



Contents

Administrators' Message	1
Upcoming Events	1
Kindergarten News	2
First Grade News	2
Second Grade News	2
Third Grade News	2
Fourth Grade News	3
PTA President	3
From the Nurse	3
Sporty Stallions Stats	4
Hoof Beats	4
Stallion Sketchbook	4
Terrific Tech News	4
Extra from the PTA	4

Upcoming Events

Book Fair 10/6-10/10
Math Night 10/9
Fall Festival 10/18

Award Assemblies

October 9th
8:15 am 1st Grade
9:00 am 2nd Grade

October 10th
8:15 am 3rd Grade
9:00 am 4th Grade

Stallions,

Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year at Smith Elementary. We are thrilled with all of the smiling, familiar faces and look forward to getting to know our new stallions! We know this is going to be an implausible year.

Academic Information

We are very proud of our exemplary rating and want to make sure our students are provided with the best educational opportunities possible. Our teachers are dedicated to meeting the individual needs of all our students. Parents can help at home by doing the following:

- ❖ Read with your child every day.
- ❖ Allow your child to make a shopping list or "to do" list.
- ❖ Cooking with a recipe is a great way to reinforce measurement skills.
- ❖ Practice math facts with flash cards.
- ❖ Make up word problems for your child to solve.
- ❖ Assist your child with writing by keeping a journal, writing letters or emails to friends and family, and writing short stories.
- ❖ 3rd and 4th grade students can use Study Island each day to reinforce skills.
- ❖ Provide your child with opportunities to count money and make change.
- ❖ Purchase a watch for your child to practice telling time.
- ❖ Review the homework folder daily.

We believe parents are our greatest resource. Our combined efforts will ensure the success of every child at E. Smith Elementary! We especially thank our PTA and Volunteers that donate their time, funds, and energy to support our campus!

School Hours

School begins at 8:00 am and ends at 3:15 pm. Students are allowed to enter the building at 7:30 am each morning. This gives them time to prepare for the day and complete morning work assignments. The computer labs are

open at 7:30 am for the third and fourth grade students to come in and complete ten minutes of Fast Math each morning. For your child's safety, we ask that you do not drop off your child before 7:30 am. The doors are locked and teachers are not on duty until that time. On the other hand, we ask that you be on time to pick up your child after school. If you arrive after 3:30 pm to pick up your child, you will have to come to the office and sign him/her out on the late pick-up log.

Attendance

It is very important that students attend school and be on time. Students are considered tardy if they are not in their classrooms when the 8:00 am bell rings. Attendance is taken each day at 10 am, and students are considered absent if they are not present or leave before that time. If your child is tardy or absent five times this year, he/she will receive a letter stating the dates of each tardy and absence. Once your child has been tardy or absent ten times, we will have an attendance hearing.

Safety Concern

Parents/students are cutting through the damaged fence when walking to school from Holland Meadows, and this causes a serious safety concern. This location has two lanes of traffic and one lane for passing where cars do not stop. The cars coming around the curve have a blind spot, and because parents/students are coming from behind this fence, it makes this site an accident waiting to happen; not to mention that there are no crosswalks or crossing guard at this location. Therefore, we ask that parents be a good example to their children and follow the traffic safety rules set forth by the school. We do not want an accident at this dangerous site by cutting through the fence. Students who walk to school must proceed to South Holland Road, and then to the adult crossing guard. Please follow these procedures for the safety of all students at ESE.

Mrs. Ashley, Principal
Mr. Patton, Assistant Principal

Kindergarten News

What a great start we have had to our school year! We are looking forward to a great second six weeks. Here's what is coming up!

In language arts, we will begin reading groups. Children will work in small groups with their teacher on reading instruction. Once reading groups have begun, please look for your child to bring home a "Take Home Reader Folder." In this folder you will find your child's reader and directions for helping your child read at home.. This folder will come home on Mondays and should

First Grade News

Howdy Partners!

First grade is off to an awesome start this year. We have already learned so much, and that is only the beginning. We are about to enrich our reading and writing through units involving farm animals, spiders, pumpkins, and author studies. We will be working on number sense, graphing, problem solving, and addition in math. Your child will be able to express their thoughts in math and pictures, words, and numbers. We love

Second Grade News

On Friday, October 3rd, our students will rotate through seven areas focusing on different activities that involve hearing, seeing, touching, tasting, speaking, and large and small motor skills. They will also be introduced to a variety of body systems. Looking "gutsy" in our human body shirts and brain hats, second graders will now know that "It takes guts to learn!"

