



HUSKY HOWLER

Principally Speaking...

Assistant Principal, that is.

Adam Rupert, Assistant Principal, 7th Grade

Paul Harper, Assistant Principal, 8th Grade

Ereckson has many opportunities for our students. If your child is not involved in a student activity, we strongly encourage their participation in the many offered at our school. Involvement in extra-curricular activities and clubs is a proven way to improve grades, give students a sense of school pride, teach teamwork and collaboration, and motivate students in general. Besides Athletics, Band, Choir, Orchestra, or Theatre, we offer clubs such as Guitar Club, Game Club, Step Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Robotics, Student Council, NJHS, and many others as interests arise.

UIL participation is a great way to enhance current academics and helps to improve future college entrance exam scores. Teams are now being created so discuss this opportunity with your child. Information will be available through the daily announcements about UIL and clubs.

October Safety Tip: Make sure your student knows their area code, phone number, address, and zip code. If they have trouble remembering this information, help them write it down and carry it with them.

Students should always carry their student I.D. cards with them both at school and school events.

Thank you once again for allowing us to share in your student's success! **Go Huskies!**

Mark Your Calendars!

October

27 Parent PTA Program "How To Talk To Your Teens About Money" 8:15-9:30 am


31 **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!** 

November

23 - 27 *Thanksgiving Break* 

December

2 General PTA Meeting *followed by* PTA Parent Program, Freedom to Succeed, 6:45 pm, EMS Cafe

21 - Jan 1 *Winter Break* 

Don't Forget!

These PTA Parent Programs

"How To Talk To Your Teens About Money - The ABCs"

Tuesday, October 27 - 8:15-9:30 a.m.

Presented By: Chione Giacomarro and Ryan Landes, Primerica Financial Services, Dallas, TX

In today's world, our teens are exposed to so many mixed signals from their parents, friends, and advertising companies about money, it's value, and how to use it. Come learn and discuss the core principles to talk about with your teens and set them on the right path financially. Regardless of their age, learn strategies for teaching and talking about money with your teens.

Food Provided by The Egg & I Restaurant

Congratulations to the winners of the Six Week Citizenship Award

Chase Pond
Rosa Ortega
Tiger Scott
Madison Ward
Erica Niewold
Michael Grube
Jordyn Chang
Danny Sigler
Hannah Fry
Diego Malagamba
Tim Neary
Whitney Wright
Matthew Nelson
Aafiya Jamal
Hannah Wang



Zoe Zalenski
Clay Young
Johnathan Kelly
Eric Otero
Megan Miller
Sarina John
Luke Fox
Ellen Gotelli
Alexandra Politz
Nicholas Cobb
Jessica Wobig
Allen Tsai
Grant Brady
Anna Kraus
Ethan Hoyt



To our business sponsor for the 1st 6 weeks Citizenship Award:

Stamped Concrete & Exteriors of Texas

Freedom to Succeed

When: Wednesday, December 2 @ 7:00 p.m.

Where: EMS Cafeteria

Food donated by Ann Timmons, Pampered Chef consultant



REMINDER!
Picture Retake Day is
Tuesday November 10

Ereckson English Department

From the 7th Grade English Team

This six weeks students are learning to write a persuasive essay. Parents, students are writing these essays for you! Their objective is to convince you to buy them something or to give them a privilege. Our 7th graders will also be learning to vary their writing using simple, compound, and complex sentences. The six weeks will culminate in an exciting science fiction unit which will include Rod Serling's The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street as well as Daphne du Maurier's short story "The Birds."

Art Connection

Judi Oehler



We have enjoyed so many successes in art. You can witness the higher level thinking and planning, as well as hard work and heart that went into artwork that is on display. From contour drawings of shoes, non-objective paintings in values of black and white, to radial designs, abstracts and optical illusions in rich colors, the outcome has been impressive for middle school students.

I also want parents to know that as a teacher I have appreciated all the kindnesses, the willingness to work hard and learn new skills that students have shown. Many students have shown joy in their daily work and that has made all the difference.

Husky Boys Athletics

Joe Poorman

We want start by thanking all the parents and volunteers who helped out this year. Our participation numbers were extremely large with almost 250 athletes playing football. Without all those who volunteered to hand out pre-game meals, took and handed out the post games drinks, worked the chains along with all the behind the scene activities, this football season would not have run as smoothly as it did.

