

Castlewood Elementary Connection

May 2016



From the Desk of:
Ms. Eide

School Wide End of the Year Ice Cream Social and Sidewalk Chalk Block Party

Thursday, May 19th from 6:30 - 7:30

1. There is a flyer attached with a sign up sheet. We would like your form returned by May 13th so we have an adequate count for buying ice cream and toppings.
2. Ice cream sundaes will be served from 6:30 - 7:30.
3. The event will be held at the school. Each family will get a square assigned to them to decorate with sidewalk chalk art. The theme for the chalk drawings will be "Summer Fun". Each family will receive chalk, a cup of water, and a blending brush. Family chalk squares will be able to win prizes. The prize categories will include: **Best Team, Best 3D, Best Photo Rendition, Most Humorous, Best Use of Color, Best in Show, Best Use of Space, Most Fun, and Fan Favorite.** Get busy doing some research and planning. :)
4. If it rains we will be inside the school and use black paper to complete the chalk drawings and ice cream sundaes will be served in the lunchroom.
5. We plan to set up yard games on the track – croquet, bean bags, ladder ball etc. If you have a game and would like to bring it to use that evening, let Heather Eide know.
6. There will also be a penny rolling machine here. Bring pennies and create a fun design.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you there and wrapping up another successful year at Castlewood School.

School Hours:
8:10 - 3:30

Preschool
8:10 - 11:45

Special Dates:

- May 2 - May 6
Staff Appreciation Week—see page 2 for details
- Monday, May 2
Bookmobile Pick up
- Wednesday, May 4
5th Grade field trip LATI & Humane Society
- Friday, May 6
Kindergarten field trip - Zoo
- Monday, May 9
6th Grade field trip to Butterfly House & Outdoor Campus
7:00 Board Meeting
- Wednesday, May 11
4th Grade field trip to Laura Ingalls Wilder in DeSmet
6:30 Elementary Awards Program
- Friday, May 13
6:30 Preschool Graduation
- Tuesday, May 17
2:15 5th Grade Dare Graduation
- Wednesday, May 18
1st Grade field trip - Lake Pelican
- Thursday, May 19
6:30 End of Year Ice Cream and Sidewalk Chalk event
- Friday, May 20
Last Day for students
- Saturday, May 21
1:00 High School Graduation
- Monday, May 30
10:00 Memorial Day Program



Monday, May 2nd through Friday, May 6th is Staff Appreciation Week. There is a flyer attached to this newsletter with some events children can participate in this week to show the staff how appreciated they are. Please encourage your child to take part.

There is also a sheet coming home today where your child can illustrate or write about what makes their teacher a VIP. They can complete these and turn them into the office anytime before Friday.

Thank you for helping the staff feel like STARS this week!



School Supplies Anyone?

We are excited to once again offer an affordable and convenient way for parents to purchase school supplies for next fall. The kits range from \$14 - \$30 depending on the grade level. You have until June 30th to order your supply kits for next year. Go to our school website and click on the link or go directly to www.1stDaySchoolSupplies.com to enter our zip code to place your order. Backpacks are also available at an additional cost. Our goal is to sell 100 kits. Parents who ordered last year loved it and said it is easy, cheaper than stores, and convenient!



It's unbelievable how fast the school year has gone yet again. I cannot believe that there are only a few busy weeks left until summer break and the end of my time here at Castlewood. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for sharing your children with me and trusting me to make decisions that impact their education. I have come to know and love every one of them. I've also enjoyed getting to know families and will miss the welcoming community that made my three years here so wonderful!

Mr. Brandon Girard will be the new elementary principal next year. He grew up in Canby but has been an assistant principal in the Dallas/ Ft. Worth area for the past few years. He is looking forward to coming back to the area and is very excited about working in the Castlewood District.

Enjoy your summer, rest, relax, and keep your children reading and practicing math facts!!!!!!!

You will receive information regarding back to school in August.



YOU'RE A STAR!

