

SPENCER TRAIL TIMES

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2026



A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Spencer Trail Families,

Happy February! We're off to a wonderful start in the new year, and it's a joy to see our kindergarten students learning, growing, and smiling each day.

This month, we're excited to celebrate Valentine's Day with classroom activities focused on kindness, friendship, and caring for others. We're also counting all the way to our 100th Day of School, a big milestone filled with fun learning and celebration! As winter continues, please remember to send your child to school dressed for the weather, including coats, hats, and gloves!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We're so grateful to be part of your child's learning journey!

Sincerely,

Jen Pender & Jenny Christophersen

Superintendent- Dr. Lori Motsch
Principal- Mrs. Jennifer Christophersen .
Assistant Principal- Mrs. Jen Pender
Secretary- Mrs. Jamie Key
Secretary- Mrs. Jill Foytik
Office hours- 7:20AM- 3:50PM
Phone Number- (815) 462-7007



February

January 30th-February 5th- Winter Book Fair and Art Show

February 3rd- 100th Day of School

February 12th- Character Counts. Wear red for caring!

February 13th- Half Day for PM and DK Students. No School for AM Students.

February 16th- No School
Presidents Day

February 17th- School Board Meeting @ 6PM

February 19th- Kindergarten Information Night

Nurse's Corner

Cold, and flu season is officially upon us!

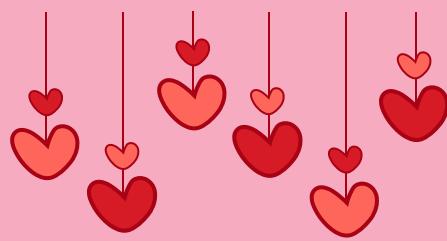
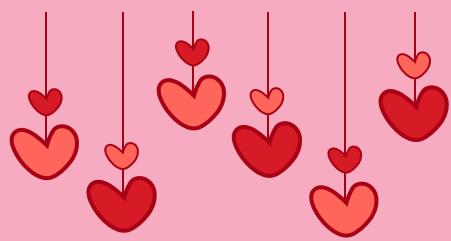
Just a few quick reminders.

- Please keep your child home when they are sick or show any signs of sickness. This really helps to decrease the spread of illness to others.
- Keep your child home if he/she has a fever of 100.0 F or higher. Do not send them back to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen.
- Please make sure your child is vomit and diarrhea free for 24 hours before sending them to school.
- In the event your child becomes ill at school, please make sure you or your emergency contact is available to pick up your child within 30 minutes.

Thank you for your help in keeping our kids healthy!



Specialist News



Art & Music News from Mrs. Tinny

January was a great month in the art and music room. Students primarily worked on art, as we were preparing for our February 5th art show. They have worked extremely hard on their projects, and their effort definitely shows! In February, we will start exploring different genres of music. In art, we will continue working on fine motor skills, while also discussing elements of art, such as line, color, texture, and space. We will experiment with collages to see how different textures and patterns can come together to form a unique piece of art. I am looking forward to all we will create in February!

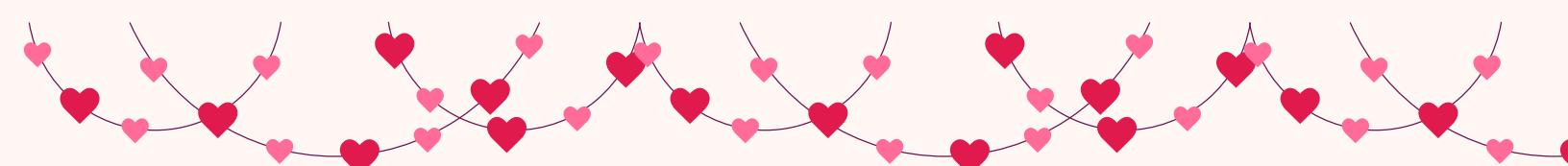


P.E. News from Mr Lundborg (Mr L)

In January, we spent the month learning jump rope and hockey. In February, we will be learning rolling (one hand and two hand).

Please remember to pack gym shoes if you are dressing your child in winter boots on gym day.

