

Castlewood Elementary Connection

NOVEMBER 2015



School Hours:
8:10 - 3:30

Preschool
8:10 - 11:45

From the Desk of:
Ms. Eide

REMINDER: If you prefer to receive your monthly newsletter via email instead of receiving a paper copy, please email me at heather.eide@k12.sd.us. Thank you!

Castlewood School will be celebrating American Education Week from November 16 - 20. This week provides all Americans with an opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. We have participated in several events during the past two years. This year will look a little different by including other groups of people.

Monday, November 16: Nationwide Kickoff Day

Across the country, schools will celebrate excellence in education by hosting kickoff events. The students will be creating cards for staff members. Students and staff will be participating in other activities as well.

Tuesday, November 17: Grandparents' Day

We will be hosting a "Goodies for Grandparents" event. We invite all grandparents to come to the school and enjoy breakfast goodies anytime between 7:40 and 8:05 am. If it is not possible for a grandparent to attend, a parent may come in their place. A sign up sheet is coming home. It needs to be returned by Monday, Nov. 9th.

Wednesday, November 18: Education Support Staff Day

Castlewood's bus drivers work hard to ensure student success by getting our students to school safely and ready to learn. We will be honoring their hard work by hosting a "Donuts for Drivers" event.

Thursday, November 19: Educator for a Day

Community members are welcome to contact the school or a teacher if they would like to come in and read a story to children. All staff will wear suspenders that day to show their "support" for education.

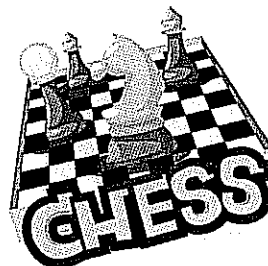
Friday, November 20: Higher Education Day

All students (Grades PS - 12) and staff members are encouraged to wear a college shirt to celebrate and honor higher education. All students will also get together that afternoon to "Hug the School".

Special Dates:

- **Sunday, November 1**
Daylight Savings Ends - Set clocks back 1 hour
- **Tuesday, November 3**
End of 1st Quarter
- **Thursday, November 5**
9:00 - 1:30 Bookmobile
- **Monday, November 9**
5:30 PTO Meeting in Library
7:00 School Board Meeting
- **Tuesday, November 10**
3:30 - 4:15 First Day of Chess Club
Grades 4 - 6
- **Wednesday, November 11**
Veterans Day - Classrooms will do
Veterans Day activities
- **Monday, November 16th - Friday,
November 20**
American Education Week - see
paragraph
- **Tuesday, November 17**
7:40 - 8:10 Goodies for Grandparents
breakfast
3:30 - 4:15 Chess Club grades 4 - 6
4:00 Packing for Back PACH pro-
gram @ HEC - volunteers welcome
- **Thursday, November 19**
3:30 - 4:15 First Day of Chess Club
Grades 1 - 3
3:35 Spelling Bee - grades 5-8
(Conflict date is Monday, Nov. 23)
- **Monday, November 23**
Title Parent Meeting 6:45
Read with Parents Night 7:00 - 8:00
- **Tuesday, November 24**
3:30 - 4:15 Chess Club grades 1 - 3
- **Wednesday, November 25 - Fri-
day, November 27**
No School

Elementary Chess Club begins on Tuesday, November 10th for 4th - 6th grade and Thursday, November 19th for 1st - 3rd grade. The group will meet at 3:30 and be done around 4:15. Mr. Kooima will be sending out a letter with the schedule since it is different this year.



We've already had a lot of illness this school year. This concerns me because we are not even in "prime" flu season.

Below are some guidelines to help all of us stay healthier.

