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SHARK BITES

DECEMBER 2023

WHERE EVERY STUDENT EXCELS

December's Message from Mrs. Terry

Season's Greetings Schoeffner Shark Families,

We had a wonderful month of November filled with many opportunities to be thankful and grateful! Families donated to United Way of St. Charles and Matthew 25:35 Food pantry. During our Community Meetings students learned about the benefits of showing gratitude. Ask your child to tell you about the gratitude jar. Maybe you could start this activity at home.

Check out the ESE Pep Squad in the Norco Christmas Parade on Sunday, December 3rd. Be sure to save your throws. Big news will be coming soon.

4H and ESE faculty members helped prepare food baskets at Matthew 25:35 food pantry with the donated items from ESE and other community members.

The Benefits of Gratitude



Source: Morin (2014)

PositivePsychology.com



Unfortunately, we had to postpone our Family Day Picnic. While it didn't end up raining, it wasn't a very nice day to be outside. We are working on another date in the Spring.

During December, our 4H will be sponsoring our annual Teddy Cares drive. All students will be able to dress down on Friday, December 1. We invite families to make a monetary donation to go towards purchasing teddy bears and other gifts for children battling cancer in local hospitals. If you are unable to participate with monetary donations, consider offering positive thoughts or prayers for those in need. Helping to promote kindness continues to be one of our school's goals this year. When others are treated with kindness and respect they are likely to reciprocate these actions. Let our ESE family continue to be that positive example for others!

Please have a conversation with your child regarding following school expectations. All actions should be centered around Respecting Yourself, Respecting Others, and Respecting Our Environment. In the past, we have seen some students' efforts and positive attitude decrease during the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We should be striving to Be the Best We Can Be everyday!

As we close out this calendar year and prepare to welcome 2024, know that the faculty and staff of ESE remain committed to our Mission, *providing a high-quality education enabling all students to work independently and cooperatively as empathetic, respectful, and productive life-long learners.* We wish you all a wonderful holiday season and many blessings for the new year.

December Counselor Connection



I have been working with students through Morning Meetings to learn about cultivating an Attitude of Gratitude. Expanding on the tradition of naming what one is thankful for at Thanksgiving and instead turning it into a regular or even daily practice. Learning to train our brains to focus on the positives also helps cope with more challenging days. It's been a fun filled lesson and the kids are always eager to share. I will continue this lesson through December as well. Students also participated in a gratitude activity during their grade level community meetings before the break.



CONTACT ME

Mrs. Jackson

Mental Health Professional

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985-725-0123



Try starting a gratitude jar
with your family, regularly
adding & then reading together
the things you all appreciate
in your life!



FIRE PREVENTION FOR KIDS



December is an important month to review fire safety and prevention. It is a common time of the year when heaters, stoves, candles and holiday decorations are running more frequently. Kids are curious about fire. Teaching your children about fire hazards, as well as practicing a fire escape plan with your family, can help prevent accidents and injuries.

1. Working smoke alarms reduce the chances of dying in a fire by nearly 50 percent. Consider installing a smoke alarm that has a 10-year battery. Test batteries every six months.
2. Teach kids never to play with matches, lighters or fireworks. Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn, and always blow them out when you leave the room or before you go to sleep. Teach older kids not to use candles in their bedrooms, unless supervised by an adult.
3. Use common sense in the kitchen. Limit distractions when cooking and don't leave a hot oven or stovetop unattended. Move household items, such as wooden spoons and dish towels, away from fire sources. Have a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of emergency, and make sure you know how it works. You might be surprised that most people don't know how to use one.
4. Children should know how to respond to the sound of a smoke alarm. Teach them to get low and get out when they hear it. A child who is coached properly ahead of time will have a better chance to be safe. Practice feeling the door, doorknob and cracks around the door with the back of your hand to see if they are too hot. Help your children practice this step.
5. Together, have your family plan and practice a home fire escape plan with two ways out of your house in case of a fire. It is important to have an alternate exit in case one is blocked by fire.
6. If you cannot safely escape your home or apartment, keep smoke out of the room by covering vents and cracks around the door and call 911 or your fire department as quickly as possible. Then signal for help at the window with a light-colored cloth or a flashlight.
7. To prevent possible fires, avoid plugging several appliance cords into the same electrical socket.
8. If using gasoline-powered devices, store gasoline in a locked location where children cannot access it. Keep only small quantities in an approved container that has child safety features.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions, concerns or discussions.

Your School Nurse, Jamie Byrd, RN, BSN jbyrd1@stcharles.k12.la.us

Have a safe and blessed Christmas break.

