Allen Ellender's Soaring

Administrative Message: November 2025

Allen Ellender

4501 E. Ames Blvd.
Marrero, LA 70072

http://ellender.jpschools.org/

Our Vision statement:

We envision Allen Ellender to be a high performing school by nurturing students in a vibrant learning environment that will foster academic achievement.

Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Nov. 2nd

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are so thankful here at Ellender! We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who helps make it possible for our students to come to school each day ready to learn and grow.

We also want to thank all of our teachers, interpreters, paraprofessionals, cafeteria workers, and custodians who pour their energy into creating safe, welcoming, and engaging classrooms where children thrive and discover the joy of learning.

DIBELS

One of the most important gifts we can give our children is the ability to read and write confidently so that they can succeed in school and beyond. Confident, active readers use their skills to explore their passions and curiosity about the world.

We all read for a purpose, to be entertained, to take a journey of the imagination, to connect with others, to learn something new, or to explore history, science, the arts, and more.

Learning to read is a complex process. Children develop many skills at once: decoding, reading fluently, building vocabulary, understanding text, and discovering that reading is enjoyable as wells as enriching.

By reading aloud daily with your children, you can help expand their vocabulary, deepen their knowledge, and strengthen their understanding of language. Your attitude toward reading also plays a powerful role in shaping how your child values these skills.

Grades

Report cards for the first nine weeks were sent home on October 22nd, and **interim reports for the second nine weeks will be sent home on November 19th.**

If you haven't yet spoken with your child's teacher, or would like to, please feel free to email them or call the office to set up a meeting. Building a strong partnership between parents and teachers helps ensure that every child receives the best education possible.

Data Days

Our teachers have been reviewing data from the Benchmark 1 Assessment and meeting with students in grades 3–8 to discuss their progress. They are also working on strategies to strengthen skills and raise achievement across the board.

In Kindergarten through 2nd grade, teachers are reviewing both Benchmark 1 and DIBELS results to group students effectively for acceleration time. If you have any questions or would like to learn how to support your child's progress at home, please email your child's teacher.

Book Fair

The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be held in our library during the week of **November 10th–14th**. This is a wonderful opportunity to promote a love of reading with your children!

Volunteers are greatly appreciated! If you're able to help, please contact our librarian by email or phone. More information will be sent home as the date approaches.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

We are thrilled to recognize **Ms. Aimee Webre** as our **Teacher of the Year!** She is an amazing Pre-K teacher who embodies empathy, patience, and a genuine love for what she does each and every day. Her classroom is a warm, positive, and respectful learning environment where high expectations are held for all students. Ms. Webre's dedication and passion shine through in everything she does, making a lasting impact on her students and our school community.

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR

We are proud to recognize **Ms. Cloie Bodden** as **Ellender's Outstanding Support Staff of the Year!** Ms. Bodden began her journey at Ellender fourteen years ago as a dedicated parent volunteer. Since then, she has served as an ESL paraprofessional and now works in our front office, where she assists our students, families, and staff with kindness and care every day.

She is truly an asset to our school community, and we are so grateful for all that she does. We honestly don't know what we would do without her!

5TH GRADE STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Logan Toro is a dedicated and motivated learner who consistently demonstrates cooperation and a strong willingness to collaborate with his classmates. He takes initiative in helping others whenever he sees a need, often without being asked. Logan's self-motivation and commitment to personal growth are evident in the effort he puts forth in class each day. He always strives for excellence and approaches every task with determination and a positive attitude.

8TH GRADE STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Abigail Wood consistently comes to class eager to learn and willing to put in the effort necessary to master new skills. In addition to her excellent character and strong intellect, she demonstrates an impressive ability to advocate for herself. Abigail is a natural leader who knows how to delegate responsibilities effectively, guiding her peers without taking over. Her classmates enjoy working with her not only because of her intelligence but also because she inspires and motivates those around her through her positive attitude and genuine respect for others.

As we approach Thanksgiving, let's take a moment to focus on what truly matters: our families, our loved ones, and all that we have to be thankful for.

