

May 2024

Dare to SOAR!

SUNSET NEWS



A Note from the Principal

Sunset Families,

We are in the final month of our 2023-2024 school year. Thank you all for helping make the daily time change adjustment run smoothly. We really appreciate your partnership this school year.

We still have a lot of events happening as we end the school year. We ask that you continue to encourage your students to end the school year with positive behavior and effort on all assignments.

In May we celebrate Teacher Appreciate Week. Please consider helping with meals for staff. PTA will send out a sign-up sheet soon.

We need PTA officers. The next meeting is May 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. PTA helps with so many wonderful things at Sunset. Please keep looking for updates and upcoming events online.

The last day of school will be May 22, 2024 with normal dismissal times. I wish each of you a summer filled with adventure and family fun.

Best regards,

Dr. Brandon J. Cheeks

Principal

Sunset Elementary School

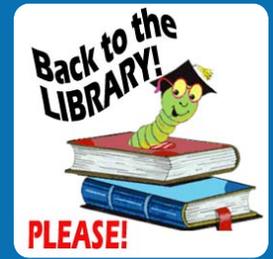
P: 785-309-4520

Brandon.Cheeks@usd305.com



Reminder

All library books are due no later than
Friday, May 10, 2024.



Play Day Picnic Guest Lunch

If you reserved and prepaid for your Play Day meal(s) in April, you will have a lunch prepared for you.

In case of Play Day cancellation, you are still encouraged to come eat with your student(s) inside.

There will be NO REFUNDS for this event.

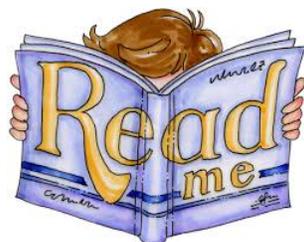


Summer Checkout at Sunset

You are invited to stop by the library to check out books for summer reading.

The library will be open the following dates: May 30, June 6, 20, 27, July 4, 11.

The doors will be open 1:00-2:00 p.m.



Pre-K Graduation

May 21, 2024
in the Small Gym

Morning Class 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Afternoon Class 2:30-3:00 p.m.

Fifth Grade Honor Night

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Sunset Gym



Sunset Play Day

Friday, May 17, 2024

Grades K-Second - (9:00-11:00 a.m.) and grades Third-Fifth - (1:00-3:00 p.m.)

On Friday, May 17, Sunset Elementary will be having its annual Play Day celebration. All students will be participating in Play Day. Come out and cheer on your kiddos as they partake in ten exhilarating stations!

Each station will be ten minutes long. Two stations will have water and drinks for the students as they go through the stations.

Grades K- second will play in the morning: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Grades third-fifth will play in the afternoon: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Some stations will include water. (Students may get wet.)

A list of helpful necessities for your child on play day: sunscreen, tennis shoes, change of socks, comfortable appropriate outdoor play clothes.

We hope to see you all on Play Day!



Third Grade - Kansas Fitness Day

May is National Physical Education and Sport month and every year the Elementary Physical Education teachers from USD 305 sponsor a fitness day for third grade students. During our event over 700 third grade students from around the area will gather to celebrate physical activity, health and safety with two hours of fun fitness activities. In May 2023, nearly 750 third graders participated.

The 24th annual Saline County Kansas Kids Fitness Day (KKFD)

Friday, May 3, 2024

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

East Crawford Recreation Area, Salina

Some of the sponsors for the event include Salina USD 305, Salina Fire Department, Salina Education Foundation, McPherson College, South and Central High schools, Southeast High School, Salina Parks and Recreation and numerous other community agencies. The purpose of KKFD is to promote physical activity, wellness and safety for third grade students in Saline County.

The site for all activities will be the East Crawford Recreation Area at the south end by the water tower. Opening ceremonies will begin promptly at 9:40 a.m. Activities will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Please be sure to put this event on your calendar if you would like to come watch and cheer on the students. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact P.E. teacher, David Weir, (785) 309-4567.

Spotlight on Fifth Grade



Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Barten, Mr. Davis

Fifth grade has been on the go recently. We've been traveling to some exciting places in Salina, and "beyond." Speaking of "beyond," several of our destinations have been focusing on traveling through outer space. Over the past couple of months, fifth grade has completed Starbase, donated to Match Madness, and traveled to the Cosmosphere.

Students completed the Starbase program where they got to program robots, fly in an airplane simulator, build and shoot off rockets and many other amazing activities.

Then we got to take a trip to the Salina Field House for the annual Match Madness event that is used to raise money for many of the non-profit organizations in Salina. We were fortunate, in that every fifth grader got to select a non-profit to receive a donation from a very generous donor.

Finally, we traveled to the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson. which focuses on teaching people about a wide variety of science topics.

Our fifth graders got to experience a dome movie to see what it's like on Mars. Then they got witness some very "explosive" experiment demonstrations. The trip ended with a walk through a museum showing the history of space travel.

With fifth grade Honor Night coming up next month, life in fifth grade has been pretty exciting lately. Some might even say, "it's been out of this world!"



