



News From The Nest

April Newsletter

East Brookfield Elementary School

Principal Update

Greetings Everyone,
It was great to see everyone come back full time this week. The building has been alive and full of energy. Thank you to Jerry's Ice Cream Truck for making a special visit to our school on opening day. Hopefully we will be able to have him again.

MCAS testing for grades 3-6 will still be happening this year. The dates have been pushed back to May. I will send a notice home when the dates for our school are confirmed.

I appreciate everyone's cooperation during our new drop off/pick up procedures. It has gone even smoother than we expected. Great job to the staff who are on duty and the parents for their following our new protocols.

I hope everyone enjoys April vacation which begins in a week. Even with all of these changes, the year has gone by quickly.

Have a great spring!

Be Safe,

Ron Tomlin

Principal



Nurses News



The Spencer East Brookfield Schools have partnered with The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Public Health to implement free COVID-19 pooled testing for students and staff.



Pooled testing involves mixing people's test samples together and testing the pooled sample for COVID-19. If the pool comes back positive, its members are individually tested. This increases the number of people that can be tested at once and allows the district to regularly test for COVID-19.

Regular testing of students and staff will help us lower the risk of the disease throughout our district by finding and isolating individuals who have COVID-19 quickly, even before or if they never show symptoms. The weekly pooled testing program is another way we are striving to keep our school environment safe for everyone.

The program is voluntary for all students and staff. Tests are performed once per week in each of the

schools using a shallow nasal swab. Schools will receive the pool results within 24-48 hours.

If a pool result is negative, then all individuals within that pool are presumed negative. If a pooled test result is positive, those individuals will be notified and will have a BinaxNOW rapid antigen test with their school nurse, with results available in 15 minutes.

If you would like more information or a signup form for your child to participate in pooled testing please contact your child's school nurse!



April Recess April 19-23, 2021

Preschool Virtual Open House (For incoming Pre-K students) April 29th 5:30-6:30 P.M.



Thank you to everyone who made this a great success! Our School read 17,628 minutes in total. Total amount pledged was \$13,669!



April Jokes

Why couldn't the flower ride its bike?

It lost its petals

What is the best flower for a boy to give to his mother?

A Son flower



Woohoo!! Spring has Sprung! Welcome to April.

This month we are celebrating kindness and will be participating in Kindness Week on 12th-16th April. When we are kind, we are generous, considerate and show compassion for ourselves and others without expecting praise or a reward. Begin each day with this month's Kindness affirmation:

"I am Kind and Loving. Today I perform Random Acts of Kindness wherever I go. I love helping people and bringing joy to others."

This month's challenge is to complete as many kind acts from the 100 Acts of Kindness Challenge (flyer sent home).



Buddy

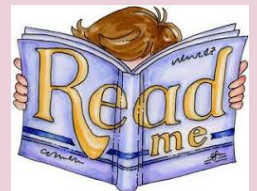
Bench

Students from the Kindness Council have worked hard to create a "Buddy Bench" in our playground. The buddy bench is where students can go if they are feeling lonely or need someone to play with. Sitting on the buddy bench is a signal to other students to invite a new friend to join them to play or to be a buddy on the bench. It is also a signal to staff to help teach students how to problem solve and self-initiate engagement with peers. In addition to this, students in the Kindness Council will be coached to be peer mentors to help encourage others to find the confidence and words to self-advocate. The goal is to promote a culture of caring, inclusivity and kindness as well as increase independence and confidence.

Book suggestions this month:

*I Walk with Vanessa by Kerascoët *Be Kind by Pat Zietlow Miller

*Kindness is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler by Margery Cuyler



"Kindness is a gift everyone can afford to give"

-Unknown