On behalf of the entire staff at **Ellender**, we wish you and your family a **happy, healthy, and joy-filled Thanksgiving!**

Sincerely,

Ms. Varisco, Ms. Boudreaux and Ms. Reed

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Daylight Saving Time Ends: Fall back one hour	3 Student Holiday Professional Development Day	4 Basketball Game vs Livaudais @Livaudais 5:00	5	6 Basketball Game vs Gilbert @Ellender 5:00 3RD Grade Dibels/Leap Meeting 8:00	7 Smoothie King 8th Grade 2nd Harvest Field Trip	8
9 BOOK FAIR IN THE LIBRARY Week	10 Picture Retake Popcorn Sale for Pre-K to 4th Grade	11 Basketball Game vs Worley@Ellender 5:00 Sports Pictures for Track, Soccer, Basketball & Cheerleading	12 3rd Grade Field Trip to the Planetarium	13 Basketball Game vs Truman@Truman 5:00 Christmas Pictures	14	15
16	17 Popcorn Sale for 5th to 8th Grade	18 Basketball Game vs Marrero@Ellender 5:00 Chick Fil A Night	19 Interims 4th & 7th Grade Field Trip to Seussical the Musical	20 Basketball Game vs Livaudais @Ellender 5:00 1st & 2nd Grade Field Trip to Seussical the Musical 6th Grade to Longue Vue House	21 Family Picnic Times to be Announced	22
23	24 Thanksgiving Break	25 Thanksgiving Break	26 Thanksgiving Break	27 Thanksgiving Break	28 Thanksgiving Break	29
30						

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

November 2025

Allen Ellender School

Find out how your child is doing at a parent-teacher conference

A parent-teacher conference offers you something different from many other school activities for families: one-on-one time with the teacher. It is dedicated time to focus on your individual child's strengths and needs, and to discuss plans and expectations for the year ahead.

For the best results from your conference:

- **Chat with your child in advance.** Ask how school is going. Is there is anything your child would like you to ask or tell the teacher?
- **Write down a list of things to tell the teacher.** You are the expert on your child and your family. Sharing information will make it easier for the teacher to meet your child's needs.
- **Make a note of questions to ask,** such as: *Is my child meeting expectations for reading and math skills? Does my child participate in class? Does my child interact with others appropriately and have friends?*
- **Arrive on time.** Teachers usually schedule conferences back to back.
- **Discuss next steps.** Ask the teacher how you can reinforce what your child is learning. Agree on a plan to address any issues.
- **Tell your child** about your meeting. Share praise, and explain plans you and the teacher agreed on.

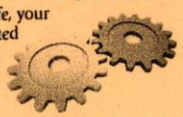
Independent play is worth the time

Research shows that playing independently can help children learn to solve problems and overcome fears—and ease stress at the same time. To help your child benefit from independent play:

- **Make time for it.** Balance structured activities in your child's day with unstructured play time.
- **Give your child** a variety of things to play with, such as cardboard boxes, blocks, art supplies and props for pretend play. Choose toys your child can use creatively, in many different ways. Items from nature like acorns and shells are also inspiring choices.
- **Support your child** in taking positive "risks," such as climbing a low playground rock wall, or balancing while walking on a fallen log. These experiences can boost confidence and willingness to try.
- **Let your child** decide what to play with and how.

Source: "'All work, no independent play' cause of children's declining mental health," Florida Atlantic University.

Offer cooperation practice



In school and in life, your child will be expected to cooperate with others. To reinforce this skill at home, establish rules for sharing and taking turns fairly, such as "If one child chooses the game, the other gets the first turn." Have family members take turns making decisions for the whole family sometimes, such as what movie to watch or what vegetable to eat for dinner.

Support reading progress

Students read to learn. To be successful, they must continually develop and maintain their reading skills as they go through school. To encourage reading skill-building:

- **Make real-life connections.** Have your child read about historical events that happened near your home.
- **Help your child start a book club** with friends. They can meet up for book-related discussions and activities.
- **Read more advanced books aloud.** Listening lets your child enjoy more challenging stories and words.

Foster grateful feelings

Research links gratitude with increased motivation, engagement and achievement in school. To foster this feeling, take time often as a family to make and share lists of what you're thankful for. Be sure to mention school and any progress your child is making. Then, encourage your child to say "Thanks" to the people who are making school a positive experience.