3rd Grade

Third graders are excited to be ending the second quarter! It has been a busy year for them. In math, we are currently working on Module 3 where we are learning about multiplication and division with units of 0, 1, 6, 7, 8 and 9. They are focusing on strategies to multiply efficiently and apply their learning as they solve word problems.

In science, we are finishing our unit on how monarch butterflies survive in a changing environment and will start our next unit on traits. Students were able to watch butterflies move through their life cycle and then release them into their natural habitat.

In ELA, our third graders are enjoying our Because of Winn Dixie Unit. We are examining different unlikely friendships in both literary and informational texts. Students are also engaging in class discussions about why it's important to have friends who are different from us. We are excited to watch them continue to grow in this new unit!

4th Grade

4th graders have been busy bees in the classroom. 4th grade scientists have been exploring energy. Students participated in energy stations to help them identify the indicators of energy. From there, students investigated to learn how energy transfers. We will soon explore how energy transforms. 4th grade mathematicians have been learning how to multiply and divide multi-digit numbers using strategies such as the area model, the place value chart, and partial quotients. Students are also applying multiplication and division skills to standard measurement conversions. As readers and writers, our students have been engaged in Greek mythology to gain a deeper understanding of the characteristics of myths in preparation for reading The Lightning Thief. Afterwards, the students will compare and contrast The Lightning Thief and Where the Mountain Meets the Moon. Even though students are not receiving grades in social studies this year, we are still engaging in the social studies curriculum. We are wrapping up our learning about Prehistory and the Agricultural Revolution, and we will soon begin learning about the Ancient Near East.

5th Grade

Greetings Families! Our Fabulous Fifth Graders are being challenged more and more every day. Please continue supporting us by motivating students to continue showing up each day to give their best and by reinforcing school expectations at home.

In ELA, students are learning all about the genre of fantasy in the new unit, *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*! Our students have been enjoying reading the novel and analyzing the story elements.

Our scientists have been learning about where plants and animals get the matter they need for growth. They learned about producers, consumers, and decomposers in a food chain. We had a special guest speaker (Mrs. Prieto's sister) Brianne Voros from the LSU Health Science Center. Ms. Voros explained how composting works. The students then got the opportunity to make a classroom compost bin. Students will continue to learn about food webs and the role they play in different ecosystems.

Students are going back in time to the Middle Ages in social studies. They are researching what the world was like at the beginning of the medieval time period. They will continue to study the development of feudalism, the Crusades, the Black Death, and the Hundred Years' War.

In Math, students have learned how to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions. They are spending time on word problems before moving on to decimals in module 4.

Literacy Tips for Parents

- **Make reading a part of your daily routine.** Establishing a routine helps ensure that reading is part of your daily schedule, such as at bedtime. It also creates a time that both of you can look forward to.
- **Take turns reading.** Let your child turn the pages of the book while you take turns reading paragraphs.
- **Read with passion!** Using inflection in your voice helps your child stay interested in the story. Your reading should sound like you are telling a story to someone.
- **Ask questions about the book.** As you read together, make the experience interactive by asking questions. For example, "Why do you think...?" or "What do you think will happen next?"
- **Have your child retell.** Ask your child to tell you the basic plot of the book, what a character is like, or retell certain parts or chapter.
- **Set an example.** Let your child see you reading to encourage them to read, too. This will help develop their own love of reading.

November Students of the Month

Micah McNulty, Hazel Ferris, Alessandro Rosales, Zachary Michiels, Brayson Ficaro, Spencer Stewart, Gannon Bornholdt, Jackson Vasseur, Christiana Nunnery, Harlem Love, Morgan Howard, Blaize Gorman, Alexis Rivas, Tyler Le, Liliana Rodriguez, Lila Ragusa, Mason McVay, Landon Matherne, William Guzman

4H Meeting Dates & Time

December 20

January 31

February 28

March 27

All meetings are from
3:05-4:05 PM

Please pick up students
promptly at 4:05 PM

Ethel Schoeffner Elementary is excited
to stay connected with families through social media!



Follow us on:

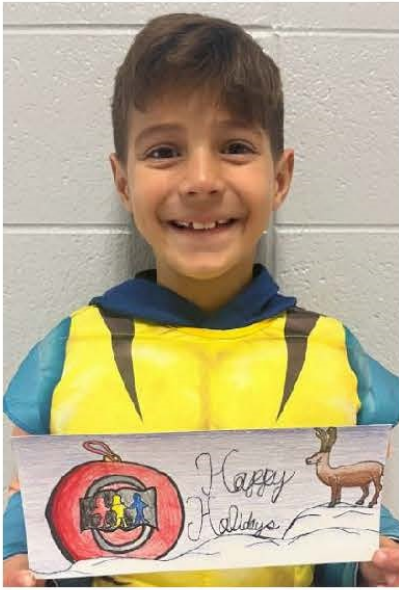
Twitter
[@ESE_Sharks](#)

Instagram
[@Schoeffnerelementary](#)



You can see our Sharks in action!

