



# NEWS FROM THE NEST

Emmons Lake Elementary

Nov. 15, 2024

Educational Excellence... Every Day, Every Child!

THE WEEK at a glance



MON.	TUES.	WEDS.	Thurs.	FRI.
11/18 <u>Giving Tree Started</u>	11/19 PTO Meeting	11/20	11/21	11/22
11/25	11/26	11/27 Thanksgiving Break Begins	11/28 No School	11/29

## A note from the Principal:

Emmons Lake Community,

I want to take a moment to share some important information about attendance and the need to ensure your student is at school every day. I know many of you have received attendance notices, and some are now getting phone calls or requests to attend attendance meetings. Here is some context to help you understand where this is coming from.

Last year, Emmons Lake had 53 students who were chronically absent—over 13% of our entire school population. A student is considered chronically absent if they miss 10% or more of the school year, which equates to 18 or more absences. I believe deeply in the work our teachers and staff do here at Emmons Lake, but the benefits of a robust educational experience can't be realized when students are not in class.

Our data would indicate that this is a systemic issue that requires a systemic solution. To address chronic absenteeism, our attendance team is meeting monthly to analyze data and develop action plans for each student. If your student reaches the 10% absence threshold, you will receive an attendance tracker and a letter from me. This is to ensure that attendance is on your radar and to inform you that we are monitoring your student's attendance. If there are additional absences the following month, I will contact you to schedule an attendance improvement plan meeting. These meetings are held from a place of care and concern, where our team seeks to listen fully and works with your family to ensure your student is able to attend school regularly. If the attendance improvement plan is not followed after the meeting, Kent ISD Truancy will be contacted, and the ISD will communicate directly with your family.

We care deeply about your students and feel privileged to serve them every day.

We want them to reach their full potential, both at Emmons and beyond, but we need them here to do that. If you would like to learn more about attendance, please feel free to email me or call the office.

We will have our next lockdown drill coming up on November 21. These are drills that are mandated by the state to help our school community prepare if we were to ever find ourselves in an unfortunate emergency situation. That being said, they are heavy topics to talk about and we want to be respectful that some families would like to have additional conversations with their students around these types of drills. Thank you!

Educationally Yours, Nathan Walters



## Beginning & End:

Breakfast: 8:30 am    EndTime : 3:45pm  
Doors Open: 8:35 am    Half Day: 12:00 pm

## Contact Us:



Nancy Andreano  
Angela Royce



616-528-8100

Students arriving after 8:50 am will need a hall pass.

### Absences:

If your child will be absent for any reason, please be sure to contact the teacher and the office as soon as possible. If we don't hear from you, the absence is marked as no contact and counts towards truancy.

### End of Day Info:

All changes must be called in before 2:30 pm  
Students leaving early, please do so before 3:15 pm.

## Upcoming Events:

### Emmons Lake Calendar

- 11/13 Giving Tree Begins
- 11/27 Thanksgiving Break Begins
- 12/10 3rd/4th grade Holiday Concert
- 12/12 Giving Tree Ends

# S.O.A.R.

Safety, Ongoing Kindness, Act Responsibly, Respect



## Table Talk :

Ask your student how they are S.O.A.R.ing at school.

As many of you know, last month we held an Ongoing Kindness Assembly, and its impact has been a heartwarming success! This year, our assembly themes align with our S.O.A.R. acronym, and our next assembly will focus on "Acting Responsibly."

A key part of our assemblies involve recognizing students who consistently display the focus character trait.. After defining what the trait looks and sounds like, we celebrate students who embody it at school. There are two levels of recognition:

1. "Super Eagle Award": About one-third of each class will be recognized for consistently demonstrating the trait of the assembly. Super Eagle award winners will have their name called, receive a lanyard, and choose a special prize as a token of appreciation.
2. "Super SOAR Award": One student from each class is selected as the Super SOAR Student for that trait. This student's family is invited to attend the assembly, receive a t-shirt, and select a special prize as a thank-you for being a leader in our school community.

We are grateful for your partnership as we strive not only to talk about what a positive school culture is but to live it through our actions and behaviors. Thank you for helping all of our students at Emmons SOAR!

# Things to Know:

## Giving Tree

# 2024

GIFT REQUEST  
Jan M.

Browse the Giving Tree Wish List Here:

Unwrapped gifts can be dropped off to Emmons Lake  
No Later than Dec. 12th.



