

# Prairie Press

Mr. Tyler Broders - Principal  
Mrs. Kathie Fiorillo - Assistant Principal  
Mrs. Jen Young - Secretary  
Mrs. Janice Dwyer - Secretary

Dr. Lori Motsch  
Superintendent

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Dear Nelson Prairie Families,

It is hard to believe how fast our school year has gone by! Through all the many challenges we have faced this year, our students and staff have always come Together and shown how well We All Fit Together. We also know that none of this could have been possible without the support and cooperation from all our Nelson Prairie families. This school year is a true testament that Together, We Can Achieve Anything!

May is going to be a very busy month at Nelson Prairie. We have many fun activities planned and still a lot of learning to do!

Our third grade students will take the Illinois Assessment of Readiness this month. Our students have been working very hard this year and I'm excited to see this hard work pay off.

As you prepare for the summer, I encourage you to set up a reading schedule for your child. Many educational researchers have documented concerns with readers declining in their proficiency over the summer. This is often referred to as the "summer reading gap." Consider having students read 15-20 minutes a day. Don't forget to also sign up for the New Lenox Public Library Summer Reading Challenge! More information will be coming later this month.

Have a great Summer!

Mr. Broders, Principal  
Mrs. Fiorillo, Assistant Principal

SUMMER



## May Important Dates

3-10 - IAR Testing for 3rd grade students  
4 - PTO Staff Appreciation Luncheon - Thanks to all who donated!  
7 - 1/2 day Teacher Institute, 12:15 p.m. dismissal  
10- Virtual Parent Night - Doing What Matters in Times of Stress, 5:15 p.m.

## May Important Dates

18 - New Lenox School Board meeting, 6:30 p.m. at District Office  
20 - Field Day  
20 - PTO ZOOM meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
28 - PTO Dine & Donate at TCBY  
28 - Last Day of School, 12:15 dismissal, report cards go home



## ***NELSON PRAIRIE MISSION STATEMENT***

The mission of Nelson Prairie School is to prepare all learners with the skills needed to become successful citizens of their community. We will provide our students with a positive learning environment that will enrich the development of each child's social, emotional, and academic growth.

### ***From the Artists Studio***

***Please check in with your child and ask them about their school art supplies.  
Many students need crayons, markers, scissors, and/or a glue stick.***



After First grade viewed artwork with an Island influence, we created our own unique island map, choosing a theme, naming and designing all of the island's features including a compass rose, key and treasure chest. The end of the year will bring a weaving lesson and color wheel review.

Second grade students created a paper windsock of a fish in honor of the Japanese celebration *Children's Day*. On May 5th, carp fish kites are flown to bring the children in the household good luck. We discussed symmetry and pattern as we designed our artwork. The end of the year will bring lessons discussing the art style impressionism, an opportunity to use Model Magic clay, and lessons reviewing how we can use the combination of shapes to help us to draw.

Third grade viewed a self portrait of Frida Kahlo and a portrait she created of her artist husband, Diego Rivera. Discussing the differences between a self portrait and a portrait, the students discovered how to create their own self portrait with the help of several tools. We are discovering the ideas of facial proportion, using their photographs as a reference, and using the iPad as a mirror. Self-portraits that the students created previously will be compared. The results always amaze the students as they realize how much they grew and discovered about art through the school year. We will also explore the concept of texture as an emphasis in clay as we create a sun with Model Magic clay.

***Mrs. Kordik  
Nelson Campus Art Teacher***

### **School Absences**

If your child is going to be absent, whether they are in- person or remote learning, please call the school office at 815-462-2874 by 9:30a.m. on the day of the absence. Please be sure to call even if you send a note or email to your child's teacher. School personnel will call parents/guardians and emergency contact numbers if we do not receive a call by 9:30a.m. In the event the school is unable to contact a responsible adult to confirm a student's absence, we will ask the New Lenox Police Department to send an officer out for a 'well-being' check. This is done in an effort to ensure our students are safe. Thank you in advance for your help.





