



October 2022

Hello, hello, hello from the Principal/Superintendent (In training)! It has been such a pleasure jumping in and getting to know the students and families of Eswood and the community of Lindenwood. I have just had the best time meeting everyone over the past 3 months or so. I love learning about all the traditions and regular happenings here in Eswood. Everyone has made me feel so welcomed. Thank you so much for all the warmth and love that I have felt as I entered your world!

Our staff has been super busy getting the new year off to a great start. We have many new staff, new curriculums, a new grading platform and so much more!! We have been collaborating every week with our PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) and working hard everyday to best support our students and watch them grow!.

So much has already taken place with so many more fun events coming this year!! Eswood's volleyball team took 2nd in conference and 2nd in the tournament! They were a really fun group to watch increase their skills over the season, CONGRATS to all the volleyball players!!! Our Boys' basketball team has home games November 3rd, 15th, 17th, & December 1st. Come on out to support our talented young men!!

Ms. Whitehead was nominated by the Casey family and won the School Staff Superstar award in October and was celebrated and recognized by Will's Chiropractic and showered with gifts. If you have ever had any contact with Ms. Whitehead, you know how well deserved this recognition is...she truly is a SUPERSTAR!!!

Our students celebrated Spirit Week in September with Tie Dye, Hat, Crazy Sock, and Flannel day and of course rounding out the week with Rochelle and Eswood school spirit wear. Mr Winters was able to coordinate and bring in a powered parachute for the whole school to see. The students were very excited about this and it rounded out a flying unit from our middle school STEAM classes.

We have had a few new items installed on our playground, new lighting in our gym, new SMART TVs in each classroom, new student computers and so much more!! Things are looking pretty good around here!!!

Community Club and the Eswood Education Foundation have supported our staff in many ways already this year with the Community Club getting new spirit wear shirts for all staff, supplying dinner for our fall conferences, and hosting the infamous Pork Chop dinner this fall already. The Foundation has granted 3 teachers with grants to support our music classes, a winter literacy night and other classroom materials. **Thank you, thank you, thank you** for all these wonderful extra enrichment items to support our school and our students. We are very blessed here at Eswood to have a community that supports us in the manner that they do!!!

In the next few months we will have a new and improved website up and running which will be the center for all things Eswood and will be a 'go-to' resource for any information for students, staff, parents and the community can go to to find out more about what is happening with our school and our students. We can't wait to share it with all of you!

Mark your calendars for our Eswood Winter Music/Variety Show on Thursday, December 15th starting at 7pm. I think that is it for now!!!  
Have a wonderful fall & holiday season!!

Sincerely,  
**Kirsten Garrigan**  
Principal/Superintendent (In Training)



## *In the Classrooms...*

**Ms. Cooley-** It is hard to believe that we have already started Quarter 2. What a fun 1st quarter we have had! I have enjoyed getting to know all your children and am starting to see their fun personalities come out more and more each day! They have been working so hard learning our rules and routines and have done a great job doing the work that comes with our curriculum! I am so proud of how far they have all come so far and I can't wait to continue to watch them grow as we go throughout the school year!

The students have been working on learning letters and their sounds in phonics. In math, we have been working on our numbers from 0-10. Students have been practicing how to write those numbers and practicing counting by 1s to figure out how many objects are in a group. The sight words that have been learned are reviewed in our start right readers that go along with each week of reading. Students are not only learning to read their sight words but also learning to read from left to right and that sentences are made up of words. They have also learned the sight words in reading. During math and reading time, I have started incorporating small group time after our whole group lesson. During the reading small groups, students have started learning and practicing how to write their D'Nealian letters.

**Mrs. Reed** - The first quarter has been busy for first grade! In math, we have been working hard on learning addition strategies, subtraction strategies, and properties of those operations. We have been applying our new addition and subtraction strategies to word problems. In reading, we have been enjoying a variety of stories incorporating the themes of school, community, and animals. First graders have also been working hard to identify nouns and verbs, the subject and predicate, and the parts of a sentence. Their writing is blossoming already! In September, artistic First Graders created a mural to accompany the story, Maybe Something Beautiful by Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell, where a dark, dull city is transformed by art. They were so proud of their work, and rightfully so!



**Miss Hosick - Hello from second grade!** Quarter 1 has just flown by. It has been filled with lots of learning, crafts, and giggles. We have had fun exploring math, reading, writing, science, and social studies together. Here is a glance at just a fraction of what we have covered!

**Math** - In unit 1 of math, students revisited and practiced strategies for adding and subtraction within 20. For unit 2, we worked with making equal groups and using arrays to make additional equations. Unit 3 was definitely a hit. We practiced collecting data and graphing that data as either a bar graph, picture graph, or tally chart. This was a very fun and hands-on unit!

