



O'Neill Elementary

Soaring Eagles News

September Newsletter

We have made it through the first few weeks of the school year and we are beginning to get settled into our schedule and routines. We appreciate the hard work our students have already exhibited in their academics as well as the new PBIS Program we have put in place this school year.

- **No School Monday, September 7th**
- **School pictures dates have changed** at O'Neill Elementary from Thursday and Friday, September 17th and 18th to now being held on **Tuesday and Wednesday, October 6th and 7th.** (more information to come) Please mark this change on your calendar. The reasoning for the change is the original date is during Homecoming week and we wanted to let our students participate in dress up days on those days, so it has been move back on the calendar.
- **PBiS Parent Information-** Thank you to all the families that were able to attend the PBIS parent meetings that were held on Monday, August 24th. For those that were unable to attend, I presented to parents about the PBiS behavioral model that has now been implemented at O'Neill Elementary. This program is based on setting clear expectations for our students, teaching those expectations and recognizing our students when they meet or exceed those expectations. I also explained a change in the mindset of discipline at the school. If you have questions you can find the PBiS handbook, behavioral matrix and parent presentation slide show on the O'Neill Public Schools website under the Elementary tab. I strongly encourage all parents to take the time to view the parent presentation online if you were unable to attend the meeting.
- **Tardy Policy-** The O'Neill Public School Tardy Policy has changed. We want to make families aware that this policy has been revised as to if a student receives 3 unexcused tardies (as determined by the attendance monitor) will serve a 1 hour after school time to make up for that missed instructional time. A student is considered Tardy if they arrive at school after 8:00 am on a regular instructional day. We appreciate the partnership of our families with us in making sure our students are here and ready to learn so that they do not miss any valuable instruction.

News From The Guidance Department

Hello from O'Neill Elementary's school counselors... Mrs. Mindee Hilker and Mrs. Becky Corkle. As school counselors, we specialize in working with students to help them attain skills, solve problems, and do their best in school. During the school year, we provide weekly classroom lessons to help students learn information and skills that will promote healthy academic and emotional development.

Mrs. Hilker teaches the First Grade through Fourth Grade Guidance classes and Mrs. Corkle teaches the Kindergarten, Fifth Grade and Sixth Grade Guidance classes. Our Guidance curriculum at each grade level includes age appropriate lessons organized into three skill domains: Academic, Personal/Social, and Career Awareness.

If you would like to visit with one of us, or would like more information about school counseling services, please give us a call at 336-1400 or stop by our offices.

Digital Citizenship Presentation

On Thursday, August 27th, our 5th-12th Grade students, staff, and parents were able to attend a presentation about digital citizenship given by Ms. Karen Haase from KSB School Law in Lincoln. During her presentation, she discussed the topics of cyber bullying, sexting, and Internet safety while sharing statistics, summaries of real-life cases, and the consequences attached to the inappropriate use of social media.

Parents were encouraged to be aware of what their children are doing online, become familiar with the apps they are utilizing, and monitor their child's online presence. Ms. Haase also stressed the importance of adults being available to their children to answer questions and offer assistance and advice.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Mrs. McIntosh

Welcome to School!

I am very proud to have the opportunity to teach the first O'Neill Preschool class! This week we have been busy becoming familiar with our classroom and school. The students are doing great at learning the classroom expectations and routines. It is so wonderful to encourage their love for learning each day. There are a handful of existing friendships already but I am noticing new exciting ones beginning each day!

Weekly Focus

This week our Learning Focus Question was: What names do we need to know at school? Helping children learn the names of their peers and teachers helps ease anxiety and promote positive relationships within the classroom. Throughout the

school year, students will become familiar with several other teachers in our building as well.

Upcoming Events/Reminders:

Labor Day-No School Monday

September 7th Homecoming Week-Monday September 14th-18th *Preschoolers can participate in spirit days if you choose to! *

Late Start-No Preschool Wednesday September 16th

Friday School Day- Friday September 18th

School Pictures- Pictures have been rescheduled from September 17th and 18th to October 6th and 7th.

Developing Eagles

Welcome to a new school year! This year we have a lot of fun and exciting activities for everyone to enjoy! Developing Eagles staff attended the PBIS training and is implementing what we learned! We also have been giving out “Eagle Earnings” to students who are showing good behavior traits. Several students should have brought some home already! There will be a car seat inspection on September 1st from 10:30am-6pm at the north parking lot of Avera. Nebraska law states that children up to age 6 must ride correctly in a secured child safety seat. Children ages 6-18 must ride in a seat belt or child safety seat. 95% of child safety seats are being used incorrectly, so please have your child’s safety seat inspected. There will be NO Developing Eagles on September 7th in remembrance of Labor Day. Bright Horizons will be coming again this year on Thursdays to speak to the children about bullying and other negative behaviors. 5th and 6th graders will be starting the Wearable Technology Camp September 8th. The camp will be from 4-5:30pm Monday-Friday. Please make sure your child attends everyday so they don’t miss out on their projects. Jennifer Swerczek with NPPD, Mr. Brown and the FCCLA will be assisting us with the camp. It will be a lot of fun and I can’t wait to see what the kids make! We currently have 134 students enrolled in Developing Eagles. Please make sure your child attends a minimum of 5 days a month to ensure their spot at Developing Eagles. Should they miss too many days or not come at all they could be at risk of being put on the wait list.

K-1 st Ms. McCain/Miss Klabenes

We’ve been having a lot of fun getting read to by Ms. McCain! Playing the board games with our friends has been a great way for us to socialize! Practicing our numbers and letters has been fun with Around the World! Ipads were a hit! We will continue to color and read our own books to take home! This is a great way to start learning the sounds of letters and their shapes. Plus we learn our colors! Coloring in general is fun and it is a great way to relax!

2 nd -3 rd Mrs. Merritt/Miss Lichty

Searching for insects has kept us busy outside! We also watched some great movies

about insects and what they do to the environment around us! Around the World Addition is keeping us up on our math skills! Using the clocks has helped us learn more about telling time! We used the sentence puzzle to build a sentence. We then made our own sentence with a capital letter in the beginning and the correct ending at the end. Using the scissors, glue and colors is always fun! 3rd graders are also practicing their spelling words! Ipads were a hit!

4th -5th -6th Miss Sigler/Miss Ethington

We started off the school year by jumping right into discussing the Civil War and the Native Americans. 4th grade has been practicing their spelling words. Around the World kicked us off with Addition and Subtraction and now Multiplication and Division! We used the play money to discuss place value. Playing card games is always a treat. Several books are also in our tote for those who want to read! AR books are always welcome in the room! Ipads are always a great day!

4th -5th -6th Camp Mr. Burival/Miss Tompkins

Our teachers have been learning all about Wearable Technology and are ready to go September 8th ! Jennifer will be here the 1st week to help us get electrical circuits discussed! Watch for pictures on Facebook!