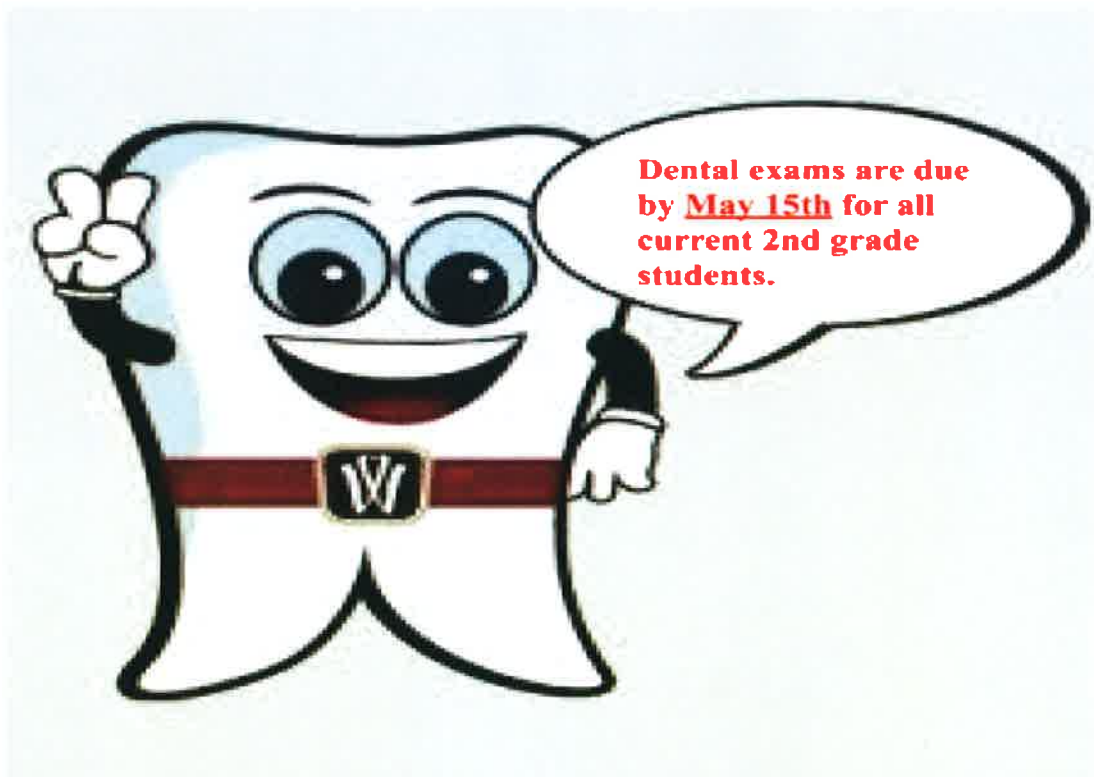
**As we near the end of the school year, there are a few important reminders:**



Medication forms expire at the end of the school year. If your child will require medication at school, please know that a new Medication Authorization Form will need to be completed for the 2021-2022 school year. Forms can be turned in prior to the start of school in August.



If your child has a Food Allergy requiring an EpiPen, please make sure to have an Illinois Food Allergy Emergency Action Plan completed by your child's physician for the 2021-2022 school year. Forms can be turned in prior to the start of school in August.



**HAVE A FUN AND SAFE SUMMER!!**

Mrs. Andrea Rossborough BSN, RN  
[arossborough@nlsd122.org](mailto:arossborough@nlsd122.org) / 815-462-7808



# ***Physical Education News***

Happy Spring Parents!

We made it!! It has been a crazy, unforgettable year for everyone! With that being said, I want to make the last month of school the best month! I have been using equipment the last few weeks and sanitizing equipment between classes. The last month of school is going to be all of the students favorite games!

Field Day - I am doing a small, grade level Field Day for the kids. We will not have any parent volunteers for this event. Things are still in the works, but a small Field Day is better than no Field Day at all!