## Helpful Links Below:

[Morning and Afternoon Drop Info](#)

[Birthday Treats in the Classroom](#)

[School Health Program & Med Forms](#)

[Emmons Lake Website Here](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[Mobile App Support](#)

[PowerSchool](#)

[Volunteer Forms](#)

[Food Service Website](#)

[Printable Breakfast & Lunch Menu](#)



### Michigan Weather/Outside Recess:

The weather is changing so please be sure your child comes prepared for outdoor recess. Also, please make sure that your child's name is on all their clothing, it helps us return those items that are misplaced back to your child, and keeps the lost and found pile from growing.



 holiday™  
treasures  
gift shop

*Our in-school holiday shop for kids*

Coming the Week of December 2nd



[Click here for more Info](#)



Please join us as we wrap up the year with some fun PTO events! On November 19, we will be hosting our 2nd PTO Meeting of the year in the cafeteria at 4pm and we would love to see you there! December 2-6 we will also be running our annual Holiday Gift Shop!! Be on the lookout for upcoming volunteer sign up opportunities. On Monday and Tuesday students will be able to preview items for parents to review. Shopping will take place on Wednesday and Thursday with final close up on Friday. More information to come!! As always, participation is optional, but this has always been a fun experience for our kids!! Lastly, the PTO wishes you all a wonderful Thanksgiving!! We are so thankful to be a part of the wonderful Emmons Community and hope you all enjoy some time off with loved ones!!

## Upcoming PTO Events:

### Upcoming Dates:

Nov. 19th PTO Meeting!

Dec. 2nd Holiday Gift Shop Begins

As always, reach out to the PTO with any questions!

### Emmons PTO Board

Emily Murphy, President  
Josie Young, Vice President  
Candice Harig, Treasurer  
Ashley Marchand, Secretary  
Loreliss Williams, Committee Chair  
Tarah Bernatche, Teacher Rep.  
<http://emmonsakepto.weebly.com>

### Emmons Lake and Cal Wear ~ **Holiday Sale Info**

**Sale Dates: 11/4/2024 - 12/10/2024**

**25% off all merchandise**

**Free shipping on orders over \$75**

**Guaranteed delivery by Dec. 23rd**

**Emmons Lake logos <https://1stplace.sale/48731>**

**Cal logos <https://1stplace.sale/47275>**

CAL  
OFFICIAL ONLINE SHOP

**HOLIDAY Sale**  
**25% OFF**

GUARANTEED DELIVERY BY DEC. 23RD

SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/47275  
SALE RUNS 11/4 - 12/10

1st Place SportsWear



# Attendance Matters

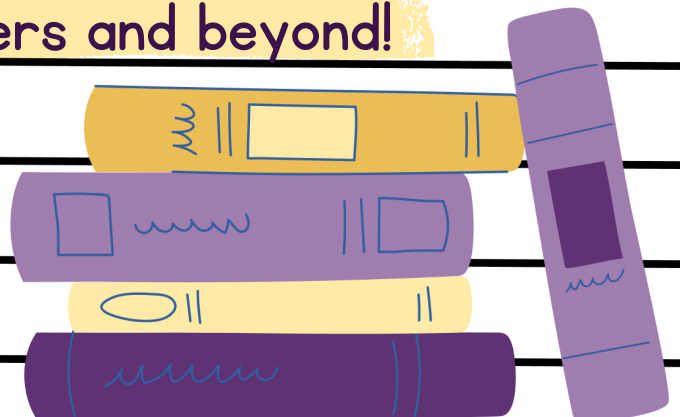
Regardless of the reason, when a student misses school they miss out!

Missing 2 days a month equates to 10% of their education missed. Arriving late or leaving early can also quickly add up

Attending school regularly helps children feel good about school. This habit will continue to be successful in their school careers and beyond!



**STRIVE  
FOR  
LESS  
THAN 5!**



# From the Community . . .



## Agri-Cal CTE Chicken Sale

The Agri-Cal CTE program has fresh chickens for sale at \$10 each! Funds from these sales directly support the program, providing resources for student learning, leadership development, and future field trips. Don't miss this opportunity to support the Agri-Cal students while bringing fresh, locally-raised chicken to your table! Check out their flyer for more information or order here. [PDF File Agri-Cal Chickens Flyer](#) [ORDER HERE:](#)



## KDL Winter Programs for Kids

Join us at the Kent District Library (Caledonia Branch) for various winter and holiday themed activities like petting reindeer, kids and teen craft show, winter animal themed crafts, and a Happy Noon Year party to help kids celebrate the new year. Check out our flyer for more information.

[PDF File KDL Winter Fun Flyer](#)



## "Spring Clean Out for CEF" Special Auction!



## Camp O'Malley Day Camp