**Reading** - In unit 1, the class surveyed stories about what it means to be a super citizen and how being a super citizen makes a difference. One of our highlights was the class mural we created with examples of good citizens. Unit 2 was about exploring the world around us. In this unit, we explored concepts such as the main idea, setting, and author's purpose.

**Writing** - In writing we have been working on our sentence structure which has included connecting a telling part (noun) with an action part (predicate). Writing has included a bunch of crafts like our monster writing, smart cookie writing, and our witch writing! In the upcoming unit we will be working on writing persuasive opinion pieces.

**Science** - In science we have investigated what a scientist and engineer does and how they think. Currently, we are learning about structure and properties of matter. We tried to create oobleck to explore those concepts further and we are looking forward to continuing to drive into this matter.

**Social Studies** - In social studies, we have studied civics and the United States government. Second grade is really loving learning about their community and the world around them.

**Mrs. Bell** - What a wonderful first quarter here in 3rd grade! Your kiddos are rocking so far this year. I am overjoyed that I get to be a part of your school community this year. Let's jump into what your children have been learning so far this year.

In handwriting we are working our way through the alphabet. Students are learning correct formation of letters and applying that knowledge in forming words. We almost got through the entire alphabet in the first quarter. We will continue to work through the rest of the alphabet and move on to more challenging skills.

Math started with some review skills from 2nd grade. We worked on addition and subtraction review along with telling time. Now we are focusing on the most important skill of 3rd grade, multiplication! We started off conceptually using pictures, making groups, and arrays. My goal is to have kids start to memorize the multiplication facts throughout the year. Our focus next is on application through finding areas.

Since the start of the year in ELA (reading, writing, grammar, spelling) our focus was whole group instruction using the new curriculum. The main focus was on comprehension skills, sentence structure, and spelling patterns. Now students will be working on those skills more independently during guided reading.

In science we have had the opportunity to try a couple different experiments to build on their understanding from our weekly readers. The kids really enjoyed getting to create and experiment with those lessons. Our focus in social studies has been on government and civics. Learning about different types of government and how our government works. We also looked at how each person can be a good citizen.

I hope that your child has shared some of those fun things with you so far. I am excited to see what fun we will have next quarter!

**Mrs. Tofte**- We have had a fantastic start to the 2022-2023 school year. Parents, please join me in celebrating the hard work and determination your children continue to demonstrate daily. Here is what the students have done thus far in the classroom.

**Reading**- We dove into the new HMH Curriculum head first! The students completed their first and second modules which included fiction and nonfiction stories about what makes us who we are and the five senses. Some of the skills we have practiced are identifying the author's purpose, visualizing while reading, analyzing the plot of a story, and summarizing the text.

**Language Arts**- We started the year by reviewing the different kinds of sentences and practiced using them to make writing more interesting. The students have been learning about the parts of speech and how they are used in sentences. Additionally, the students have developed a deeper understanding of common and proper nouns. Currently, the students are learning about the elements of a personal narrative as they create their own.

**Math**- The students are growing and developing their math brains tremendously this year. So far, they have completed units on place value, addition/subtraction to one million, and using additive and multiplicative comparisons to solve problems. They are continually improving their "math talk" as they practice solving advanced word problems using multiple operations.

**Science/Social Studies**- The students are enjoying the new Studies Weekly Series in science and social studies. Using the Engineer and Design Process, the students designed, planned, created, improved, and presented a full-size and fully functional organization solution. While exploring energy, with rubber bands and binder clips, the students built and tested model amusement park rides. Currently, the students are completing research about our Founding Fathers and will be writing their final reports on Benjamin Franklin.

I am looking forward to another exciting semester!

**Mrs. DeHahn** - The 5-8 students started out the new school year with a lot of NEW things at the middle school end. There is a new smart TV in my room that we are learning to use. We also have a new curriculum, HMH. The fifth-grade students are using Into Reading while the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students are using Into Literature. We have really enjoyed making annotations online, watching peer-mentoring videos, and using tutorials for specific skills. The fifth and sixth grade students wrote expository essays featuring an inventor. Each student created an inventor pumpkin to share with their parents at parent teacher conferences. The seventh and eighth grade students are learning how to write a literary response using TAG, summary, claim, premise, evidence, justification, and a conclusion. The fifth and sixth grade STEAM class has been very busy. Using the scientific design model, the students tackled several different paper challenges. They figured out how to fit inside an index card, make paper chains longer a second time with the same amount of paper, create airplanes that traveled far, built towers with just tape and paper, and explored origami.

**Ms. Eden** - All science classes began the year with team building activities giving the students and I a chance to begin learning about each other and how science classes will work this year. We transitioned into a brief overview of What is Science? We learned that while the scientific method works well for certain experiments and activities; it does not apply to all the investigations and activities done in science class. As a result, students applied the Engineering Design Process as fifth and sixth grade students designed containers to protect eggs in an Egg Drop Challenge, and seventh and eighth grade students learned the physics involved during a Slinky Drop Challenge.

