

# The Eureka Elementary Orbit

September 29, 2023

## Important Dates

October 11- Parent Teacher Conferences  
October 12- Parent Teacher Conferences  
October 20- Runraiser (Rain Date October 26)-  
October 23 and 30- 2nd Grade field trip to MSU Gardens  
October 31- Halloween Celebrations- Details to come in another communication.



## Update from Mr. Fillwock



It has been a great first month of the school year. Students, teachers and staff members are learning new routines, creating new habits, and we are starting to see great leadership from many of our students.

Students have been earning a variety of recognitions this month by modeling our STAR behavior. With those STAR expectations and classroom social contracts as a guide, students have earned **491**

Rocket Cards and 5 class stars over the last month. The class with the most class stars is the **Kindergarten** class. The class star will hang above the doorway of their classroom for the next month.

### -Rocket Card Counts by Grade-

K- 23  
1st- 113  
2nd- 100  
3rd - 34  
4th- 90

The following students were identified as students who modeled Outstanding Star Behavior over the last month of school: Korbin Salisbury, Lacy Nelson, Audrey Foust, Erin Morrison, Makenzie Kindel, Luke Graham, and James Salisbury.

As colder weather approaches please remember to send students to school with appropriate clothing in order to enjoy our outdoor space at recess, in PE, as well as some class activities. We are excited for the next month of learning and continuing to support your students to reach for the personal best daily.



**Star Behavior Students of the Month**



**Star Behavior Students of the Month**



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## Student Handbook Reminder

### Birthday Celebrations

We know how important birthdays are for our students and how fun celebrating can be. In an effort to maximize our learning time, protect students with food allergies, and promote healthy choices, we will not celebrate with birthday treats at school. This is a district level decision. When it is time to celebrate a birthday, please speak directly with your child's teacher. Examples may include the child being able to choose an additional 15 minutes of free activity time for their class (gym, recess, class game, etc.) at the discretion of the classroom teacher. We also do not distribute birthday party invitations at school. Please see the parent PTO directory for information.

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## Eureka Elementary Student Handbook

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### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent- Teacher Conferences will be held on October 11th from 5-8 p.m. and October 12th from 5-8 p.m. Conferences will be held virtually through zoom unless other arrangements are made with specific teachers. [Please look for sign up link next week.](#)



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### Classroom News



#### Kindergarten

We have been busy here in kindergarten. We have been working on our ABC Bootcamp which means we are learning one letter a day along with learning words that begin with the sound and how to form the letter. The students are also learning how to count using a one to one correspondence and exploring math tools. We have been practicing responsibility and how to be a classroom family. I am looking forward to an October filled with learning!

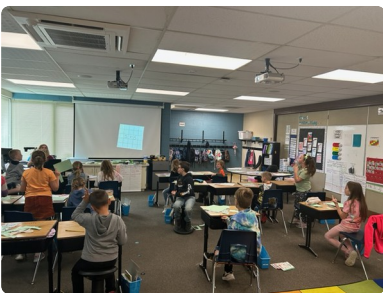
#### 1st Grade

First graders have been learning the 3 ways to read a book and how to write about reading. We also explored the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly.



## 2nd Grade

We have been working on knowing our different money denominations, in social studies our focus has been about the St. Johns community. We also have a field trip coming up in October to the MSU Gardens.



## 3rd Grade

We are learning the foundation for multiplication. Students are also writing a personal narrative. In social studies, we are learning about Michigan's government. Deputy Barber is also coming in to teach.

## 4th Grade

We are working on drafting our first writing piece of the year. Once we finish that we will be having a writing celebration. In math we are just about to finish up our first unit on multiplication. Next week we will be starting our second unit about data. In social studies we are learning about the Bill of Rights and will be researching public issues then picking an issue in our school/community that we would like changed and writing about it.



## 5th Grade

We have started a science unit on ecosystems and have 4 millipedes in the classroom named Thing 1, Thing 2, Dill, and Sweet. Students have been working on personal narratives with some being cautionary tales. Also, click the links below to view our student produced weekly 5th Grade Newsletter.