*If you have any questions about what activities we will be doing, please feel free to contact me.



A Note from Mrs. Ozbolt

The Scholastic Book Fair is here! Your student brought home a book fair flyer at the end of January. If you have any questions regarding it, please reach out to me or your classroom teacher. We are so excited! A reminder that only grown ups are allowed to shop with their students during their designated time slot and shopping day. Thank you for understanding!

Also, don't forget our Family Night at Spencer Trail. It will be held Thursday, February 5th : AM families - 5:00-5:30 pm; PM families, 6:00-6:30 pm. Mrs. Tinny will have artwork displayed in the gym, and the book fair will be open in the library. We look forward to seeing you!

During January, we focused on a lot of winter stories. We talked a lot about characters, setting, and the problems and solutions of all of our stories. In February, every year, the State of Illinois Library Association sponsors a contest to let students choose the best book for the year. Kindergarten-Third grade students vote for the Monarch Award, named for our state insect. We will listen to six to eight of the Monarch Award Nominees and the children will vote for their favorite book. I will announce the winner next month. The State of Illinois winner is announced in the middle of March.

Another exciting event is starting in February: all students will now get to check out two books, if they so choose! Although with that, taking care of two books and remembering to return both books on time is a great learning experience for our kindergartners. I know they can do it! Thank you for all of your support! I am so grateful for my Spencer Trail families.



Spencer Trail Kindergarten Book Fair

We are so excited for our upcoming book fair. Every year this is an exciting time for our students because, for most of them, this is their first book fair! The fair will be open on **Friday, January 30th, Monday, February 2nd, and Wednesday, February 4th**. Classes will come down during their *normally scheduled library time*. Parents or special adults are welcome to shop with their child during their scheduled time (please see chart below). Unfortunately, due to space, siblings are not allowed during day shopping. Thank you for understanding. If you are unable to come during your child's scheduled library time, feel free to send cash with your child and a teacher or volunteer will help them spend it OR consider setting up an eWallet for your child. (*Please note: any unused funds from your eWallet will become a gift card balance that can be used to fund future eWallets*). If you are interested in setting up an eWallet, please use this link: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/spencertrailschool>

Also, on **Thursday, February 5th**, we will have our **Family Night** at Spencer Trail! There will be an art show displayed in the gym and the Book Fair will be open in the library: AM classes welcome **5:00-5:30 pm**; PM classes welcome **6:00-6:30 pm**.

	Friday, January 30th Red Neighborhood Shopping Day	Monday, February 2nd Yellow Neighborhood Shopping Day	Wednesday, February 4th Green Neighborhood Shopping Day
8:40 - 9:10	Fyke (AM)	Langlois (AM)	Brinkmeier(AM)
9:10 - 9:40	Davis (AM)	Anderson (AM)	Chimino(AM)
9:40 - 10:10	Tustin (AM)		Groos(AM)
10:10 - 10:40	Barrett (DK)		Martino(AM)
12:40 - 1:10	Fyke (PM)	Langlois (PM)	Brinkmeier(PM)
1:10 - 1:40	Davis (PM)	Anderson (PM)	Chimino(PM)
1:40 - 2:10	Tustin (PM)		Groos(PM)
2:10 - 2:40			Martino(PM)

Thank you for your support!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Preschool Screenings

New Lenox School District will be screening children from ages three to five in the areas of motor, cognitive, and speech/language development. Early childhood educators will present "game like" activities to your child which assess various development skills. All preschoolers who reside in our district are eligible to attend free of charge. This is a preschool screening, not a kindergarten readiness screening. This year the screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Elementary and Early Childhood Center.

2025-2026 Screening Dates

March 13th May 8th

Call Cherry Hill School at 815-462-7831 to schedule an appointment.



Memory Book Sales

Memory book orders are online only and will close March 10.



[Click Here](#) for link!

Upcoming Events

Kindergarten Information Night

Spencer Trail will host a Kindergarten Information night for the 2026/2027 school year is on February 19, 2026.

See attached page for details.