If Your Child Is Sick

Children who can't keep their eyes open, even after having a normal night's sleep, may be coming down with something. If, before school, you think your child may be starting to get sick, alert the teacher and make sure an adult is available for pick-up in case your child needs to come home. Children who are feverish, nauseated, or bone-tired can't learn well, and can spread their illness to others. So, please keep them home. Before returning to school, your child needs to have gone without a fever for 24 hours. Talk to your child's teacher to find out the best way to make up missed work. Often, a child who is not quite well enough to return to class can complete assignments at home, making the workload easier to manage once he or she is back in school. Have your child make up the work as soon as possible.

Preventing the Spread of Germs

Keep your family healthy all winter long by practicing everyday disease prevention tactics. 1. Stress the importance of hand washing. Because germs are invisible, it's difficult for children to understand how dangerous a cough or sneeze can be. Be sure to stress the importance of washing hands, using lots of soap and water, and scrubbing until there are bubbles—before meals and snacks, and after coughing, sneezing, or using a tissue. *Use the "birthday song" method.* Teach your child to wash his or her hands for as long as it takes to sing the entire "Happy Birthday" song. 2. Cough like Dracula. Children need to learn to always cover their mouths when they cough. Have your child cough into his or her sleeves, not hands, to prevent the spread of germs. 3. Keep hands away from eyes, nose, and mouth. Children sometimes absentmindedly put their fingers in their mouth or nose, or rub their eyes. Help your child keep his or her hands away from "germy" areas—eyes, nose, and mouth. 4. Trash the tissues. Used tissues are full of germs. Teach your child to immediately put used tissues in the trash, and then wash his or her hands. 5. Set a healthy example. Model all these healthy behaviors—sneezing into your elbow, washing your hands frequently - and your child will follow suit.

Winter is Coming!!!

It is starting to get chillier outside, and the students are out for extended periods of time at lunch recess and in the afternoon (at some grade levels.) Once the snow is sticking to the ground, we expect the children to wear snow pants and boots as well. Please STOP your child on the way out the door and make sure he/she is dressed for cold weather! If you are in need of assistance to purchase winter clothing for your child, contact Ms. Eide at 793-2351.

Open Gym

At this point we do not have Open Gym scheduled. We are looking for a supervisor. If you are interested in applying for the position, please contact Mr. Fodness at 793-2497.

Once a supervisor is hired, I will send out additional information regarding the scheduled times.

OPEN GYM



We are hosting a Title information meeting on Monday, Nov. 23rd at 6:45. This meeting is for parents who have children that are receiving Title services. Following the Title meeting, we will have a school-wide "Read with Your Parents" night from 7:00 - 8:00. This is open to all families that attend Castlewood School. Please come and enjoy some time reading with your child/children!!!



Once again Castlewood will participate in the Scripps Spelling Bee contest. Students in grades 5 - 8 are invited to be part of the competition. This year's Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday, Nov. 19th at 3:35 in the south gym. If our lady Warriors make it to State Volleyball, the Spelling Bee will be moved to Monday, Nov. 23rd. Please join us to cheer on the students who are participating. The final three students will advance to the regional competition.

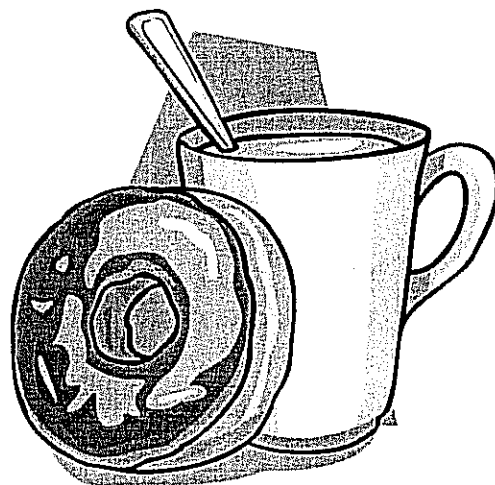
Goodies for Grandparents

As a part of American Education Week, the school is hosting a "Goodies for Grandparents" Event. All grandparents are invited to join their grandchild/grandchildren for a complimentary breakfast of pastries, orange juice or coffee on Tuesday, Nov. 17th from 7:40-8:05 in the school lunchroom. If grandparents are not able to attend, parents may come in their place. Grandparents will receive their meal for free (compliments of the Castlewood School). Students will go through the regular breakfast line and pay for their meal.