Third Grade News

Wow! I can't believe the first six weeks have gone by already. The 3rd graders have been working hard learning their new routine and procedures. The new math adoption is working great, and the students are enjoying working in small groups. We will finish subtraction of whole numbers and move into multiplication with patterns and strategies. We will also continue working in small groups with the students on strategies. We are completing our unit on matter in science and will begin learning about the solar system. Social studies will focus on

be returned on Thursday of each week.

In math, we will begin working with graphs, comparing and ordering objects and numbers, working with numbers 0-20, and working on patterning. Our units of study will be farm, apples, spiders, pumpkins, and Thanksgiving. We are going to have a great time!

We look forward to seeing you all on Parent Teacher Conference Day on October 13th, and at our annual Fall Festival on October 18th. Thanks for all you do to support our student and teachers!

to learn about Columbus and fire safety. Your child will probably want to establish a fire escape plan for your family! Thanks for keeping up with the take-home readers and helping your child practice his/her reading every night. You will be amazed at how much they will learn this year.

We appreciate your support!

The First Grade Team

Vroom! Vroom! Vroom! The second graders will then get revved up for the 5th annual Elizabeth Smith Matchbox Derby. After weeks of learning about the forces of wind, gravity, water, and magnetism, we will end our unit with a derby race. The students will be placed into Pit Groups. Each Pit Group will race their car on different surfaces such as: brick, grass, carpet, linoleum, and concrete. There will be a first, second, and third place winner for each surface. So help your little Dale Earnhardt, Jr. pick out a fast car and head to Victory Lane!!

citizenship and participation in local government. In writing, we will introduce the six writing traits and focus on the first one, which is ideas. We will be going to see Dr. Hermann on November 6th. Look for more information to come home regarding this trip. Tutoring for math and reading has begun, and we will continue to revise the groups as needed.

Fourth Grade News

Oh Wow! Fourth Grade Stallions are off and running fast!!!! We've already studied decimals, multiplication factors, Texas Resources, and other interesting facts about Texas. Also, we have learned to write better sentences in our stories and finished *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. See, I told you we've been busy!!! Now we are going to be learning about Science safety, microscopes, and matter. We will be classifying all sorts of things with patterns, factors, and division. (Please help your student with multiplication facts.) We will learn about

problem/solution, main idea, and cause and effect in Reading. Letters will be sent home soon relating to projects for mystery stories and multiplication arrays.

We would like to welcome three new teachers to Elizabeth Smith in fourth grade this year. Our first spotlight is on Ms. Erica Smith. Ms. Smith lives in Grand Prairie, has a five year old daughter, and likes to shop, download music, listen to talk radio, do sudoku puzzles, and travel in her spare time. Welcome Ms. Smith!!

From the Nurse

It's that time of year again when colds, allergies, and other illnesses make it difficult for parents to know when to keep their student home from school. Students with a fever of 100.0 F or higher, a suspicious rash, vomiting, or diarrhea will be sent home from school. The students need to be kept home until they are free of symptoms for 24 hours without medication. This is also true for illnesses that start at home. This is for your child's protection as well as the protection of others at school. Please send a note to school when the child returns to excuse that absence. It does not have to be a doctor's note-unless the illness is extensive or requires a note to return to school. It is also not required to call the school on the day of the absence.

Medications at School

Please provide handwritten permission along with the medication in a correctly labeled container for administration at school. There are forms in the clinic, as well as, on-line on the Health Services link at www.mansfieldisd.org. Prescriptive medications must also have a physician's signature. An elementary student cannot self-medicate at school. Cough drops are also kept for the student in the clinic with a parent's written note.

Change of Clothes

Please remember to provide a change of clothes for your student in a plastic bag (kept in the backpack) for emergencies. There are many and varied reasons for students to need a change of clothes at school. There is much less interruption to the student's school day when a change of clothes is readily available for use. This is very important in the Pre-K, Kindergarten, and First grade classes.