Source: R.B. King and J.A.B. Datu, "Grateful students are motivated, engaged, and successful in school: Cross-sectional, longitudinal, and experimental evidence," *Journal of School Psychology;* Elsevier.

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Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

November 2025

Q&A What can I do to boost my child's memory power?

Q: My child studies before tests, but often forgets the material by test time. How can I help my child remember things better?

A: Being able to recall and use information is an important part of learning. Here are a few strategies that can make it easier. Help your child practice using:

- **Personal connections.** Brainstorm together about ways to relate the material to your child's life. An important date in history might also be a relative's birthday, for example.
- **Grouping.** Divide long lists of facts into smaller groups that share a common characteristic. Instead of trying to remember all 50 states, your child can group them by region and focus on one region at a time.
- **Mnemonic devices,** such as *acronyms* or silly sentences. Your child can make a name, word or sentence out of the first letter of each word in a list of terms. The acronym ROY G. BIV is a classic way to recall the colors of the rainbow (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet). "My Very Elegant Mother Just Served Us Noodles" is often used for the planets in order of their distance from the sun (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune).
- **Mental images.** Your child can draw or imagine a picture of the material, then visualize the picture during the test to remember the information.

Parent Quiz? Are you showing how to tackle projects?

Long-term assignments let students explore topics in greater depth. They also usually involve multiple parts. Are you helping your child learn to manage these big projects? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

__1. **Do you encourage** your child to get started as soon as the assignment is received?

__2. **Do you ask** questions to help your child narrow down a broad topic to something specific and manageable?

__3. **Do you help** your child break the project down into small steps and schedule time to do each on a calendar?

__4. **Do you have** your child list all the supplies that will be needed, so you can avoid last-minute shopping trips?

__5. **Do you help** your child locate credible books and online sources?

How well are you doing?

More yes *answers mean you are showing your child how to plan and complete big projects. For each no, try that idea.*

"One may walk over the highest mountain one step at a time."
—John Wanamaker

Share tools for learning

Math and science tools aren't always expensive and complicated. You probably have several at home (or on your phone). Using them with your child provides familiarity which pays off in school. Help your elementary schooler use a:

- **Magnifying glass** to observe items in nature like pine cones and anthills.
- **Tape measure** to find the *circumference* (distance around) of tree trunks.
- **Calculator** to play store or restaurant.
- **Compass** to find out what direction you are walking in.

Source: M.E. Ennes and others, "Children and Parents' Perception of Access to Science Tools at Home and Their Role in Science Self-efficacy," *Research in Science Education,* Springer.

Keep a family journal

Writing regularly helps your child strengthen literacy skills. To instill a writing habit, start a family journal. Each weekend, have your child jot down something special about the week. It doesn't need to be long; a couple of sentences will do. After your child's entry, add one yourself. Soon, you'll have a record of the year's highlights to enjoy reading and remembering together.

Does your child see clearly?

Poor vision can negatively affect your child's school performance. Having your student's eyesight tested yearly is an important way to prevent problems. To protect vision:

- **Limit screen use.** High levels have been linked to nearsightedness in kids.
- **Promote outdoor play.** An extra hour or two a day outside can help some children avoid nearsightedness.

Source: Anglia Ruskin University, "Screen time linked to risk of myopia in young people," *ScienceDaily;* "Outdoor activity and Myopia Progression in Children," *Ophthalmology.*

Helping Children Learn®

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ESCUELA PRIMARIA

Ayudando a los Niños a Aprender™

Consejos que las Familias Pueden Usar para Ayudar a los Niños a Salir Mejor en la Escuela

Noviembre 2025

Allen Ellender School

Averigüe cómo le está yendo a su niño en la reunión de padres

Una reunión de padres le ofrece algo diferente que muchas otras actividades escolares para familias: tiempo uno a uno con el maestro. Es tiempo dedicado a centrarse en las fortalezas y necesidades individuales de su niño, y a comentar planes y expectativas para el año por delante.