It has been a good year for the Ereckson Middle School Huskies. The Coaches are very pleased with the improvements and successes that we have seen this year with both the 7th and 8th grade football teams. Even though our records are not as good as everyone had hoped, we understand that success can be measured by more than just wins and losses. We must remember to look at the Big Picture; Rome was not built in a day. This year our athletes have shown great improvement in their maturity level, physical and mental strength, determination and knowledge of the game. With our hard work, we are continually getting better and that continual growth is what will eventually make our Huskies contributors to the **BEST FOOTBALL PROGRAM IN THE STATE**. It has been a pleasure working with every athlete and we are excited to see what their hard work this year brings them in years to come.

Huskies today...Eagles tomorrow!



Orchestra News

Mrs. Cimbalo

Hundreds of string players competed in the TMEA All-Region Orchestra competition Saturday, October 17. The Ereckson cluster sent 17 students to the competition of which 8 were selected to be in the All-Region Orchestra. It is very difficult to be selected into this group because the competition is at such a high level. Students competed with hundreds of advanced level students in other districts including Plano, McKinney and Sherman ISD.

The Ereckson students selected to the All-Region Orchestra are:

Lillian Zha, 6th grade cellist, Evans Elementary
Jason Tsai, 6th grade violinist, Kerr Elementary
Thomas Kim, 7th grade violinist, EMS
Erica Niewold, 8th grade violinist, EMS
Barrett Granger, 8th grade violist, EMS
Allen Tsai, 8th grade cellist, EMS
Katie Harvey, 8th grade bassist, EMS
Dmitri Ukraintesev, 8th grade bassist, EMS

Ereckson Middle School is very proud of all the students who competed. We also appreciate the time and dedication given by our Ereckson Orchestra instructors Ms. Angie Cimbalo and Ms. Ann Grosshans. Thank you for your hard work in preparing students for success.

Skills for Living

Mrs. McKay

Wow! I can't believe we are already into the second semester. Where has the time gone? We have been so busy in Skills for Living that the time is flying by. The first 6 weeks was all about self-esteem, self-awareness, goal setting and organization. The "Who Am I" scrapbook was due in September.

During the second 6 weeks we will start the food unit and a 5 day rotation through different stations set up around the room. Students will practice their cooking techniques with the making of many different recipes. Cinnamon twist was our first lab; chocolate chip cookie bars, pancakes and syrup, apple crisp, fried rice, pretzel and pizza are just some of the items we will be making. *Our Fall Feast will be Nov. 17th for students, parents and faculty to enjoy.* We will also have Chef Robinson visit us some time in the fall to enjoy watching and tasting his wonderful recipes and techniques.

Our baby project will also begin at the end of Oct. The purpose of this activity is to teach the students about the responsibility involved with caring for a child. Students will carry the baby to and from school and after school hours. They are responsible for the complete care of the baby. The doll will be treated as if it were a real child.

Students will undertake one more project this semester. The sewing projects will begin around mid November and be part of the final at the end of the semester. The sewing project will enable students to learn how clothing items are made, fads and fashion as well as the color wheel. Students will construct their own pair of pajama pants, during which they will see an item of clothing made from beginning to end.

AISD Seeks Community Input Regarding the 2010 - 2011 AISD Academic Calendar

2010 - 2011 academic calendar drafts will be posted on the AISD website for community input from October 16, 2009 through November 13, 2009. The Calendar Committee is charged with gathering community input and recommending a calendar that is instructionally sound. The Committee welcomes your input, especially the reasoning behind your choice of calendar drafts.

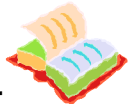
Beginning October 16, after viewing the calendar drafts on the AISD website, please send your comments to calendar_committee@allenisd.org.

AISD Assessment Calendar

You may access the Allen ISD Assessment Calendar on Allen ISD's website for specific dates and details regarding the state and local assessments administered in Allen ISD.

Yearbook News

Liz Barnes, Yearbook advisor



Remember to Buy Your Yearbook!

\$35 for a full color book.

\$45 for a full color book and a supplemental DVD.

Go to Jostens.com or go to our school website under Liz Barnes's web page and there are links there to order books and upload pictures for consideration in our book.