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 2nd – May 6th

Wednesday

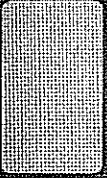
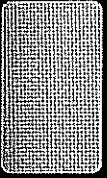
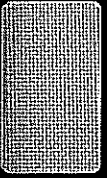
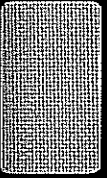
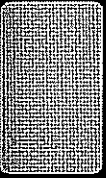
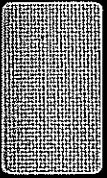
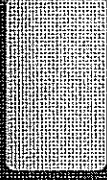
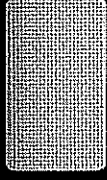
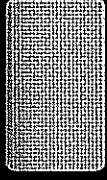
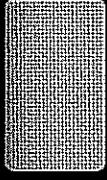
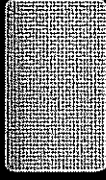
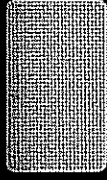
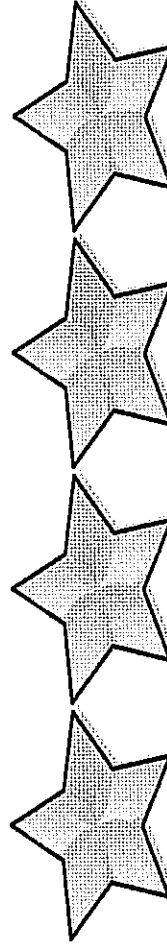
Fan Mail – Compliment a teacher and/or paraprofessional by designing them a homemade card.

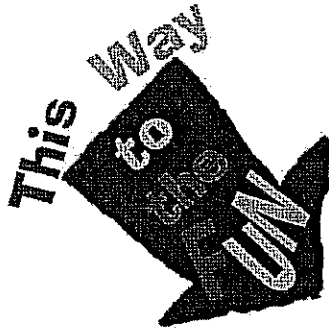
Thursday

Behind the Scenes – Wear your teacher's favorite color.

Friday

Pampering Day – Make your teacher feel like a star!





**Get Ready for the
End-of-the-Year
Ice Cream Social &
Sidewalk Chalk Block
Party**

Thursday, May 19 from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

@ Castlewood School

Each family will receive chalk, a cup of water, and a blending brush. Family chalk squares will be able to win prizes. The prize categories will include: Best Team, Best 3D, Best Photo Rendition, Most Humorous, Best Use of Color, Best in Show, Best Use of Space, Most Fun, and Fan Favorite. Get busy doing some research and planning. ☺

**Ice Cream Sundaes
& Socializing**

Chalk Creations

Games

Please return this bottom portion to the office by Friday, May 13th.

We will purchase supplies on the 16th and need an adequate count.

_____ people from our family will attend the ice cream social.



(Family Name)



Castlewood School District - Master Calendar



May 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Staff Appreciation Week May 2-6	2 Book Mobile 9:00-1:00 (Pick up only) JH Track at DeSmet at 4:00 LCC Golf Meet (JV/V) at LRGC - 10:00	3 Dwight Kinney Track Invite at Estelline - 3:00 JH Golf at Deuel at 12:00	4 5th grade field trip to LATI and Humane Society	5 Deuel Invitational Golf at Clear Lake - 3:00 JH DVC Track Meet at DeSmet at 3:00	6 Howard Wood Track Relays at Sioux Falls Kindergarten Field Trip to the Watertown Zoo	7 Howard Wood Track Relays at Sioux Falls
8	9 6th grade field trip to Butterfly House in Sioux Falls Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. DVC Golf Meet (JV & V) at LRGC at 9:00	10 Golf at DeSmet (gr. 7-9) at 1:00 LCC Track Meet at Volga - 2:00	11 4th grade field trip to DeSmet Elementary Awards Program at 6:30 Staff Meetings at 7:50 & 8:30	12 DVC Track Meet at DeSmet - 1:30	13 Deuel/Castlewood Golf Invite - at 9:00 (boys at C. Lake, girls at Castlewood) JH LCC Golf at DeSmet at 12:00 Preschool Graduation at 6:30 p.m. - south gym	14
15	16 Pre-Region Golf at Watertown - 9:00	17 Awards Night (gr. 7-12) at 7:00 p.m. DARE Graduation for 5th grade at 2:15 NHS Banquet at 5:30	18 1st grade field trip to Lake Pelican Baccalaureate at 7:00 p.m. CEO/Senior Class Reception at 3:35 in the lunchroom	19 End of Year Family Event 6:30-7:30 Region Track Meet at DeSmet - 10:00	20 Last day for NTHS Last day of School Special Olympics State Soccer at Spearfish	21 Graduation - 1:00 p.m. Special Olympics State Track at Spearfish
22	23 Region Golf at Watertown - 9:00 Teacher In-service	24 Teacher In-service	25	26 Last day for NTHS	27 State Track Meet at Sioux Falls	28 State Track Meet at Sioux Falls
29	30 Memorial Day Program at 10:00	31				