Talented Art



Talented Art students have been busy bees this year at ESE! Third graders finished their oil pastel pumpkins and dragon eyes made from model magic and marbles. The students were able to learn about texture and color schemes. Next up for this group is a value and still life study with acrylic paint, tints, and shades. The fabulous fourth graders completed Tim Burton style self-portraits and have begun making totem spoons and learning about the history of totem poles. This group will soon begin studying optical illusions. The fifth graders have done an in depth study of Indian corn and have used mixed media to create a still life painting of Indian corn. These 5th graders will display their in depth knowledge of value with charcoal and white color pencil on a large scale drawing. All talented art students have developed a unique and creative design to submit to the district Holiday Card contest. More amazing work to come!

If you feel your child shows above average abilities in art and would like more information about the Talented Art program and screening process, please contact Christen Ferris at cferris@stcharles.k12.la.us.



What's the BOZZ in Gifted?

Students in gifted recently put their problem solving skills to the test at their annual Math Day field trip. Students began their day by participating in a Noetic Learning math contest where they competed against their gifted peers from across St. Charles Parish. Congratulations to all of our gifted sharks for persevering in solving these complex word problems. ESE's winning sharks included 3rd graders Emerson Cerny (2nd place) and Spencer Stewart (3rd place). In 4th grade, Julia England placed 2nd and in 5th grade, Mason McVay placed 3rd. All students' scores will be compiled to form teams to represent SCP for a National Competition.



Students spent the remainder of Math day completing Thanksgiving themed problem solving tasks and Stem challenges.



Sam the Squirrel found a basket of pine cones one morning. He decided that every day he would double the number of pine cones in the basket in the morning and eat 2 pine cones out of the basket in the afternoon. At the end of the third day, there were 34 pine cones in the basket. How many pine cones were in the basket when Sam the Squirrel found it?



Congratulations!

*Ethel Schoeffner '23-'24
Teacher of the Year Nominees*



ISABELLA BRADLEY



APRIL CHAUVIN



KELLY ONCALE



CHERYL LANDRY



MONA WEXLER



AMANDA MORGAN



MONICA MIRE



JENNIFER MACK



AIMEE SOIGNIER



DANA DEJEAN



December 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Teddy Cares Dress Down for \$1.00 (or more) Donation for 4H 	2
3 Norco Christmas Parade - ESE Pep Squad Marching	4 Student of the Month Luncheons	5	6	7	8 ESE Science & Social Studies Fair	9
10 Norco Christmas Parade - ESE Pep Squad Marching	11 Student of the Month Luncheons	12	13 Band & Choir Concert @ DHS Auditorium 6 PM	14	15 3rd Grade Artsperience - The Nutcracker ----- SOY Nominee Luncheon	16
17 Norco Christmas Parade - ESE Pep Squad Marching	18 D.A.R.E. Graduation 9 AM	19	20 4H Meeting 3:05-4:05 PM	21 Early Dismissal 11:55 AM Faculty Study	22 ~ CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS ~	23
24 Norco Christmas Parade - ESE Pep Squad Marching	25 Student of the Month Luncheons	26 Student of the Month Luncheons	27 Student of the Month Luncheons	28 Student of the Month Luncheons	29 Student of the Month Luncheons	30
31 Student of the Month Luncheons	 ~ CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS ~					

ELEMENTARY MENUS DECEMBER 2023



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Menus are subject to change.

OUR NATION'S HISTORY

Cranberries are considered a very American food. Native Americans made cranberry sauce by sweetening the tart berries with maple syrup. When it was discovered that cranberries grew very well in "bogs" of shallow water, cultivation of the fruit spread from New England to Wisconsin to the Pacific Northwest - and even to Europe! When an American ship loaded with cranberries sank along the Dutch coast, crates of the berries washed ashore and broke up. Some of the berries took root, and cranberries have been cultivated on certain Dutch islands ever since!

WITH LIBERTY & JUSTICE FOR ALL



Available Daily

With all meals
Low Fat White Milk
Fat Free Flavored Milk

Cold Lunch Choice

Monday: Sunbutter Sandwich
Tuesday: Chef Salad
Weds.: Deli Turkey
or Ham Sandwich
Thursday: **Charley Box**
Friday: Sunbutter Sandwich

Brain Ticklers



What do you call a snowman in the summer time?