Shoes - The weather is getting warmer and that means SANDAL season! Please make sure that your son/daughter has their P.E. shoes for class. They are not going to want to sit out of any activities at the end of the school year!

Lastly, THANK YOU! Thank you for being so flexible and understanding with the school year! It was great to be back in-person and see the kids face-to-face. I'm looking forward to seeing my 1st and 2nd graders in the fall and wish my 3rd graders the best as they go next door!

Have a great summer!

**Mr. Hammond**  
**Nelson Prairie P.E. Teacher**

## **“NOTE” WORTHY NEWS FROM THE PRAIRIE MUSIC ROOM**

**Ms. Bendy's Music Class**

Students will be working on different genres of music to finish up the school year! While using our digital instruments, we will explore jazz using Scott Joplin's Fig Leaf Rag and William Tell Overture! We will also do a cup activity to Entry of the Gladiators and Viennese Music Clock!



**Ms. Bendy**  
**Nelson Campus Music Teacher**



# IAR and ISA

The Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) for grades 5 & 8 will be administered the weeks of April 19-30. The Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) for students in grades 3 - 8 will be administered during the week of May 3-10. These are online tests that will be administered to students in-person. Remote students will receive information from their building principals with additional testing information and schedules.

## Self Screening Reminder

Just a reminder that you will need to complete the CrisisGo Student Pre-Visit Certification each morning prior to coming to school. This can be done through the link in the email sent at 5:00 a.m. each morning or through the Pre-Visit Certification in your PowerSchool account. Certification should be completed no later than 8:30 a.m.

**Please self-certify even if your child will not be in attendance that day.**

Thank you for your cooperation!

## POP TAB CHALLENGE



On Wednesday, March 24, 2021 the Village of Homer Glen challenged the Village of New Lenox to a pop tab challenge, which Mayor Baldermann immediately accepted. The Village that collects the most pop tabs will be deemed the winner. The challenge will end June 30, 2021. All pop tabs will be donated to Ronald McDonald House.

Pop tabs can be dropped off at the New Lenox Village Hall.

## LUNCHES



All School Lunches are free through the end of the 2020-21 school year. However, lunches must be pre-ordered electronically on a weekly basis. You will receive an email confirmation from "Google Forms" of your students lunch order. If you don't see your confirmation, be sure to check your spam/junk email folder. Please see our school website under the lunch tab for additional information.

## INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE

Whenever your child's routine will be changing, please call the office or send a note to inform the teacher and office staff. For example, if your child usually rides the bus home, but you will be picking him/her up from school that day, please call the office or send a note.

## ACES

Our district is partnering with the New Lenox Park District ACES program. This program takes ce at Nelson Prairie School to provide before and after school care. For more information, call 815-485-1737 or [www.newlenoxparks.org](http://www.newlenoxparks.org). Click on programs on the left of the screen, then click on "ACES."