Please RSVP by returning this form to the school no later than Monday, November 9th. We look forward to seeing all of you on Nov. 17th for breakfast.

_____ & _____ will accompany
(Grandparent or Parent's name) (Grandparent or Parent's name)

_____ for breakfast on Tuesday, Nov. 17th.
(Student's name)





Castlewood School District - Master Calendar



| November 2015 | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 1 Daylight Saving Time ends (turn clocks back 1 hour) | 2 FB Play-offs | 3 End of 1st quarter VB Districts - Castlewood vs Lake Preston at 6:00 p.m. at White | 4 CEO meets at 3:35 Oral Interp Districts at Brookings | 5 Bookmobile 9:00-1:30 VB Districts at highest seed | 6 | 7 FB Play-offs |
| 8 | 9 Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. PTO Meeting at 5:30 p.m. | 10 Chess Club (gr. 4-6) 3:30-4:15 Elementary Staff Meeting at 3:35 VB Regions | 11 No NTHS Staff Meetings at 7:50 & 8:30 Veterans Day Program at Memorial Park at 10:30 (Jrs and Srs will attend) | 12 No Chess Club State FB Championships at Vermillion - 9A at 10:30 | 13 State FB Championships at Vermillion | 14 State FB Championships at Vermillion |
| 15 | 16 American Education Week (Nov. 16-20) Oral Interp Regions | 17 Chess Club (gr. 4-6) 3:30-4:15 Goodies for Grandparents - Come and have breakfast with your grandchildren (7:40-8:05) Packing for Back PACH program at HEC at 4:00 p.m. Volunteers welcome Parent & Athlete meetings - GBB at 7:00 pm, BBB at 7:30 pm | 18 ALL Staff Meeting 3:35-4:15 | 19 Chess Club (gr. 1-3) 3:30-4:15 Spelling Bee (gr. 5-8) at 3:35 (conflict date is Nov. 23) State VB Tournament at Sloux Falls | 20 State VB Tournament at Sloux Falls | 21 State VB Tournament at Sloux Falls |
| 22 | 23 GBB practice begins JH BB practice for boys and girls begins READ with your PARENTS night 7:00-8:00 (Title I Parent Meeting at 6:45) | 24 Chess Club (gr. 1-3) 3:30-4:15 | 25 No School / No NTHS | 26 No School / No NTHS - Happy Thanksgiving | 27 No School / No NTHS | 28 |
| 29 | 30 BBB practice begins | | | | | |



