also be registered for Orchestra for their 60 minute Encore Elective class.
- **First-year orchestra students are required to take this class.**
- This 30 minute E/I Elective is an opportunity to prepare for chamber orchestra, explore alternative styles (fiddle, jazz), and commit to a higher skill level.

Art - Project-based

- Art will be created using the Principles of Design. Students will also explore how to consider and create movement, balance, proportions, and emphasis in their work.

30 Minute Elective Classes - Every other day - 7th Grade (continued)

Creative Music

- Creative music students may choose from keyboard, ukulele, or guitar.
- We will learn how to play the basic chord structures in contemporary music such as pop, rock, folk, etc.
- Guitar and ukulele students learn how to read tablature, and keyboarding students play some “pop” piano and some traditional style.

Leadworthy II

- This goal of this course is to inspire, challenge, and encourage students to be leaders in the school and the community.
- Leadworthy students will continue develop critical skills such as personal responsibility, communication, and decision-making skills.
- Students will be given many opportunities to apply their leadership skills that will stretch them out of their comfort zones.
- Students will spend many days out of the classroom serving in different capacities around the school.
- If you would like to take this course and did not participate in Leadworthy I, you must send Mr. Miller a brief email explaining why you want to be a student leader. Please send emails to Jeremy.miller@maryville-schools.org.
- Please note that students must maintain the recommendation of teachers by exhibiting appropriate behavior and by demonstrating leadership skills in order to participate in this course.

New - Friday Only Encore Options for 7th

Skyline Creators: Drone Coding and 3D Architecture

- Students will learn to code and pilot drones in the first semester. The second semester will center around 3D printing designed houses.

Choir

- An introduction to the joy of singing in a group setting - no prior experience required and open to all students.

Max Flight Motions

- Students can learn about various types of movement to improve strength, flexibility, agility, and other skills through a wide range of physical challenges.

Fiber Arts and Photography

- Fall semester is a focus on the history/use of fiber arts (sewing, mending, felting, cross-stitch). the spring focus will be the elements and practice of photography.

Reader's Quest

- Calling all readers! This is a book club for any student who loves to read, discuss, and share their favorite books.

Eagle Assist

- Taking advantage of service opportunities within the school and community while developing skills to be effective servant leaders.

Academic Success/Intervention

- Students that qualify for this class will be scheduled in it depending on the level of support that they qualify to receive.

Step 1: Choose Your Encore Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	ENCORE ELECTIVE CLASS 60 Minutes, <i>twice a week</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Band	
	Orchestra	
	Chorus/Drama	
	STEM	
	Art	

Step 2: Now Choose Your Encore E/I Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	E/I Elective Class 30 Minutes, <i>twice a week</i>	Check 2 nd Choice
	Instrumental Practice – Band or Orchestra Band students must have selected Band as their 60-minute Encore Elective and orchestra students must have selected Orchestra as their 60-minute Encore Elective. 1 st year band/orchestra students are required to have Instrumental Practice during EI.	
	Art: Project-Based	
	Creative Music	
	Leadworthy – Prerequisite required	

Step 3: Now Choose Your Friday Encore Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 st Choice	Check 2 nd Choice	Check 3 rd Choice	Friday Encore Elective Class 60 Minutes, <i>every Friday</i>
			Band Students that choose Band for their Encore elective will also have it on Fridays.
			Orchestra Students that choose Orchestra for their Encore elective will also have it on Fridays.
			Fiber Arts and Photography
			Max Flight Motions
			Choir
			Skyline Creators
			Reader's Quest
			Eagle Assist



Dates to Remember

- **Friday, February 7**
 - Encore Elective Forms go home
- **Monday, February 10**
 - Encore forms due back to Homeroom Teacher
- **Wednesday, May 21**
 - Student Orientation Day
 - Spend time in next grade level

Thank You!