(Hold the page upside down and read it in a mirror for the answer!)

44 bxcqk6j

Friday, December 1

Breakfast

Fresh Donut
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Fresh Hot Pizza
Marinara Sauce
Garden Salad
Fruit of the Month
Brownie w/Cing

YOU'RE GOOD

ALL STUDENTS EAT ALL MEALS @
NO COST ALL YEAR LONG



Monday, December 4

Breakfast

Parfait Bowl or
Breakfast Burrito
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Chicken Tenders
Waffles w/Syrup
Green Beans
Carrots
Applesauce

Tuesday, December 5

Breakfast

Chicken Biscuit
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Orange Chicken
Fried Rice
Broccoli Florets
Asian Chopped Salad
Tropical Fruit

Wednesday, December 6

Breakfast

St. Charley Cinnamon Roll
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Chicken/Sausage Gumbo
Steamed Rice
Potato Salad
Garden Salad, Crackers
Banana

Thursday, December 7

Breakfast

Sausage Biscuit
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Italian Beef & Cheese Mac
Peas
Italian Salad
Garlic Bread
Pineapples

Friday, December 8

Breakfast

French Toast Sticks
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Mini Corn Dogs
Baked Beans
Celery & Carrot w/Ranch Dip
Orange Wedges
Jello w/Whipped Topping

HAPPIER HOLIDAYS.

Want to avoid over-eating during the holidays? Make sure you eat breakfast every morning.

Missing that first meal of the day can cause you to feel intense cravings and extreme hunger, making it difficult to avoid high fat, high sugar temptations.

EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER. LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER.
WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!



Reindeer

In some parts of the world, reindeer are harnessed to pull sleds, so you might guess that their name comes from the "reins" they wear. And you'd be wrong! The name actually comes from a very ancient Norse word that simply means "horned animal." The North American name for the reindeer, "caribou," comes from a Native American word, "qalipu." Roughly translated, that word means "snow shoveler," which is a description of the way the reindeer paws the ground free of snow to find food!



Here's wishing you a bright and happy holiday season!



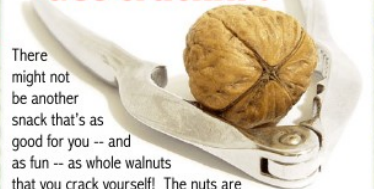
The entire
Child Nutrition
Staff at St. Charles
Parish Public Schools



Get crackin'!

There might not be another snack that's as good for you -- and as fun -- as whole walnuts that you crack yourself! The nuts are filling and tasty, and the process of breaking them open involves more effort than mindlessly stuffing yourself with chips. Plus walnuts are loaded with stuff that's good for you -- for instance, walnuts are one of the few non-fish sources of super-healthy omega-3 fatty acids.

Learn more at www.CHOOSEMYPLATE.gov or http://kidshealth.org/kid/stay_healthy/food/pyramid.html



Monday, December 11

Breakfast

Pancakes
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Dill Chicken Chunks
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli Florets
Garlic Knot
Peach Slices

Tuesday, December 12

Breakfast

Chicken Biscuit
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Fish Sticks
Macaroni & Cheese
Green Beans
Cucumber & Tomato Salad
Apple Wedges

Wednesday, December 13

Breakfast

St. Charley Cinnamon Roll
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Chili
Fritos
Shredded Cheese
Corn, Garden Salad
Banana

Thursday, December 14

Breakfast

Sausage Biscuit
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Chicken/Sausage Jambalaya
White Beans
Steamed Carrots
WW Roll
Pineapple

Friday, December 15

Breakfast

Muffin Choice w/Cheese
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Hamburger/Cheeseburger
Crimble Cut Fries
Lettuce/Tomato/Pickle
Orange Wedges
Cookie

Monday, December 18

Breakfast

Pancake on a Stick
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Chicken Alfredo Pasta
Green Beans
Carrots
Applesauce

Tuesday, December 19

Breakfast

Chicken Biscuit
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Roasted Chicken
Mashed Potatoes
Corn
WW Roll
Pear Halves

Wednesday, December 20

Breakfast

St. Charley Cinnamon Roll
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Christmas Brunch

Scrambled Eggs
Sausage Pattie, Grits
Biscuit, Potato Coins
Fruit Juice

Thursday, December 21

Breakfast

Sausage Biscuit
Cereal w/Graham Crackers
Yogurt w/Tiger Bites
Fruit or Juice Choice

Lunch

Bosco Sticks
Marinara Sauce Cup
Green Beans
Pineapple Tidbits



Last day of school:
Thursday, December 21

Classes Resume
Monday, January 8