Kindergarten Information Night

Thursday, February 19, 2026

A - L - 5:30-6:15pm

M - Z - 6:30-7:15pm

Spencer Trail welcomes you to come explore our school, connect with staff and begin the registration process for your incoming Kindergartener!

This is for parents only. No children please.



Books, Art, & Lots of Heart

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

*Spencer Trail
Art Show
& Book Fair*



Thursday, February 5th

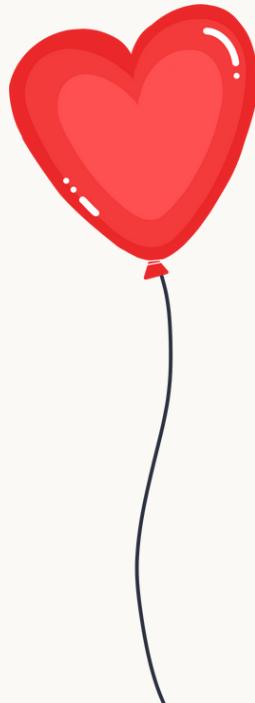
AM & DK: 5:00- 5:30pm

PM: 6:00- 6:30pm

We look forward to our Valentine's themed art show, family crafts, and our annual Scholastic book fair. We hope to see you there!

February Birthdays

Mona A.
Samuel A.
Gavin B.
Odinn B.
Maria B.
Lyla C.
Brayden C.
Isaiah C.
Camellia G.
Samuel G.
Jeffery G.
Hallie G.
Delaney H.
Dexter H.
Anneliese J.
Luke H.



Zoey N.
Eli R.
Xander R.
Guadalupe R.
Tayvon S.
Layla S.
Cameron S.
Luke S.
Harlow S.
Zachary S.
Emmitt T.
Adilene V.
Nathan W.
Elizabeth W.
Colin W.
A'Amir W.
Mila Y.

N L S D I 2 2 P T O

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

ONE NIGHT, DOUBLE FUN

FEB 21
2026

5-7PM

FREE
ENTRY

SPENCER CAMPUS



BINGO ROOM:

FREE TO PLAY • TEACHER & PRINCIPAL
CALLERS • RAFFLE & 50/50

DJ, DANCE & GAME ZONE:

MUSIC & DANCING • SPACE TO
MOVE AND PLAY • PHOTOBOTH



PAID ADD-ON CONCESSIONS FROM JOEY'S • GLOW STICKS
FUN : ROSE&RAE/FACE PAINTING/BALLOON ART

www.reallygreatsite.com

5K/KIDS DASH

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS



Wellness Fair:

- Mental Health & Wellness business showcase
- Kids activities
- Food Trucks

**SATURDAY APRIL
25, 2026**

**9:00-
12:00PM**

**1 VETERANS PKWY
NEW LENOX**

8:15 am - packet pick-up and same day registration

9:00am- 5K runners and walkers

10:45- Kids Dash

Wellness Fair- 9:15-12pm

5K SIGN UP



Pricing:

Early Bird until 1/31

\$30 with shirt \$20 no shirt

2/1-3/31 \$35 with shirt \$25 no shirt

4/1-4/16 \$40 with shirt

After 4/16 no guarantee for shirts

Dash free to run \$10 for a shirt

KIDS 3-10 DASH



**BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
NLSD 122 PTO, WELLNESS COMMITTEE, AND NEW LENOX SAFE
COMMUNITY COALITION**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PTO MEETING DATES

→ 9/18 – 9:30am	→ 1/15 – 9:30am
→ 10/16 – 9:30am	→ 2/19 – 6:30pm
→ 11/20 – 9:30am	→ 3/19 – 9:30am
→ 12/18 – 6:30pm	→ 4/16 – 6:30pm

UPCOMING EVENTS



Read-A-Thon: Oct 6-24

Get our kids excited to read with fun themes and prizes.



Family Dance: Feb 21

Come together to party as a school community.



5K Kids Dash for Mental Health/ Wellness Fair: April 25

Support the WHOLE community as we encourage taking care of our mind and bodies.



Teacher/Staff Appreciation: May 4-8

Why we do what we do, let those staff know we appreciate them
