

APRIL 2026

SPENCER TRAIL TIMES NEWSLETTER

Dear Kindergarten Families,

It is hard to believe we are entering the final stretch of the kindergarten year. This is such an exciting time as our students continue to grow, learn, and prepare for the transition to first grade!!

One of our main focuses this spring is building independence. You can support this at home in simple, meaningful ways! Encourage your child to:

- Get dressed independently, including managing zippers and buttons
- Practice putting on and tying (or securing) their shoes
- Clean up toys and materials after playing
- Follow simple routines, like packing their backpack or preparing for bedtime
- Use polite words and problem-solving skills when navigating small challenges

These everyday moments help build confidence and responsibility, setting them up for success in first grade and beyond!

We hope you have a wonderful and restful spring break!

Jenny Christophersen & Jen Pender

The Office

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



March 30th– April 6th– Spring Break

April 7th– School Resumes

April 15th– Tax Day

April 16th– Character Counts Assembly. Wear Blue for Trustworthiness.

April 21st– School Board Meeting at 6PM

April 23rd– Reptile Assembly

April 24th– No School. Teachers Institute Day



A NOTE FROM NURSE CAMI

As a reminder, proof of dental examination is required for all kindergartners. All dental forms are due no later than May 1st. Thanks to all that have turned in their forms! I thought I'd answer some frequently asked dental questions.

Answers are from the American Dental Hygienists' Association website
www.adha.org.

At what age do children start to loose their baby teeth? Children begin to loose their baby teeth anywhere between the ages of 5 and 7. Usually the front teeth on the bottom are the first to go.

Should children use the same type of toothbrush as adults? NO. Children should use a similar brush that is more proportional to their mouths to make the brush easier to maneuver.

Can children use the same toothpaste as adults? YES, all that you need from your toothpaste is the fluoride to help strengthen teeth and protect from cavities. Remember a pea-sized drop of paste is all you need to do the job.

How many times a day should teeth be brushed? TWICE—after breakfast and at night before bed. Any extra times are great especially after sweet or sticky foods!

Keep those smiles bright!!

School Nurse

Ms. Cami Kaczor, BSN, RN

SPECIALIST SPOTLIGHT

Art/Music News From Mrs. Tinny

March was a great month in the art and music room. We made several decorations that had to do with four-leaf clovers and shamrocks, and we learned about how symmetry applies to the shamrock. We also practiced our cutting skills quite a bit this month, strengthening our fine motor skills. We will begin spring-themed art in April where we will work with mixed media and experiment with texture. Students will be working hard on their coloring skills as well, making sure that they are following a "back and forth" motion with their crayon, rather than a circular motion while coloring.

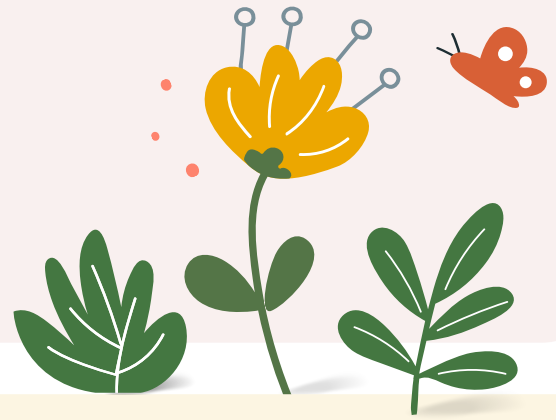
Shoutout to all Spencer Trail students and their classroom teachers for putting on a wonderful musical! The students were wonderful singers and performers! In April, students will have more choice-based options for which instruments they would like to play during our music weeks. Typically, we have all played the same instrument, but now they are old enough to be able to choose, and later switch with a partner. We will be reviewing rhythm, which we talked about earlier in the year. I am looking forward to April and all we'll do with our Spencer Trail friends!

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

In March, we spent the month learning all about bowling and relay races. In April, we will start our shoe tying lesson and start to learn to play multi-directional games.

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

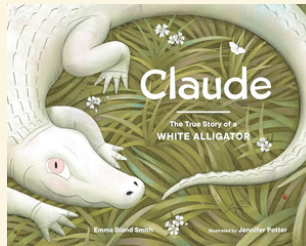
LIBRARIAN CORNER



Library News from Mrs. Ozbolt

Happy Spring! During March, we talked about how we all like different stories - not all of us like the same books and that's OK! We read 5-6 of the Illinois Monarch Award Nominees and voted on our favorite book. There was definitely a front-runner right off the bat! And the winner is (drumroll, please)....

* *Claude: the True Story of a White Alligator* written by Emma Bland Smith and illustrated by Jennifer M. Potter



This was a true story of a real-life albino alligator, who lived at the California Academy of Sciences. We got to learn about his journey from his hatch day in Louisiana, to the Florida zoo he lived at for 13 years and then on to his final home in San Francisco. He taught us that being different can be beautiful!