Castlewood School District - Lunch Menu



May 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Breakfast - Egg and sausage sandwich Lunch - Glazed chicken, rice, bananas, and pineapple	3 Breakfast - French toast sticks Lunch - Chicken pattle on WG bun, salad, and mandarin oranges	4 Breakfast - Biscuits and gravy Lunch - Super nachos, lettuce, pears	5 Breakfast - Egg McMuffin Lunch - Ham and cheese sandwich, sweet potato nuggets, mixed fruit	6 Breakfast - Breakfast bar Lunch - Turkey sandwich, tri tators, and peaches	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Home & School CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

May 2016



Castlewood Elementary School
Ms. Heather Eide

SHORT NOTES

Laughing together

Telling jokes with your youngster is a fun way to build family bonds. And jokes that involve word-play can boost his vocabulary. Look for joke books at the library, and take turns reading aloud from them. If he doesn't "get" a joke, explain the different meanings of the words—he'll see that a bigger vocabulary means bigger laughs!

Motivated 'til the last day

It might be a challenge for your child to stay focused as the school year winds down. Inspire her to continue doing her best by having her compare a journal entry or math test from the beginning of the year with a recent one. Seeing how far she has come may motivate her to keep going.

Wear your seat belt

Before you drive away, remind everyone in your car to buckle up—and check riders in the backseat. Don't allow youngsters to place shoulder belts behind their backs, and set an example by always wearing yours correctly. Also, tell your child to buckle up in other people's cars, even if the driver doesn't insist.

Worth quoting

"The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

JUST FOR FUN



Q: What invention lets you look right through a wall?

A: A window.

Summer learning: Anytime, anywhere

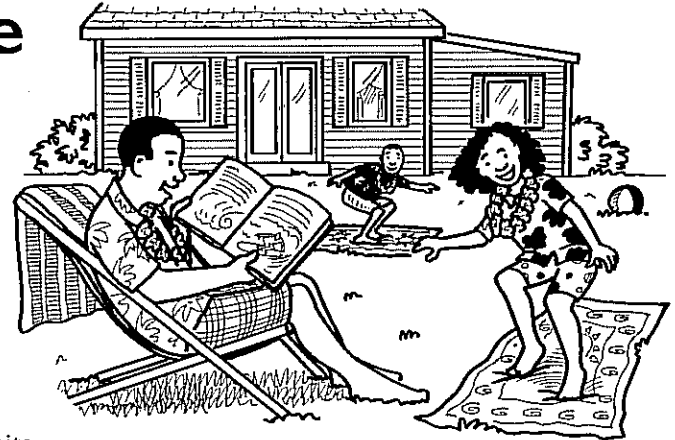
School may be out, but learning is not! Encourage your child to keep learning all summer long with these ideas for at home or on the go.

Whiteboard in a bag

Here's a tool your youngster can use everywhere. Let her make a "whiteboard" by sliding white paper into a gallon-sized zipper bag. Drop in washable markers and a small package of wipes. You might give her words to spell or math problems to solve. Or have her draw and write about what she sees out the car window. She can write on the sealed bag, use the wipes to erase, and start again.

Show-and-tell table

Set aside a small table where family members can share discoveries. For instance, your child could bring back an interesting rock from a walk or take a photo of an unusual insect on the back



porch. Or you might add a news article about a cool invention. Keep the table going all summer—talk about the items, rotate them, and learn together.

Reading staycations

Together, dream up imaginary vacations to take at home, and read fiction and nonfiction books to go with your choices. For example, make a tent with chairs and a sheet, and read about camping. Or wear leis and flowered shirts while enjoying a story set on a tropical island. Your youngster may even like to "time travel" to ancient Egypt with books on hieroglyphics. *Note:* Ask your child's teacher or a librarian for book suggestions. ♥

For the teacher...