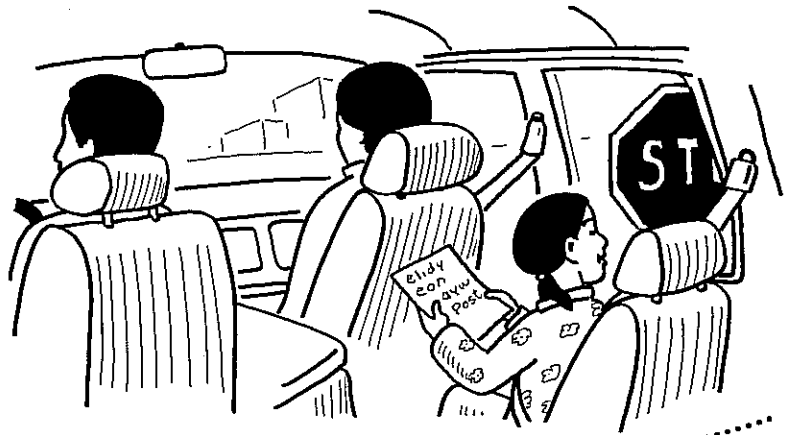
Castlewood School District - Lunch Menu



| November 2015 | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|---|--|--|----------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 1 | <p>2</p> <p>Breakfast - Pancakes and sausage</p> <p>Lunch - Chicken fajitas, black beans, mixed vegetables, lettuce, bananas, pineapple</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Breakfast - Breakfast pizza</p> <p>Lunch - Hamburger on WG bun, potato wedges, lettuce, peaches, apple</p> | <p>4</p> <p>Breakfast - Burritos</p> <p>Lunch - Mini corn dogs, baked beans, salad mix, applesauce, oranges</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Breakfast - Scrambled eggs and ham</p> <p>Lunch - Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, green beans, pears, apples</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Breakfast - Coffee cake</p> <p>Lunch - Pizza wheels, tator sticks, lettuce, mandarin oranges, apples</p> | 7 |
| 8 | <p>9</p> <p>Breakfast - Egg and sausage sandwich</p> <p>Lunch - Glazed chicken dippers, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, bread, pineapple, bananas</p> | <p>10</p> <p>Breakfast - French toast sticks</p> <p>Lunch - Sub sandwich, tri tator, vegetable salad, mandarin oranges, apples</p> | <p>11</p> <p>Breakfast - Biscuits and gravy</p> <p>Lunch - Super nachos, refried beans, lettuce, corn, pears, apples</p> | <p>12</p> <p>Breakfast - Egg and cheese mcmuffin</p> <p>Lunch - Fish sticks, mashed potatoes, steamed carrots, bread, salad mix, applesauce, oranges</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Breakfast - Breakfast bar</p> <p>Lunch - Ham patties on WG bun, cheese sauce, sweet potato nuggets, peaches, apples</p> | 14 |
| 15 | <p>16</p> <p>Breakfast - Breakfast sticks</p> <p>Lunch - Chicken noodle soup, crackers, cheese bread, mixed fruit, bananas</p> | <p>17</p> <p>Breakfast - Pastries (Goodies for Grandparents)</p> <p>Lunch - Hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots, salad mix, pears, oranges</p> | <p>18</p> <p>Breakfast - Waffles and sausage</p> <p>Lunch - Tuna wiggles, crackers, peanut butter bread, corn, mandarin oranges, apples</p> | <p>19</p> <p>Breakfast - Cheese omelet</p> <p>Lunch - Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, peaches, apples</p> | <p>20</p> <p>Breakfast - Cinnamon roll</p> <p>Lunch - Taco burgers, tri tator, lettuce, black bean salad, refried beans, applesauce, oranges</p> | 21 |
| 22 | <p>23</p> <p>Breakfast - Pancakes and sausage</p> <p>Lunch - Chicken wraps, lettuce, black beans, pineapple, oranges</p> | <p>24</p> <p>Breakfast - Breakfast bagel</p> <p>Lunch - Pizza, lettuce, mandarin oranges, apples</p> | <p>25</p> <p>No School</p> | <p>26</p> <p>Happy Thanksgiving</p> <p>No School</p> | <p>27</p> <p>No School</p> | 28 |
| 29 | <p>30</p> <p>Breakfast - Egg and sausage sandwich</p> <p>Lunch - Beef tacos, refried beans, lettuce, pears, bananas, fresh veggies and Ranch</p> | | | | | |

Let's Break for Learning

Learning can happen every day, whether your child is reading at the breakfast table, looking up at the moon, or playing on a jungle gym. Here are some fun activities that can help your youngster with reading, writing, math, science, and social studies.



Breakfast read-a-thon



Add a taste of reading to your child's breakfast. Have him draw a circular "track" on a piece of paper and divide it into 26 sections—one

for each "mile" of his book marathon. (Note: A real marathon is 26.2 miles.) Depending on your youngster's age and reading level, each of his "miles" could be a page or a chapter of a book. Then, he can read at breakfast each morning and color in a section for each page or chapter he reads. How many reading marathons can he complete?

