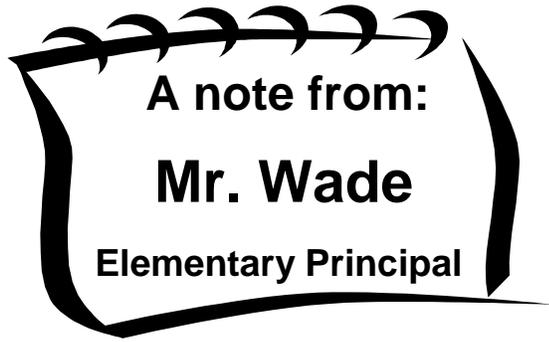


Alexander Elementary

Parents Make A Difference!



Vol. 18 No. 5 January 2017



A note from:
Mr. Wade
Elementary Principal

It is good to be back from Christmas Break! We hope all of our students and their families had a nice holiday. With a new calendar year comes a new school semester. With less than five months left in the school year, we want to encourage our students and their parents to continue to make school a top priority.

***“Make
school a top
priority.”***

Our first semester grade cards will go out on our return January 3. They will show how your child performed during the first half of the school year. This is a very crucial time. It is a time to analyze your child's school performance and to make any adjustment necessary to insure they make appropriate gains. If you have any concerns or questions regarding their current progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself. If needed, we can come up with various strategies to help your child improve and perform at their fullest potential.

At Alexander Elementary, we appreciate the many wonderful parents we have that give their children the time and encouragement they need to be successful in school. It is our hope that by continually working together we can provide the best education possible for 2017 and beyond!

January & February

Grade Cards- Tuesday, January 3, 2016.

Rise and Shine Assembly- Monday, January 9.

Accelerated Reading Reward Trips- Chuck E. Cheese in Joplin. L: 10AM R: 2PM
K & 1st- January 11
2nd and 5th- January 12
3rd & 4th- January 13

Spelling Bee- Wednesday, January 25 at 1:30PM in the gym. (3rd, 4th and 5th Grades)

Fourth Grade Field Trip Children's Museum- Friday, February 3. 8:00AM to 2:30PM

Progress Reports- Tuesday, February 7.

Valentine Pictures- Tuesday, February 7, 5x7 for \$3.

Book Fair- February 3 through February 10.

Elementary Spring PFC Carnival- Friday, February 10.

Rise and Shine Assembly- Monday, February 13

BREAK Bully Free Program for 2nd Grade- Monday/Tuesday, February 13 and 14.

Valentine's Day- Tuesday, February 14.

Parent-Teacher Conferences- Tuesday, February 21 and Thursday, February 23. From 3:30PM to 6:30 PM.

No School- Friday, February 24.

Spring Break- March 13 – 17.

STAY INFORMED!



PowerSchool parents and students have access to real-time student information via the free PowerSchool Mobile app, creating better communication, collaboration and success within a child's learning experience.

- ✓ Features of PowerSchool Mobile App:
- ✓ Access from IOS or Android mobile devices
- ✓ Access student homework assignments
- ✓ Real-time grades and attendance
- ✓ Teacher comments
- ✓ See all of your children under one parent account
- ✓ Daily bulletin board
- ✓ Course schedule
- ✓ Integrated family calendar
- ✓ Fee transactions and balance
- ✓ Automatic email messaging
- ✓ Instant push notifications for attendance or grade changes
- ✓ Track each student with grade trends

The district code is MDKD or search Commerce Public Schools. You can log in with your child's code. If you need assistance, please give us a call at 918-675-4336.

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up!"

-Mark Twain

Infer

I use my prior knowledge
plus evidence in the text
to infer.



Read Between The Lines

Learning to infer, or "read between the lines," is one key to good reading comprehension. Consider these tips for helping your youngster make

inferences when he reads.

Describe the setting. Pick a book, and read a few sentences to your child (without him looking). Leave out words that name the setting. Example: "Sand stretched in all directions...cacti dotted the landscape." Can he infer where the story is set? If he isn't sure, give him a hint. ("Where do you see lots of sand and cacti?")

Look for lessons. Fables are great for reading between the lines. Read one by Aesop, and help your youngster figure out the lesson. For instance, The Tortoise and the Hare teaches that even if you're slow, you can win if you just keep going. Have him point out parts that he used to make his inference. ("The tortoise never stopped, and he took one good step after another.")

Use prompts. Questions that start with "Why do you think...?" or "How do you know...?" can encourage your child to infer. You might ask why he thinks a character behaved the way he did or how he knows it's going to snow. Together, look for clues in the book that may help him answer the questions.



Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or music class. Explain that he can be absent only if he is sick or if there is a family emergency.