These teacher-appreciation projects are a fun way to wrap up the year, and they will teach your youngster to think of others:

- Get a plastic craft or tackle box with different-sized compartments. Let your child fill it with dollar-store treats his teacher would like, such as travel-size lotion, sticky notes, or lip balm. Then, he can decorate the lid with "Thank you," his name, and the date.
- Have him pick out a packet of flower or vegetable seeds. Suggest that he use permanent marker to personalize a flowerpot and place the seed packet inside along with a thank-you note. ♥



Raise resilient kids

Coping with changes, bouncing back from disappointment... youngsters who are resilient are able to do these things more easily. Here are everyday ways to help your child build resilience.

Form strong connections. Kids who have close relationships with loving adults tend to be more resilient. Regularly show affection for your youngster, and point out what's special about him. ("You're always so kind to animals.") Also, show interest in activities he enjoys, whether it's playing trumpet or collecting trading cards.



Practice coping skills. Raising a resilient child doesn't mean shielding him from everything that's difficult. Instead, it means helping him learn to cope. If his soccer team loses, say something like, "I know you're disappointed. It's hard to lose, isn't it?" Then, tell him about a time you felt let down, whether you lost a tennis match or didn't get a job you wanted. Your youngster will discover that struggling—and moving forward—is a normal part of life. And getting through it can help him deal with adversity next time.♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

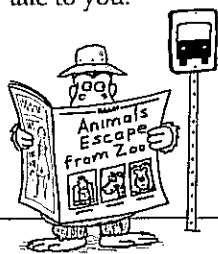
Let the story unfold

Keep your child's creative writing skills sharp with these activities that will hold her interest until the very last line.

1. Have your youngster cut out a dozen random words or phrases from newspaper and magazine headlines. *Examples: ice age, mystery.* Let her shake them in a bag, pull out one at a time, and use them to write the lines of a story. ("Not another ice age!" Simon told his friend. "We need to solve the mystery of why it's so cold.") When she has used all her words, listen while she reads her tale to you.

2. Ask your child to make up a story title (say, "The Big Thunderstorm" or "The Day the Zoo Animals Escaped"). Then,

she could write one part—beginning, middle, or end—and have family members write the other parts. When everyone finishes, she can put the pieces together, adding transitions to connect them logically.♥



Q & A

Too much togetherness?

Q: Last year, my girls' behavior really deteriorated over the summer. I think they were tired of being together.

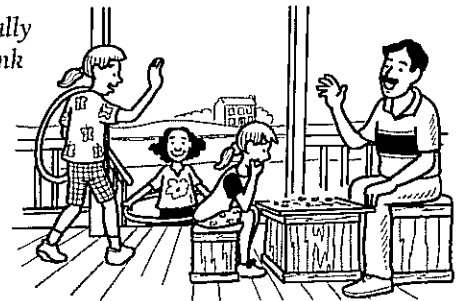
How can I make this summer more pleasant for everyone?

A: This is a common problem during school breaks. Even siblings who get along need space from each other.

Try to figure out "triggers"—maybe one child makes noise when her sister is on the phone or takes the last ponytail holder. Together, discuss ways to head off these situations (use the phone in another room, keep hair supplies separate).

Also, plan times for your girls to be apart. If your older child has a friend over, play a board game with your younger daughter so the big girls have time to themselves. Of if your girls start to argue, suggest that one move to the kitchen for a craft project while the other reads in the living room.

At the same time, if they find activities to enjoy together, that will make the summer more pleasant, too. They might make music videos, for instance, or take up a sport like volleyball.♥



PARENT TO PARENT

Community classes

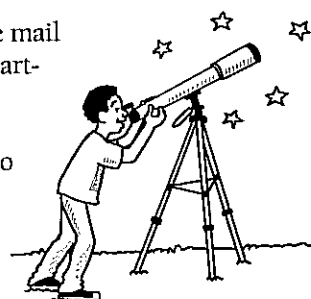
My son Eli was excited to learn about the solar system in school this year, and I want to build on his enthusiasm this summer.

We got a summer catalog in the mail from our parks and recreation department. Eli looked through it and found a few free programs about outer space. So far we've decided to attend a stargazing session with a local astronomer and a crafts class where kids make a mobile of the planets.

I also found a discount coupon for a planetarium, so we're planning a day trip there the first weekend of summer break. And of course we'll visit the library so

Eli can check out books on the planets, space missions, and astronauts.

I had no idea our community had so much to offer for Eli's new interest—looking around really paid off!♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630
540-636-4280 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com
www.rfeonline.com

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