Money minute

Let your child use spare change to practice addition and money skills. Name an amount that's less than \$1 (say, 16 cents). She tries to use the fewest number of coins to make that amount (1 dime, 1 nickel, 1 penny). Then, she can make the amount using the most coins (16 pennies) or using different combinations (3 nickels and 1 penny, 2 nickels and 6 pennies).

Where is my team?

Give your youngster an excuse to learn a little geography while he's watching his favorite team play. Help him look up the city where they are playing on a map or in an atlas. What can he tell about the *topography* (geographic features) of the area? (Perhaps it is mountainous or flat.) For an extra challenge, have him use the mileage scale to find out how far away the game is from your hometown. *Variation:* Help a younger child locate the state where the team is playing.

Road-sign scramble

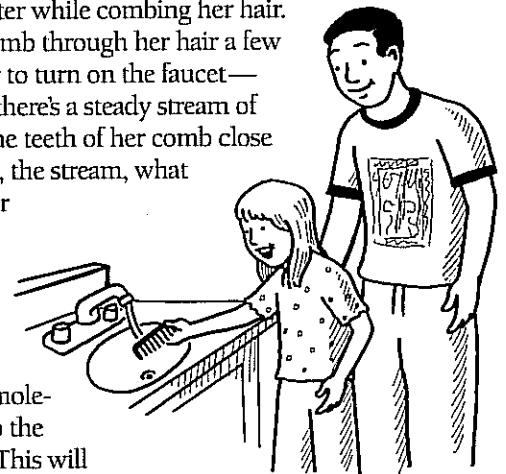
Make a quick word scramble for your child before you go someplace in the car. Think of a few signs you might see (*yield, one way, stop*), and scramble each word or phrase on a piece of paper (*elidy, eon ayw, post*). Have your youngster take the paper along and try to spot the signs to help her unscramble the words. As she plays, she'll practice word recognition and spelling skills.

Draw the moon

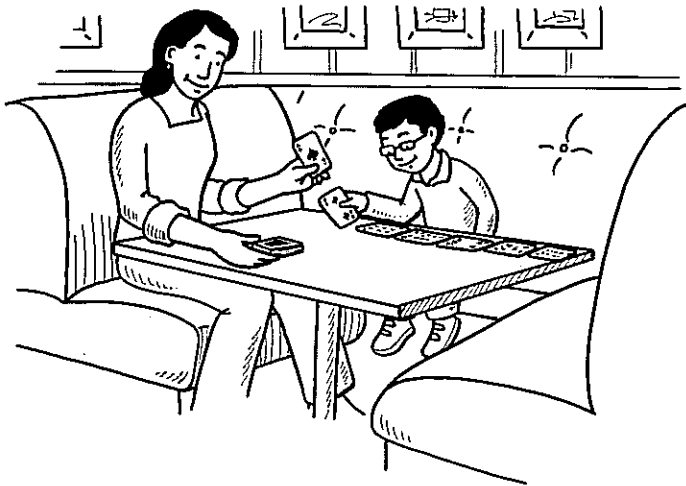
This project will show your youngster how the moon changes from night to night. Just before bed, have him look out a window at the moon. Let him draw what he sees on a sheet of paper. After doing this every clear night for a week or two, what does he notice? (The moon's shape is slightly different each night.)

Bending water

This science experiment lets your child bend a stream of water while combing her hair. Have her pull the comb through her hair a few times. Then, ask her to turn on the faucet—just enough so that there's a steady stream of water. If she holds the teeth of her comb close to, but not touching, the stream, what happens? (The water bends toward the comb.) That's because the comb is charged with static electricity from her hair, and the water molecules are attracted to the charged comb. *Tip:* This will work better on a dry day.



continued



Measure it

Going to a restaurant? Take along a deck of cards (or pad of sticky notes). Your youngster can work on measurement and estimation while you're waiting for your food. Ask him to measure the table, menu, chair, and other items—with the cards. Before he starts, have him estimate the length. ("How many cards long do you think this table is?") Then, he can line up cards end to end to check his guess and tell you how many he used. ("This table is 24 cards long.")