Para obtener mejores resultados de la reunión:

- **Hable con su niño antes.** Pregúntele cómo le está yendo en la escuela. ¿Hay algo que querría que usted le pregunte o le diga al maestro?
- **Haga una lista de cosas que quiere decirle al maestro.** Usted es el experto en su niño y su familia. Compartir información permitirá que al maestro le resulte más fácil satisfacer las necesidades de su niño.
- **Anote preguntas para hacer,** como: *¿Cumple mi niño las expectativas de lectura y matemáticas? ¿Participa en clase? ¿Interactúa con los demás de manera adecuada y tiene amigos?*
- **Llegue puntual.** Los maestros suelen programar las reuniones una detrás de otra.
- **Hablen de los próximos pasos.** Pregúntele al maestro cómo reforzar el aprendizaje de su niño. Armen un plan para abordar cualquier problema.
- **Cuéntele a su niño** sobre la reunión. Comparta los elogios y explique los planes que acordó con el maestro.

El juego independiente vale la pena

Las investigaciones muestran que jugar de manera independiente puede ayudar a los niños a aprender a resolver problemas, superar miedos y aliviar el estrés al mismo tiempo. Para ayudar a su niño a beneficiarse del juego independiente:

- **Reserve tiempo** Equilibre las actividades estructuradas del día de su niño con tiempo de juego no estructurado.
- **Dele a su niño** una variedad de cosas con las que jugar, como cajas de cartón, bloques, materiales de arte y accesorios para el juego simbólico. Escoja juguetes que su niño pueda usar de manera creativa, de muchas maneras. Ciertos elementos de la naturaleza, como bellotas y conchas, también son opciones inspiradoras.
- **Ayude a su niño** a asumir "riesgos" positivos, como trepar una pared de escalada baja en un patio de juegos o hacer equilibrio mientras camina sobre un tronco caído. Estas experiencias pueden mejorar su confianza y las ganas de intentarlo.
- **Permita que su niño** decida con qué jugar y cómo.

Fuente: "All work, no independent play' cause of children's declining mental health," Florida Atlantic University.

Fomente la cooperación

En la escuela y en la vida, se esperará que su niño coopere con otras personas. Para reforzar esta habilidad en casa, establezca reglas para compartir y turnarse de manera justa. Por ejemplo, "Si un niño elige el juego, el otro tendrá el primer turno". Pídales a los miembros de la familia que se turnen para tomar decisiones para toda la familia en algunas ocasiones, como qué película mirar o qué vegetal comer en la cena.

Apoye el progreso de su niño en la lectura

Los estudiantes leen para aprender. Para alcanzar el éxito, deben desarrollar sus habilidades de lectura constantemente y mantenerlas a medida que avanzan en la escuela. Para fomentar el desarrollo de las habilidades de lectura:

- **Haga conexiones con la vida real.** Pídale a su niño que lea sobre acontecimientos históricos que sucedieron cerca de su casa.
- **Ayude a su niño a comenzar** un club de lectura con amigos. Podrían reunirse para hacer actividades relacionadas con libros o comentarlos.
- **Lea libros más avanzados en voz alta.** Escuchar le permite a su niño disfrutar cuentos y palabras más desafiantes.

Promueva la gratitud

Las investigaciones asocian la gratitud con una mayor motivación, participación y logro en la escuela. Para fomentar este sentimiento, tómese tiempo con frecuencia para hacer y compartir listas de las cosas por las que están agradecidos en familia. Asegúrese de mencionar la escuela y cualquier avance que esté logrando su niño. Luego, anime a su niño a decirles "Gracias" a las personas que están haciendo que la escuela sea una experiencia positiva.

Fuente: R.B. King y J.A.B. Datu, "Grateful students are motivated, engaged, and successful in school: Cross-sectional, longitudinal, and experimental evidence," *Journal of School Psychology*, Elsevier.

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PyR ¿Cómo puedo mejorar la memoria de mi niño?

P: Mi niño estudia antes de los exámenes, pero muchas veces se olvida del material al momento del examen. ¿Cómo puedo ayudarlo a recordar mejor las cosas?

