

May 2026

Dare to SOAR!

SUNSET NEWS



A Note from the Principal

Hello all,

As we approach the final weeks of the school year at Sunset Elementary, I want to take a moment to recognize the incredible effort our students have shown, especially during state assessments. Their hard work, perseverance and positive attitudes have truly made us proud. Our teachers and staff have also gone above and beyond to support every student, and together, we have seen wonderful growth and achievement across our school.

As we head into the last stretch, I encourage all of our students to stay focused and finish the year strong. Every day of learning still matters, and these final weeks are an important opportunity to continue building skills, confidence and positive habits.

Please consider attending the last PTA meeting of the school year. We look forward to fifth grade honors night! We are also excited for our upcoming Play Day and look forward to having our families join us for this fun and memorable event as we celebrate a great year together.

Finally, as summer approaches, I hope everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved break. Thank you to our families for your continued support throughout the year it makes a tremendous difference. We wish all of our students and families a safe, fun and relaxing summer, and we look forward to welcoming you back next school year!

Best regards,

Dr. Brandon J. Cheeks

Principal

Sunset Elementary School

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Looking ahead

June 1 - Summer School starts

August 12 - New school year starts

Character Strong

Focus on **Creativity** this month! **Creativity** is "using your imagination to create something new or solve a problem."

Family challenge:

- As a family, find a large cardboard box and unleash your **Creativity** as you work together to create something totally new. What can the box become? Perhaps it will be a spaceship, an ice cream shop, a fairy castle, or a race car. Use any craft supplies or scraps on hand and your imagination to turn an ordinary box into a new creation!

Summer Food Program



June 1 – June 30, Monday – Friday
(Closed June 19)

- Free to all children
- No signup, eligibility or paperwork required
- All meals eaten on site
- Adult meal cost:
 - Breakfast \$3.50
 - Lunch \$5.75
- Free activities and book giveaways

Visit the district website for more information:



[Summer Food Program](#)

Sunset Play Day

Friday, May 15

Grades K-2 - 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Grades 3-5 - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Parents and guardians are welcome to come watch and cheer on the students as they participate in a variety of games.

Food Service Accounts



Please review your student's food service account balance regularly to keep your account current and prevent overdue payments. To view your current balance, log into

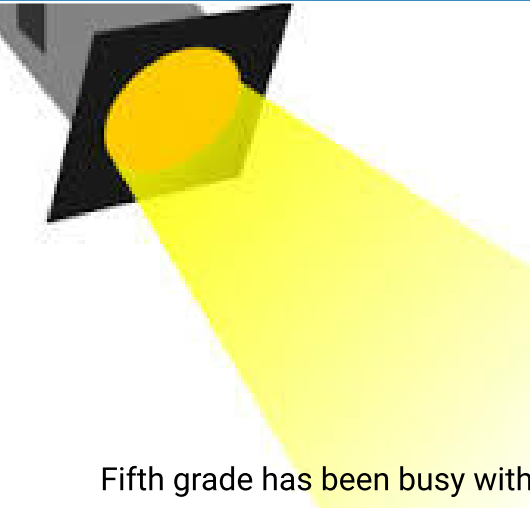
Skyward Family Access and click the Food Service Tile.

You may pay in person at your school, district office, or online in Skyward.



[Skyward](#)

Spotlight on Fifth Grade



Fifth grade has been busy with hands-on learning at STARBASE. Students have built rockets that will be launched at a future STARBASE date. They have used coding to make robots follow their directions, and students also designed a spacecraft that would protect Colonel Eggbert (an egg) for his landing on the moon.

We will be attending STARBASE a few more times, and touring a Blackhawk Helicopter. Everyone is having fun learning about STEM, and careers that they could have in science, math, engineering and technology.

We also had the opportunity to attend Match Madness. At this event, students learned about different organizations that support their community. They got to go to booths and hear about what each organization does. Thanks to a generous donor, each student got to donate \$10.00 to the organization of their choice.



Fifth Grade Honor Night

Tuesday, May 12
6:30 p.m.
in the big gym

Students arrive at
6:15 p.m.





Guest reader, Mrs. Davis, reads to Miss Stevenson's first grade class.

Three Ways to Prevent 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:

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. Libraries often run summer reading programs that motivate kids to read, so find out what's available in your area. Also check our book lists for recommendations.

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 child likes the food channel, help them 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 they currently reading (one of the six books, above). Have them 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 they will build listening comprehension skills with grade-level and above books. This will increase their knowledge and expand their experience with text, so that they will do better when they read on their own.

It's 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!

May Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 Day 4	2
3	4 Day 5	5 Day 1	6 Day 2	7 Day 3	8 Day 4	9
10	11 Day 5	12 Day 1	13 Day 2	14 Day 3	15 Play Day	16
17	18 Day 4	19 Day 5	20 Day 1	21 Day 2	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

8 - All library books due back to the library

8 - Third Grade Kansas Fitness Day

12 - Fifth Grade Honor Night



15 - Play Day

21 - Last day of school

Contact Us

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