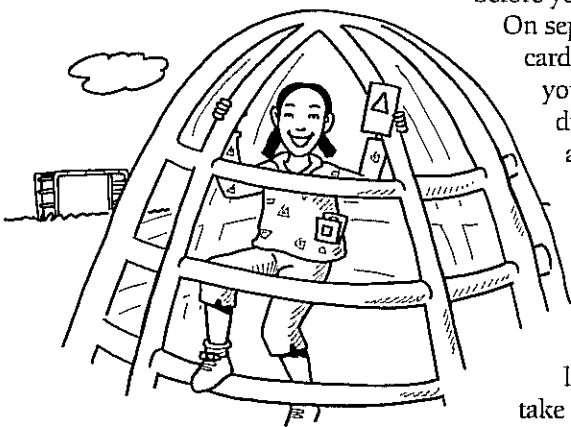
Outdoor geometry

Shapes, angles, lines ... the playground is full of opportunities to discover geometry. Make a geometry scavenger hunt before your next visit.

On separate index cards, you and your child can draw shapes and geometric figures (circle, square, rectangle, triangle, right angle, parallel lines). Then, take the cards

with you to the play-

ground—can she find each one? For example, the legs of the swing set form a triangle, and the ladder on the slide has parallel lines.



Rubber-band race

Try this contest to see which family member can make a rubber band fly the farthest. Your youngster will get a lesson in motion and energy. Making sure to stay a safe distance apart, have each person slip a rubber band over his finger, pull it back, and let go to launch it across the yard. Ask your child

what happens if he barely stretches it (it doesn't go very far) or if he stretches it as far as possible (it flies farther). Explain that the more he stretches the band, the more energy he gives it, and the farther it will go.

Memory cards

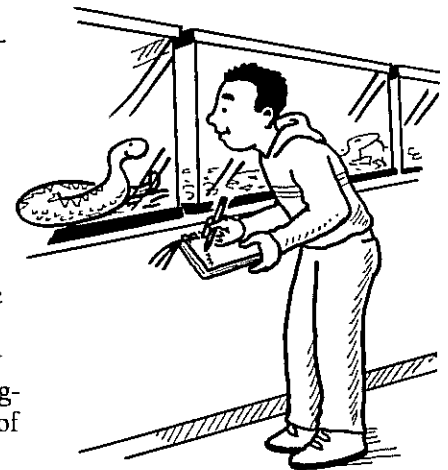
While sorting through outgrown clothing or toys, give your child a reason to write. Suggest that she fill an index card with a memory about the item she has outgrown. ("I remember wearing these jeans to go fishing with Daddy. I caught my first catfish on that trip.") If the outfit will be handed down to a younger sibling or cousin, she can share the memory card—maybe the recipient will be able to add her own memory, and a family heirloom will be created!

Video history

Family movie night can encourage your youngster to explore history. Look for family movies set in other time periods (for example, *Mary Poppins* takes place in 1910). Together, compare how things are in the movie with how they are now. You could also encourage your child to learn about historical events that happened in the same time period by reading library books or searching online at a website like *brainy history.com*.

Idea notebook

When you're on the go, use everyday opportunities to help your child discover new interests—and boost his motivation to read about them. For instance, he might be fascinated by a snake he spots at the pet store or curious about black-and-white photography he sees at an art fair. Suggest that he keep track of these new interests in a notebook. Then, he could use the notes to help him select books at the library.



What's cooking?

Your youngster can practice descriptive writing by making a dinner menu for your family. Show her a few take-out menus or online menus so she can see how foods are described ("A thick slice of creamy cheesecake topped with plump, juicy strawberries"). Then, let her know what's for dinner and have her draw pictures and write descriptions of each course ("Fresh green salad with ripe cherry tomatoes and sweet, tangy raspberry dressing"). She can post her menu on the refrigerator or write it on a chalkboard.