R: Ser capaz de recordar y usar la información es una parte importante del aprendizaje. Estas son algunas estrategias que pueden hacer que sea más fácil. Ayude a su niño a practicar el uso de:

- **Las conexiones personales.** Hagan una lluvia de ideas juntos de maneras de relacionar el material con la vida de su niño. Una fecha histórica importante también podría ser el cumpleaños de un familiar, por ejemplo.
- **La agrupación.** Divida listas largas de datos en grupos más pequeños que compartan una característica en común. En lugar de tratar de recordar los 50 estados, podría agruparlos por región y centrarse en una región a la vez.
- **Las reglas mnemotécnicas,** como los *acrónimos* o las oraciones alocadas. Su niño podría formar un nombre, una palabra o una oración con la primera letra de cada palabra de una lista de términos. El acrónimo HEMOS representa los Grandes Lagos (Huron, Erie, Michigan, Ontario y Superior). "Mi Viejo Tío Martín Juega Solo Usando Naipes" representa los planetas en orden por distancia del sol (Mercurio, Venus, Tierra, Marte, Júpiter, Saturno, Urano, Neptuno).
- **Las imágenes mentales.** Su niño puede dibujar o imaginar el material y, luego, visualizar la imagen durante el examen para recordar la información.

Cuestionario Para Padres ¿Está mostrando cómo abordar proyectos?

Los trabajos a largo plazo les permiten a los estudiantes explorar temas en mayor profundidad. También suelen tener varias partes. ¿Está ayudando a su niño a aprender a abordar estos proyectos grandes? Responda *sí* o *no* a las siguientes preguntas:

__1. **¿Anima** a su niño a comenzar tan pronto recibe el trabajo?

__2. **¿Hace** preguntas para ayudar a su niño a acotar un tema amplio a algo específico y manejable?

__3. **¿Ayuda** a su niño a dividir un proyecto en pasos pequeños y a programar tiempo para cada uno en un calendario?

__4. **¿Tiene** su niño una lista de todos los útiles que se necesitarán para evitar salir a comprarlos a último minuto?

__5. **¿Ayuda** a su niño a encontrar libros y fuentes confiables en internet?

¿Cómo le está yendo?

Si hay más respuestas sí, usted está mostrándole a su niño cómo planificar y completar los proyectos grandes. Para cada respuesta no, *pruebe la idea correspondiente.*

"Se puede caminar por la montaña más alta paso a paso".
—John Wanamaker

Comparta herramientas para aprender

Las herramientas de matemáticas y ciencias no siempre son costosas y complicadas. Probablemente tenga varias en casa (o en su teléfono). Usarlas con su niño le proporciona familiaridad, lo que da sus frutos en la escuela. Ayude a su niño de primaria a usar:

- **Una lupa** para observar elementos de la naturaleza, como piñas y hormigueros.
- **Una cinta métrica** para hallar la *circunferencia* (distancia alrededor) de los troncos de los árboles.
- **Una calculadora** para jugar a la tienda o al restaurante.
- **Una brújula** para descubrir en qué dirección están caminando.

Fuente: M.E. Ennes y otros, "Children and Parents' Perception of Access to Science Tools at Home and Their Role in Science Self-efficacy," *Research in Science Education*, Springer.

Escriban un diario familiar

Escribir con frecuencia ayuda a su niño a fortalecer las habilidades de lectoescritura. Para fomentar un hábito de escritura, comience un diario familiar. Todos los fines de semana, pídale a su niño que escriba algo especial que sucedió en la semana. No es necesario que sea largo; un par de oraciones serán suficientes. Luego de lo que escriba su niño, escriba algo usted. Pronto tendrán un registro de lo más destacado del año para disfrutar leyéndolo y recordándolo juntos.

¿Su niño ve bien?

Ver mal puede perjudicar el desempeño escolar de su niño. Hacerle un examen de vista a su estudiante una vez al año es una manera importante de evitar problemas. Para proteger la vista:

- **Limite el tiempo de uso de pantallas.** Pasar mucho tiempo frente a la pantalla se ha asociado con la miopía en niños.
- **Fomente el juego al aire libre.** Pasar una o dos horas extra al aire libre puede ayudar a algunos niños a evitar la miopía.

Fuente: Anglia Ruskin University, "Screen time linked to risk of myopia in young people," *ScienceDaily*; "Outdoor activity and Myopia Progression in Children," *Ophthalmology*.

Ayudando a los Niños a Aprender™

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