Lost and Found



So many clothing items need to go home with their owners. Please stop by the school to look over the items and take home what is yours. Unclaimed items will be donated.



Summer Food Program



2024

Lunch Locations

June 3 - July 2, Monday - Friday (closed June 19)

Central High	650 E. Crawford St.	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
South High	730 E. Magnolia Rd.	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Cottonwood Elementary	215 S. Phillips Ave.	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Schilling Elementary	3121 Canterbury Dr.	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sunset Elementary	1510 W. Republic Ave.	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Salina Fieldhouse	140 N. 5th St.	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Heartland Early Education	700 Jupiter Ave.	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Breakfast Locations

June 3 - July 2, Monday - Friday (closed June 19)

Central High	650 E. Crawford St.	7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.
South High	730 E. Magnolia Rd.	7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.
Cottonwood Elementary	215 S. Phillips Ave.	7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.
Sunset Elementary	1510 W. Republic Ave.	7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

- FREE to all children ages 1-18!
- No signup, eligibility, or paperwork required.
- Adult meal cost: Breakfast \$3.00, Lunch \$5.00.
- Meals eaten on site.
- Menus at www.usd305.com/menus

Partners

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Free Activities and Book Giveaways



Summer Food Program

Free Activities & Book Giveaways

JUNE 2024

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
3	Reading Wagon @ Sunset <hr/> SALINA ARTS & HUMANITIES @ Schilling	RAWR Raising Active Wild Readers Book Giveaway @ Cottonwood <hr/> SALINA PUBLIC LIBRARY @ Salina Fieldhouse	6	SALINA ARTS & HUMANITIES @ Sunset	7	RAWR Raising Active Wild Readers Book Giveaway @ Heartland
10	RAWR Raising Active Wild Readers Book Giveaway @ Schilling <hr/> Reading Wagon @ Sunset	12	13	14		
17	RAWR Raising Active Wild Readers Book Giveaway @ South High <hr/> Reading Wagon @ Sunset	19	20	21		
24	Smoky Hill MUSEUM @ Schilling <hr/> FRIENDS OF THE RIVER FOUNDATION @ South High <hr/> Reading Wagon @ Sunset	26	27	28		
1	Smoky Hill MUSEUM @ Sunset	2	KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THEATRE ARTS LAKEWOOD DISCOVERY CENTER & URBAN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY SALINA ARTS & HUMANITIES	SALINA PUBLIC LIBRARY FRIENDS OF THE RIVER FOUNDATION CENTER FOR THEATRE ARTS Smoky Hill MUSEUM United Way		



Helping Your Child Succeed

Three Ways to Prevent the Summer Reading Slide



Many children, especially struggling readers, forget some of what they've learned or slip out of practice during the summer months. Try these strategies to help your reader improve her reading during the summer and beyond. It can be hard to keep up a reading routine in a season packed with distractions and diversions.

These suggestions will fit into a busy schedule and make reading fun!

1. Six books to summer success

Research shows that reading just six books during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing! When choosing the six, be sure that they are just right – not too hard and not too easy. Take advantage of your local library. Ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interests, and abilities. The Salina Public Library offers a fun summer reading program, so check it out and visit often!



2. Read something every day

Encourage your child to take advantage of every opportunity to read. Find them throughout the day:

- Morning: The newspaper - even if it is just the comics or today's weather.
- Daytime: Schedules, TV guides, magazines, online resources, etc. For example, if your daughter likes the food channel, help her look for a recipe on the network's Web site - then cook it together for more reading practice.
- Evening: End the day by having your child read to you from the book he is currently reading (one of the six books above). Have him rehearse a paragraph, page, or chapter before reading to you. Rereading will help him be more fluent- able to read at an appropriate speed, correctly, and with nice expression.

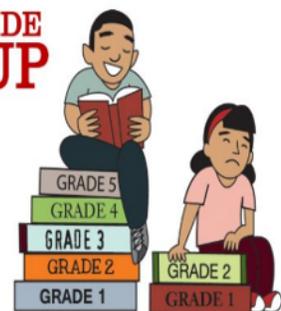
3. Keep reading aloud

Reading aloud benefits all children and teens, especially those who struggle. One benefit is that you can read books your child can't, so she will build listening comprehension skills with grade level and above books. This will increase her knowledge and expand her experience with text, so that she will do better when she reads on her own.

SUMMER SLIDE ADDS UP

When kids don't read over the summer they fall behind.

By the end of 5th Grade, kids in need are nearly 3 grades behind their peers in reading skills.



Source: Alexander, K. L., D. W. Brinkley, and L. S. Olson. "Closing Consequences of the Summer Learning Gap." American Sociological Review 72.2 (2007): 167-90. Web.

Resource: Alexander, Francie. (2007). Three Ways to Prevent Summer Slide. <http://www.scholastic.com/>. For more reading tips, advice and ideas, please visit www.scholastic.com/parents.

May Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

3 - Kansas Kids Fitness Day

10 - Library books due

14 - Fifth Grade honor night

17 - Sunset play day

22 - Last day of school



Contact Us

Brandon Cheeks - Principal

Christal Lantz - Lead Teacher

Gena Koch - Secretary

Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4520

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