Our yearbook staff is now offering the opportunity to "personalize" the yearbook in a very special way with a recognition ad. Space is available to tell your student how proud you are! Regardless of the occasion, your ad provides a great way to recognize a student or event in a special and unique way. Go to Mrs. Barnes's website to find out more information.

Prices: 1/8 page = \$40.00

1/4 page = \$70.00

Special Populations

Susan Koiner

The second six weeks is in full swing! In this edition of *The Husky Howler*, we would like to introduce...

Jeanne Pampinella

- What do you do at EMS? I am a Teacher Assistant in the Special Education Dept. - Resource 2
- How long have you been in education? 7+ years
- What are you looking forward to this year at EMS? I am looking forward to another fun and successful year!
- Where are you originally from? New York
- What do you like to do when you are not at school? I enjoy relaxing with my family, watching my kids play sports and going to concerts and plays.

In other areas of the department, Mrs. Fourcand's English classes are reading *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick. Ask your student how he/she likes this wonderful novel!

Mrs. Koiner's English classes are working on an independent research folder and they are doing amazing work!

EMS Reading Department

Ondria Gerard Gadd, Department Chair

On-level Reading classes are enjoying their study of several literary concepts while reading *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick. In this novel, the main character is Maxwell Kane, an unhappy middle school student who has lived with grandparents, Grim and Gram, ever since his father was imprisoned. Taunting peers and Special Ed classes (for an undetermined learning disability) haven't improved his self-image.

His low self-esteem leaves him totally unprepared for a friendship with Kevin, AKA Freak, a veritable genius with a serious birth defect that's left him in braces and using crutches. The boys establish a friendship-and a partnership. Kevin defends the two with his intelligence, while Max becomes his friend's "legs," affording him a chance to participate in the larger world.

Inspired by tales of King Arthur, they imagine themselves knights fighting for good and true causes. Max is uplifted by Freak's imagination and booming confidence, and together they become *Freak the Mighty*, an invincible duo.

As the second six weeks draws to a close, we will begin reading *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton.

Pre-AP Reading classes will soon finish their study of several literary concepts while reading *The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen and begin modeling the literature circle process as they read, *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. *The Outsiders*, written by Hinton when she was 17 years old, takes place in the 1960's and involves three brothers who struggle to stay together after their parents' death. The novel chronicles their search for identity among the conflicting values of a society in which they find themselves the "outsiders." Once this process has been thoroughly modeled, students will be placed into groups of four or five to read an independent novel (longer and more challenging) of their choice in the literature circle format.

"Use what talents you possess: the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best."