# Nelson Prairie ABC Days of School

Date	Letter	Theme	Activity
Fri., April 23	A Day	Art Project Day	Take time to be crafty and do an art project.
Mon., April 26	B Day	Be Responsible Day	Wear <b>green</b> and follow the rules.
Tues., April 27	C Day	Citizenship Day	Wear <b>purple</b> and clean out your desk.
Wed., April 28	D Day	D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything & Read) Day	Bring your favorite book to read.
Thurs., April 29	E Day	Extra Recess Day	You've earned it! Enjoy an extra recess.
Fri., April 30	F Day	Fairness Day	Wear <b>orange</b> and be fair while playing.
Mon., May 3	G Day	Green and Blue Day	Show your school spirit with our school colors.
Tues., May 4	H Day	Hat Day	Wear a silly or crazy hat.
Wed., May 5	I Day	Imagination Day	Dress like a teacher and bring your imagination.
Thurs., May 6	J Day	Jersey Day	Wear a team jersey.
Fri., May 7	K Day	Kind and Caring Day	Wear <b>red</b> and use caring words.
Mon., May 10	L Day	Luau Day	Wear tropical clothes.
Tues., May 11	M Day	Mix-Up Day	Wear mismatched clothes.
Wed., May 12	N Day	Nice Note Day	Write a nice note to a staff member. In class, list all staff, then students make a card for one person and deliver it to that person!
Thurs., May 13	O Day	Outside Story Time Day	Enjoy listening to a story outside.
Fri., May 14	P Day	Pajama Day	Wear PJs.
Mon., May 17	Q Day	Quiz Your Teacher Day	How well does your teacher know you? Bring a question and quiz your teacher.
Tues., May 18	R Day	Respect Day	Follow the Golden Rule and wear <b>yellow</b>
Wed., May 19	S Day	Sunglasses Day	Wear your shades!
Thurs., May 20	T Day	Trustworthiness Day	Be truthful with your words and actions. Wear <b>blue</b> .
Fri., May 21	U Day	USA Day	Wear <b>red, white, and blue</b> .
Mon., May 24	V Day	Virtual Visit Day	Students will virtually visit with another class.
Tues., May 25	W Day	What do you want to be Day	Today, dress like what you want to be when you grow up!
Wed., May 26	X Day	eXtreme Hair Day	Wear wacky or silly hair.
Thurs., May 27	Y Day	Yummy Day	Yum! Bring in an extra special snack for today!
Fri., May 28	Z Day	Zoom Day	Zip up your bag and zoom into summer!! One last Zoom and video before summer break!!







VIRTUAL  
PARENT  
NIGHT

# DOING WHAT MATTERS IN TIMES OF STRESS

MAY 10,  
2021  
5:15-6:45

This workshop is based on Russ Harris' guide that is used by the World Health Organization. *Doing What Matters in Times of Stress: An Illustrated Guide* is a stress management guide for coping with adversity. The guide aims to equip people with practical skills to help cope with stress. A few minutes each day are enough to practice the self-help techniques. Join Cristin Ekhoﬀ, BCBA for this informative and experiential workshop where you have the opportunity to learn and apply strategies to help you do what matters in times of stress.

RSVP to Cristin Ekhoﬀ for the Zoom link  
[cekhoff@nlsd122.org](mailto:cekhoff@nlsd122.org)

May 2021



### This Month:

May 4th & 6th: PTO Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

May 20th: PTO Meeting via zoom 7 pm

May 22: PTO 5k Cancelled

May 28th: PTO Dine & Donate TCBY LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!!!!

## PTO CORNER

New Lenox School District 122 Parent and Teacher Organization supporting all 12 schools in our community. HAVE THE BEST SUMMER!

### May Happenings

The New Lenox PTO is extremely grateful for all the support you have shown in our past months fundraisers. THANK YOU for all the donations to help us treat our schools with an amazing lunch to show how much we appreciate them! Any extra funding left over will get rolled over to next years lunch!

[www.newlenoxpto.org](http://www.newlenoxpto.org)

### Summer Shout Outs

- ☀️ School Supply Kits available to order online at our website [www.newlenoxpto.org](http://www.newlenoxpto.org)
- ☀️ Watch for emails and updates about a Gift Card Fundraiser
- ☀️ Market Day is in Full Swing place orders TODAY! Register and Choose New Lenox PTO as your school and then fill out the rest! [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com)
- ☀️ Join PTO at our monthly meetings to bring ideas, organize fun, and become active in your community. We will be voting for new candidates to be on the PTO Executive Board for the 2021/2022 school year. Its not to late to join our team!
- ☀️ Follow us on Facebook!
- ☀️ Email us at [nlsd122pto@gmail.com](mailto:nlsd122pto@gmail.com)



### Next Month:

- No summer PTO happenings. We will see you in August

PTO was not sure how we were going to continue to reach our goals to bring fun inside our schools and to our community but together WE DID IT! We hope to have another successful next school year with more help from you.

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER BREAK! WE HOPE ITS FUN, HEALTHY, AND FULL OF AMAZING MEMORIES.