

February 2025

Dare to SOAR!

SUNSET NEWS



A Note from the Principal

Dear Sunset Elementary Families,

Happy February! Thank you for your patience and flexibility in adjusting to second semester changes, and for your continued support as we all work together to make this a successful year for our students! Our students have shown enthusiasm and focus in their learning and we're excited to continue this momentum for the rest of the school year.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up on February 5 and 6, and we strongly encourage every family to attend. These conferences are an excellent opportunity to connect with your child's teacher, discuss their progress, and set goals for continued growth in the second half of the year. Your involvement and feedback are key to supporting your child's success.

Student Attendance

As always, we want to remind families of the importance of regular school attendance. Consistent attendance is vital for student success and ensures that our learners stay engaged and connected with the classroom community. If your child is sick or will be absent for any reason, please let the school office know in advance.

Giving Our Best Effort

As we continue through the school year, let's all encourage our students to put their best effort forward. Whether it's in classwork, homework, or extracurricular activities, showing determination, hard work, and resilience will help students reach their goals and succeed in all their endeavors.

PTA Invitation

We are incredibly grateful for the Sunset Elementary PTA and the support they provide to our school community. If you are not already a member, we encourage you to consider joining. The PTA plays an important role in organizing events, supporting classroom activities, and enhancing the overall student experience. Your involvement makes a difference! Thank you again to all our parents for your partnership, flexibility, and commitment to your child's education. Together, we can continue to make Sunset Elementary a wonderful place for all students to grow and thrive.

Best regards,
Dr. Brandon J. Cheeks
Principal

Preschool Valentine Parties

Preschool Valentine Parties will be Thursday, February 13, since we don't have class on Friday. The morning class party will be 10:45-11:20 a.m. The afternoon class party will be 2:45-3:30 p.m.

PTA

February 3 - Dine & Donate night at Martinelli's (20% of sales comes back to Sunset)

February 21 - BINGO Night

Smencils and Smens are still a hit!

We will continue to sell them on

Wednesday mornings from

8:00-8:15 a.m.

Students need to eat breakfast first and then shop!

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, February 5

4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 6

8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Healthcare on Wheels

The Healthcare on Wheels van is going to be at Sunset every Monday (when school is in session) during the months of January and February. For more information, take a look at the link below.



Third Annual Fam Jam

Please come to the family involvement event that celebrates a variety of cultures.

Tuesday, February 25

6:00-7:00 p.m.

Welcome!

Welcome to Mrs. Olson's newborn daughter, born on January 10.

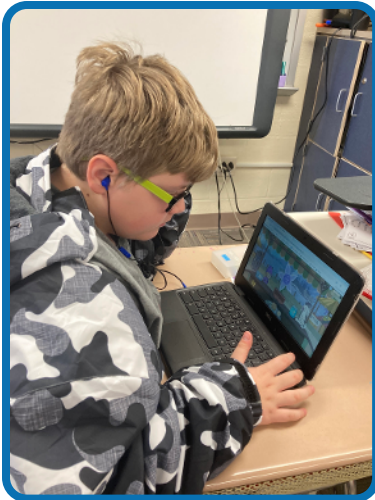
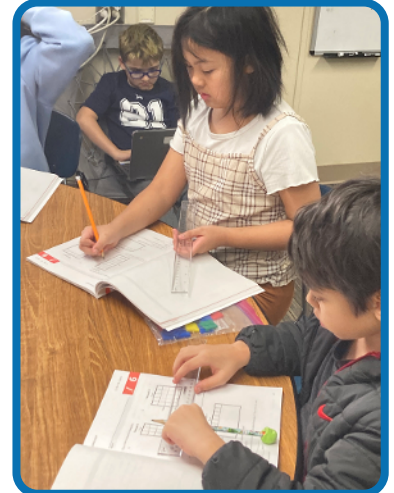
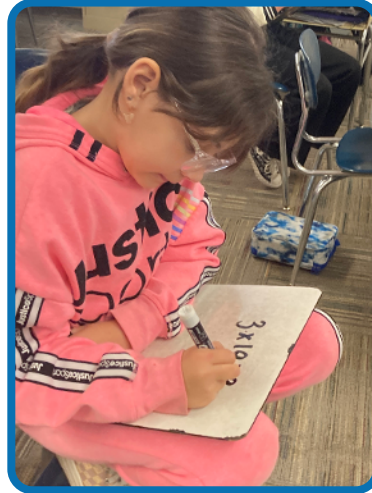
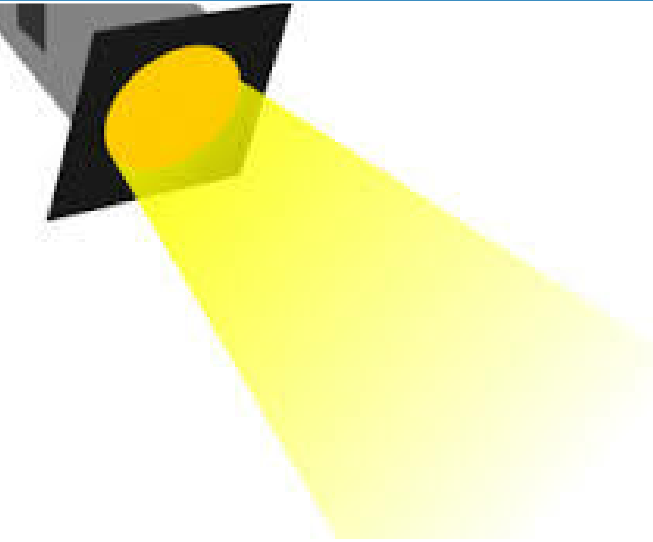
Sunset also welcomes three student teachers :