[8/31 Fifth Grade News](#)

[9/8 Fifth Grade News](#)

[9/15 Fifth Grade News](#)

[9/22 Fifth Grade news](#)

## Art

This month has been a busy one in the art room as we get started making art! All of our students started out making their own "Birds of a Feather" - Check out our display if you visit the building.

The end of this month showcases our upper elementary students- 3rd graders are working on Abstract Landscapes. They viewed and discussed the artwork of Grant Wood, learned about the midwest region, parts of a landscape, and perspective.

4th and 5th graders are focusing on Radial Design and Color Theory by building their own creative color wheel.



## Library

Last month, students learned or reviewed the checkout, renewal and return procedures for Eureka's library. In October, students will be learning more about how the library is organized, how readers choose books and will celebrate our second One Book One Community activity with Mrs. Rowland.



# EUREKA FUN RUN October 20th



**P.E. Fun Run Fundraiser**

Students will be participating in the Eureka Elementary School Fun Run Fundraiser. Each student will participate during their PE class and get the chance to run through an obstacle course Mr Matulis has created. The funds collected will go to Eureka Elementary PTO to help pay for field trips, assemblies, supplies for classrooms and so much more. **Please look for a letter being sent home by Eureka PTO for information on how to donate.**

**\*\*All Students will be able to run the obstacle course regardless of raising funds or not\*\***  
Parents interested in helping with setting up and running stations can contact Mr. Matulis at [Matulisj@sjredwings.org](mailto:Matulisj@sjredwings.org)

Here is the P.E. Schedule:

KDG 12:30-1:20

1st 1:25-2:15

2nd 2:20-3:10

3rd 10:15- 11:05

4th 9:20- 10:10

5th 3:15- 4:05

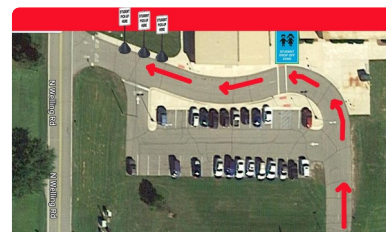
**PTO Eureka Fun Run Fundraiser Link**

## Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

8:55 am- Students May Arrive

9:10 am - School Day Begins

4:07 pm - Dismissal



### **Drop Off**

1. If you are dropping your student off please stay in line and pull your vehicle up to the next available adult. Staff will begin letting students out of cars at 8:50.
2. Doors Open at 8:55. Students will use the east entrance to come into the building.
3. If your student is late to school and an adult is not out front, please go to the front door and press the button to be let in and sign in, in the office.

### **Pick Up**

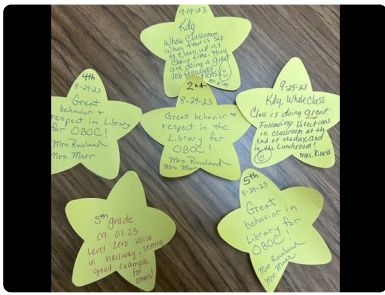
1. STAY IN LINE and **PULL AS FAR FORWARD AS POSSIBLE** so there is less traffic in the road.
2. Please pull as far forward as you can (closest to Welling Rd.). Your student will be called from their line and come to your vehicle.
3. Please plan to have your child enter your vehicle through the passenger side of the vehicle.
4. We would like to reduce the number of walk up pickups for safety purposes.

### **Buses**

Buses will use the back drive of the school in both morning and afternoon. Avoid these drives