From the PTA President

The PTA is off to a great start at ESE. Our membership drive is about to end, and we have had our BEST year ever with about 250 members!! Our goals for the year are to help the children, teachers, and parents with programs, books, and software!! None of our goals could be reached without the support of our ESE family!! Thank you for your support!!

The Spirit Wear sale is about to end and should be delivered to you in 2-3 weeks. Thank you, Michelle Triplett-Wilkerson for all your hard work. Our first Family Event-the ice cream social- was well attended and very successful. Thank you-Monique Robinson- for chairing that event!! Book Fair will be October 6-10th. Please attend. Math Night will be on October 9th, and the book fair will be open that night. Fall Fest is coming October 18th.

The PTA volunteer of the month is Elizabeth Asato. Her daughter Madison is in first grade. She is a copy mom and helps with various duties at the school. Thank you all so much for getting us off to the best start ever!! We are so lucky to have an active PTA!!

Lori Marquardt, PTA President

“Sporty” Stallion Stats

We have had a wonderful start to the school year! This six weeks in Kindergarten and 1st grade, we will be working on a variety of motor skills. In 2nd through 4th grades, we will be working on our dodging and fleeing skills. In all the grade levels, we will be working on our jump rope skills. We just recently finished our sport stacking unit. If your child is interested in owning his/her own set of Speed Stacks to continue practicing sport stacking at home, I will be sending information home about a group order soon.

Please note the P.E. schedule below. Please make sure your child wears tennis shoes to P.E. Thanks!

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:15-9:15 Aan/Gardner

10:15-11:15 Flores/Benton

11:15-12:15 Haefner/Rosson

1:00-2:00 Gonzales/Reirdon

2:00-3:00 Davis/Martin/Sullivan

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

8:15-9:15 Hale/Kettler/D. Young

10:15-11:15 Nava/Nelson/Rhodes

11:15-12:15 Taylor/Varga/Zimmerman

1:00-2:00 E. Smith/Valdez/Young

2:00-3:00 Pittman/Mennenga/L.Smith

Sincerely,
Kathy Cain
Physical Education

Terrific Technology News

Our first “implementing technology” into our enrichment schedule has been a success! Each class comes into the lab once every six days. Here are some of the skills we are learning this six weeks:

- ❖ Parts of the computer
- ❖ Rules for sitting at/using the computer
- ❖ Acceptable Use
- ❖ Accessing individual student folders
- ❖ Logging into our on-line curriculum (“Easy Tech”)

We are off to a great start. I can already tell that this year is going to be “mega” fun!

Shawntee’ Cowan
Technology Applications Instructor

Stallion Sketchbook

Wow! The first six weeks flew by! We are having a great time in Art learning about the Elements of Art. Elements are the building blocks we use to create Art. As we cruise into the second six weeks, we will explore space, form, color, and value. I am having a great time getting to know your wonderful children. Please remember that if you ever need anything, you can email me at thomna@mansfieldisd.org or call during my conference period, which is 8:15 to 9:15 am.

Thank you!
Mrs. Thompson
Art Teacher

Hoof Beats

Hello Stallions! This year is off to a great start. I cannot believe the first six weeks of school has already past! This six weeks, we have been focusing on beat and rhythm and learning about how we can use our bodies to make music. In the coming weeks, we will continue to work on these aspects in all grades, as well as, reading music. We will continue to learn to play different instruments, sing, and express emotions through music. On October 30th, our fourth graders will be taking a field trip to the Pigg Auditorium for a concert presented by the Arlington Symphony Orchestra. This trip will be a great experience for our students and will allow them to practice the many things they have been learning. Also, our new choir, the Elizabeth Smith Stallion Singers, is starting up and will begin practicing for upcoming performances. I am excited about all of the things that are happening in our music program right now, and I look forward to another great six weeks!

Extra From the PTA

Thank you for making our first Corporate Incentive Night this year a HUGE success!!!! CiCi’s gave a check to our school for \$441.00, the largest check yet to any school for a spirit night. Way to go ESE!!! A special thank you goes to Mrs. Ashley and Mr. Patton for working extra hard that night. We really appreciate their efforts, and everyone’s support that night.

Look for more Corporate Incentive Nights to come in the 2008-2009 school year. Support of our local businesses is a fun and easy way to raise funds for our school.