3M Lauren Shaw

1C Grace Hutchinson

5B Kourtne Rohn

Spotlight on Third Grade

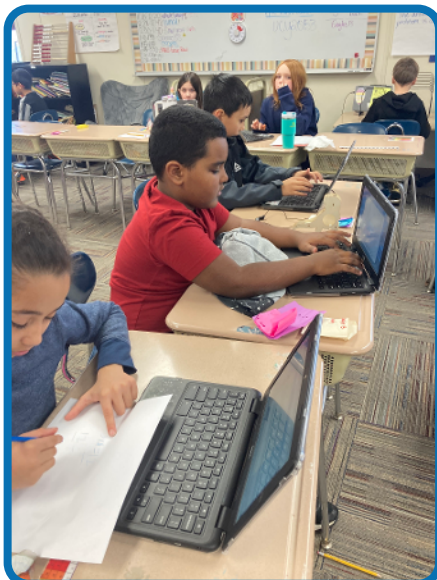


Third graders are working hard this year on multiplication facts! We've made cotton candy facts and have done a balloon pop with facts.

In Mrs. Norlin's class the students have been communicating with new Pen Pals in New York!

Sunset third grade classes will be taking a field trip to the Stiefel Theater in February.

We also are gearing up for our Interim tests and prepping for our State Assessments! Third graders are working hard and preparing for some big things!





Building Your Child's Vocabulary

Talking to and reading with your child are two terrific ways to help them hear and read new words. Conversations and questions about interesting words are easy, non-threatening ways to get new words into everyday talk.

When introducing new words to your young learner, keep the following four helpful hints in mind:

1. First, provide a simple, kid-friendly definition for the new word: *Enormous means that something is really, really big.*
2. Second, provide a simple, kid-friendly example that makes sense within their daily life: *Remember that really big watermelon we got at the grocery store? That was an enormous watermelon!*
3. Third, encourage your child to develop their own example: *What enormous thing can you think of? Can you think of something really big that you saw today? That's right! The bulldozer near the park was enormous! Those tires were huge.*
4. Last, keep your new words active within your house. Over the next few days and weeks, take advantage of opportunities to use each new vocabulary word in conversation.

For more resources, visit the vocabulary section on Reading Rockets:



[More Resources](#)

Visible Learning at SPS

Did you know that understanding the Visible Learning strategies being used in your child's classroom can make a big difference in their growth as active, curious learners? At Sunset, we're focusing on key learning dispositions like communication, cooperation, optimism, independence, etc. to help students thrive.

You can play a big role in this! Try starting a conversation with your child about their learning. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- What have you done today that you're proud of?
- How did you approach something challenging today?
- What new learning are you excited about?

You can also ask, "Why are you learning this?" or "How will you know when you've learned it?" These small chats support your child's learning and strengthen your bond. Together, we can help them grow!

February 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	

3 - PTA Martinelli's fundraiser
 5 - Spring pictures
 5 & 6 - Parent/Teacher Conf.
 6, 7 & 10 - No School








21 - BINGO Night
 25 - Fam Jam
 28 - No School

Contact Us

Brandon Cheeks - Principal
 Kate Ozores - Lead Teacher
 Gena Koch - Secretary
 Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4520

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#305GrowsGreatness

-  [Sunset Eagles 305](#)
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