Fifth grade science classes then continued their Introduction to Science using the new Science Studies Weekly curriculum. During this unit students learned about and used Measurement and the Metric System, Crosscutting Concepts - ideas used in science such as pattern, proportion, cause and effect, and how the Engineering Design Process was used to design structures like the Gateway Arch in St. Louis. Students will soon begin their study of The Structure and Properties of Matter.

Sixth graders researched and studied how scientists use classification systems in their study of living things. They learned that the classification system commonly used today has eight levels going from the most general to the most specific, these are domain, kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species. Students applied this concept to classifying beans, their home, their favorite animal, and even candy. During this second quarter students have begun an Introduction to Chemistry.

Seventh grade science students started the year researching and investigating chemistry. Seventh graders have participated in labs in which they observed and identified physical and chemical changes that occur. Students also studied physical and chemical properties and changes that occur in the kitchen during food preparation. During the second quarter, students will find out more about atoms, molecules, and properties of elements. Students will show what they learn about elements in the periodic table by designing wanted posters for the "Federal Bureau of Elements."

Eighth grade science students have researched Wave Physics. Their research included finding out about the nature of waves, properties of waves, wave interactions and the types of waves. In labs, students have created and studied transverse and longitudinal waves identifying parts of the waves used to calculate wavelength, wave speed and frequency. During the 2nd Quarter students will apply the wave physics they have learned to their investigation of properties and interactions of sound waves, the electromagnetic spectrum of waves, and the interaction of light waves and light and color.

Middle school science students have been busy learning both individually and in group projects. I am looking forward to many more wonderful things from these students throughout this year as we continue learning about the natural world through observations and experimentation and using science and math to solve problems, build and test things.

**Mr. Winters** – In first quarter Math, the 5th grade worked to identify the 10 to 1 relationship between place values, use powers of 10 and exponents, patterns of multiplication and multiplying by one/two digits; 6th graders were introduced to integers and rational numbers and related concepts; 7th grade focused on proportional relationships including tables, fractions, graphs, unit rates, scale drawings, and conversions; 8th graders reviewed transformations/similarities of figures, then proceeded to linear equations/applications, and angle relationships. In Social Studies 5th/6th students covered the five themes of geography, tools of history, and the Roman Empire, while the 7th/8th graders also reviewed the themes of geography, the covered the physical/human geography of the U.S., the beginnings of exploration in the 1500's and people groups present in and headed to the "New World". Let's have a great second quarter!

**Ms. Rittmeyer** - Eswood **Computer Classes** have been focusing on *Digital Citizenship*. This topic includes: Media Balance & Well Being, Privacy & Security, Digital Footprint & Identity, Relationships & Communication, and Cyberbullying.

Eswood students have been learning about *Growth Mindsets and Emotion Management* in **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)** classes.

Kindergarten, 1 & 2 students have learned about applying a growth mindset to the task of paying attention. We have started to discuss how to recognize emotions in self and others.

Grades 3 & 4 learned to make an effective plan for how to get better at a skill. We are currently learning about identifying emotions and applying strategies to manage emotions.

Grades 5 & 6 learned that a growth mindset can help them to plan, modify, and achieve goals.

This group is also learning to identify and apply strategies to manage their emotions.

Grades 7 & 8 couldn't care less about growth mindsets and emotion management... :) These students are learning how to recognize strong emotions and unhelpful thoughts and to use strategies to manage emotions and reduce stress. We discussed how to reframe unhelpful thoughts and behaviors to make better decisions.

**Physical Education** has been a whirlwind of *activities* and hopefully a lot of fun!

K-2 classes have been learning about and strengthening their Fundamental Motor Skills while playing listening games.

Grades 3 & 4 added to the above with a unit of Jump Roping and Badminton.

Grades 5-8 have been learning about strength training by participating in a rotation of endurance and strength exercises. Students also completed a Volleyball and a Football unit during the first quarter of 2022.

## Community Club

The Eswood Community Club as well as the Eswood Staff and Students would like to thank everyone who contributed to making the Pork Chop dinner a success. We rely on the support of our friends, family, and community to have a successful fundraiser.

Additionally, we greatly appreciate the businesses who sponsored our fundraiser. Thank you to: Holcomb State Bank, Rochelle Veterinary Hospital, Stillman Bank, Rochelle Foods, Central Bank and Creative Customized Programming.

This year's fundraiser proceeds will benefit the students by providing funding for new library materials, teacher grant requests, skating during PE, family activities, and field trips. Again, we greatly appreciate your support and couldn't provide these experiences without you.

The Community Club's next meeting is October 24th at the school. All community members are welcome.