Henry Van Dyke



30 Ways To Limit Your Exposure To Allergy Triggers

- 1) Wash your hair before bedtime during *pollen* season.
- 2) To avoid outdoor *pollens* clinging to your newly washed clothes, use a clothes dryer, not a clothes line.
- 3) Wash your hands after being around animals.
- 4) Leave a night light on in closets or other dark storage places to *reduce mold* and mildew.
- 5) *Pollen levels* are highest early morning and late afternoon: avoid pollen by staying indoors at those times.
- 6) Change and wash your clothes immediately after being around animals.
- 7) Use bedding encasements on pillows and mattresses to reduce *dust mite allergen* contact and wash all bedding (including encasements) weekly in hot (130°) water.
- 8) Maintain an indoor humidity level between 25-50% and use a dehumidifier to reduce chance of *mold*.
- 9) Change furnace filters once a month; better yet, invest in specialty filters that block *airborne allergens*.
- 10) If you're *allergic to stinging insects*, avoid bright colored clothing, perfume, scented hairsprays, scented body lotions, picnics and barbecues – all attract stinging insects.
- 11) Use a damp clean cloth to dust rather than dry dusting and don't use "feather" type dusters - they spread dust.
- 12) Wear dust masks if vacuuming or cleaning to avoid allergens.
- 13) Have a pet? Close off bedroom vents if you have forced air heating/cooling to avoid *pet dander* entering the room.
- 14) *Indoor mold* should be killed with a solution of 9 parts water to 1 part bleach. Test fabrics for colorfastness first. Bleach odors irritating? Use Hydrogen Peroxide instead; not as effective, it will still kill some bathroom surface molds.
- 15) Never allow *smoking* inside your home or car. The smoke clings to your hair, clothing and furniture and others can inhale it; second hand smoke is more harmful than smoking itself.
- 16) Set your car AC controls to recirculate and keep windows up in order to keep *pollen* out.
- 17) Avoid window fans which draw *pollens, dust and mold* into the house.
- 18) Plan your vacation during your high pollen count seasons, but go to places with a low pollen count.
- 19) If you have asthma or life-threatening allergy, wear a medical alert bracelet or necklace.
- 20) To help avoid *animal dander allergens*, if you MUST have a pet, choose pets without fur or feathers.
- 21) Pets can transfer *poison oak, ivy or sumac* to you; these irritants cling to their coats yet don't bother the animal. Shampoo your pets and wash your own clothes if you or they have come in contact with these irritants. The irritants in these plants can live indefinitely on clothing or pet fur if not washed away.
- 22) Avoid using *insecticides or pesticides* indoors or out; if you must use them indoors, ask a non-allergic person to spray and air out the house for several hours before re-entering if you have allergies.
- 23) Painting indoors or getting new furniture or carpeting? Air the home thoroughly for several days before reentering if you have allergies and try to use latex rather than oil-based paints.
- 24) Avoid using fireplaces, wood or kerosene stoves and being around campfires or charcoal grills if you have allergies. ALL smoke can be an irritant.
- 25) Avoid outdoor exercise or playing outdoors on windy days if you have pollen, mold or dust allergies.
- 26) Use a vented fan in the bathroom when bathing to eliminate humidity and potential *mold growth*.
- 27) Clean the drain pan under your fridge regularly; it's a haven for mold, roaches and dust.
- 28) Seal holes around pipes and close drains when not in use to keep *roaches*, a strong allergen, out.
- 29) If you can't part with your furry pets, keep them outdoors as much as possible and always out of bedrooms.
- 30) If you can, replace home carpeting with tile, wood or ceramic flooring and remove heavy draperies that can't be washed or cleaned on a regular basis with washable curtains or shades.

Ereckson History Department

Lisa Weston



Asthma and Allergy
Foundation of America*
NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

7th Grade

With the first six weeks of review behind us and the second six weeks going full steam ahead, 7th grade Texas history will be studying units that will get the student more involved. This six weeks we will finish up the Regions/Subregions of Texas unit and moving into the Early Texans unit. Students tend to enjoy the Native Americans unit and all the amazing facts surrounding the first Texans. Following the Early Texans, we will be studying the Explorers of Texas. We'll focus on where the explorers were from, where in Texas they explored, and why they traveled half way across the globe. Please feel free to contact your student's history teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

8th Grade

The 8th grade students have been learning about the thirteen colonies and how they started to resist Britain rule. This six weeks we will be studying the American Revolution and how our country came to be. We will be looking at the important facts, battles, people, and other issues that shaped the United States. We will also be taking a detailed look at the Declaration of Independence to understand the impact it has had in history. Be sure to check Family Access regularly as assignments and grades are posted there. If you have any questions, please contact your student's teacher.

Reflections 2009-2010

THEME: "Beauty is..."

Forms are available for download at the Ereckson PTA website: www.erecksonpta.org

Be sure to download 1. Student Entry Form, 2. General Rules, AND 3. Guidelines for your chosen category.

Categories are:

- Photography
- Visual Art
- Literature
- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Musical Composition

Entries Due by 10/30/2009.

Questions? contact Gelana Todorovich at gtodo6@gmail.com

A note from the Historian
EMS PTA Marni Kilzi



We need pictures from any school events thus far this year!

- Band
- Orchestra
- Robotics
- Sporting events
- Back to School Bash

Any photo contributions may be e-mailed or contact Marni for pick-up.

mkilzi@msn.com or 214 383 1352

Thanks! With your help the EMS scrapbook will look great!

For all your Ereckson Middle School Info
Check out:

<http://www.allenisd.org/erecksonms>

OR

www.erecksonpta.org



Thanks
a
Million

to all the wonderful
volunteers that helped
make this years
Back-to-School Bash
a success!

You are very much
appreciated!

Thomas Hugh Ereckson Middle School
450 Tatum Drive
Allen, Texas 75013

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