## STAR Behavior Expectation

Stay Safe

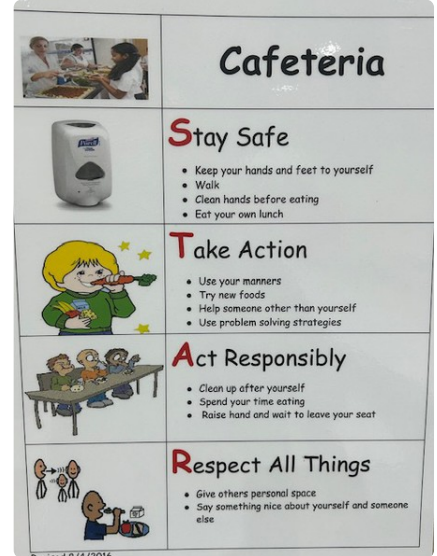
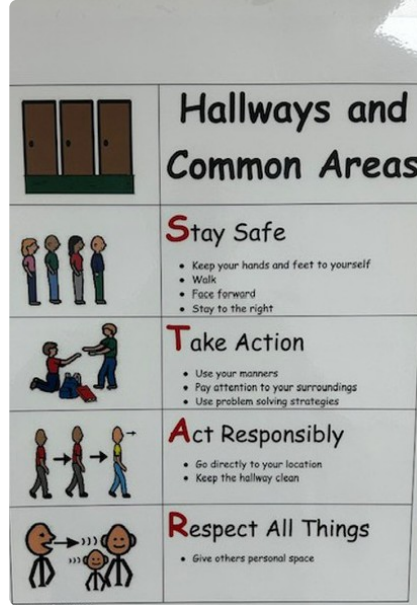


Take Action

Act Responsibly

Respect All Things

More details on pages 39-41 in Student Handbook (Link Below)



## Food Service

**October Breakfast Menu**

**October Lunch Menu**



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## Mental Health Resources



In response to parent concerns about mental health and well-being, St. Johns Public Schools is partnering with [ParentGuidance.org](https://parentguidance.org) to deliver presentations developed by licensed therapists.

Bullying- Stop the Cycle

October 18, 2023

6:30-7:30 via Zoom

Register in link below



COOK CENTER FOR  
HUMAN CONNECTION



**Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: Bullying: Stop the Cycle - Mental Health Series - St. Johns Public Schools, MI. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.**

Over the past several years bullying is a growing problem. Learn from Dr. Melissa Lopez-Larson as she teaches parents how to identify bullying, how to stop the bullying cycle, and strategies for prevention.

📧 [cookcenter.info](https://cookcenter.info)

**Mental Health Resources**

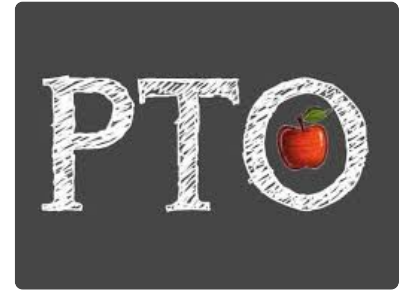


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## PTO Corner

Meetings held 2nd Monday of month @ 6:30 pm in the Eureka Library

[eurekarocketspto@gmail.com](mailto:eurekarocketspto@gmail.com)



What does PTO do?

Eureka PTO is gearing up for another fun and exciting year here at Eureka! For some children, this is their first year at Eureka, while for others, it is their last. PTO wants to make this year for our children a fun and memorable one! How can we do that?

One way is through fundraising. Eureka PTO comes up with different ways to raise funds that goes back to our students. Fundraising helps provide more opportunities for our children such as, additional field trips. The St. Johns School District will provide funds for only one field trip per class per school year, however, some of the funds raised through PTO will help our students have more opportunities to go on field trips.

Additionally, PTO also supports our teachers. Some of the funds that PTO raises goes back into the classroom and helps support our teachers with their classroom's educational expenses. Our fundraising also provides fun family-oriented events, such as the Eureka Ball, the 80s Glow Party, and Family Fun Night. Not only does our PTO provide the funding, but we also plan all the fun family activities, student celebrations, and potlucks for our teachers when they put in the long hours during Parent Teacher Conferences. Do you have some ideas for fun events at our school? Are you looking to make a difference in your child's school experience? Please consider joining us, as we plan to work together with parents and teachers, to make our school a better place for our children.

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### Eureka Specials Calendar

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#### Contact Information

Andy Fillwock

Email: [fillwocka@sjredwings.org](mailto:fillwocka@sjredwings.org)

Website: <https://www.sjredwings.org/our-schools/eurekaelementary/>

Location: 7550 N. Welling Rd, St. Johns, MI, USA

Phone: (989)227-4901

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## Andy Fillwock

Andy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