In the month of April, we are working on Digital Citizenship in the library. We'll be chatting about technology and how it can be great **some** of the time, but it's still best to get outside and move your body! I have some fun picture books that focus on this topic.

We are still checking out two books this month, but will end checkout the second week of May, so that I have time to get all the books back on the shelves and ready for inventory.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail me. Happy Reading!





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

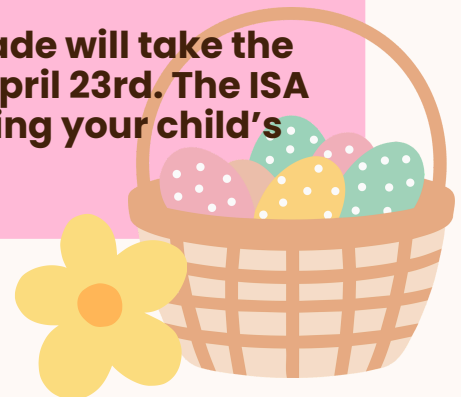
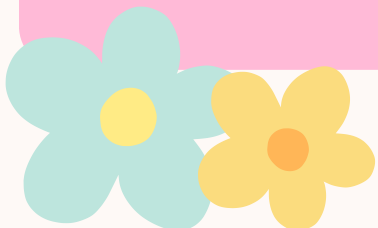
May 8th

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

Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) and Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) Testing

In the upcoming weeks, New Lenox School District 122 students will participate in online state testing. During the week of March 23rd-March 27th, students in seventh and eighth grade will take the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) test. Third to sixth grade will take the test during the week of April 8th-April 14th. The IAR assessment consists of ELA tests and math tests.

In addition to the IAR, students in fifth and eighth grade will take the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) during April 20th-April 23rd. The ISA consists of three units and will be administered during your child's science class.



Mandatory Update: Student Attendance Procedures Revisions
(Effective for the 2026–2027 Academic Year)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Consistent attendance is vital for academic success. New Lenox School District 122 has revised its Student Attendance Procedures to comply with the Illinois School Code, the Will County ROE, and the State’s Attorney. These updates will be fully implemented starting the **2026–2027 school year**. Your cooperation with these standards is essential. Contact your school’s administration with questions.

Summary of Key Policy Changes

Policy Area	Detail of Revision
Required Documentation	<p>Medical documentation from a licensed healthcare provider will be required for all future illness-related absences after a student accrues 14 undocumented absences. Absences that exceed 14 days without this mandatory documentation will be considered unexcused.</p> <p>Students are allowed up to five (5) mental health days per school year, which do not require a medical note and are counted within the 14 total undocumented absences.</p>
Excused Absences	<p>Absences for approved civic opportunities, family emergencies, religious holidays, and death in the immediate family are excused.</p>
Military Family Support	<p>Military family students are eligible for up to five (5) excused days for deployment-related family situations.</p>
Student Travel	<p>Student travel during instructional days is strongly discouraged. Advance notice is required. Travel absences will be unexcused.</p>
Documented Absences	<p>The student’s absence will be excused if written documentation is provided by a licensed healthcare provider that confirms the medical appointment, treatment, or medical condition causing the absence.</p>

April

Birthdays

ENZO A.

AUBREY B.

BARRON B.

LENNA B.

KENZIE B.

JETT C.

COLTON C.

CHARLI C.

DIMITRI D.

FLYNN G.

TIA G.

LYDIA G.

LYLA G.

WYATT H.

ROSE K.

REESE K.

CARTER K.

MASON K.

CASSIDY L.

EMERSON L.

SOFIA M.

LANDON M.

JOHN M.

GEORGE N.

COOPER N.

TENLEY P.

BROOKE P.

JONAH P.

CORINNE R.

CHARLIE S.

KENZA S.

JAXSON T.

ANNABELLE V.

CARSON W.

ELEANOR Z.





NLSD122
PTO



BASEBALL
FUN



Joliet Slammers

VS. WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS



FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026
5:35 PM

JOLIET SLAMMERS STADIUM

1 MAYOR ART SCHULTZ DR. JOLIET, IL

Grab your seats for an NLSD122 PTO Night Out with the Joliet Slammers! Enjoy a fun night at the ballpark with family and friends—open to everyone. Every ticket supports our PTO!

[CLICK HERE TO BUY TICKETS](#)



**TICKET SALES END
JUNE 5 AT 3:35 PM**

5K/KIDS DASH

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS



WellnessFair:

- MentalHealth & 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

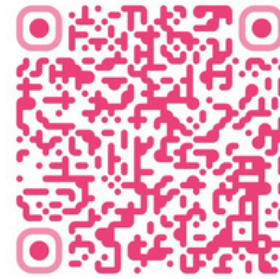
2/1-3/31 \$35 with shirt \$25 no shirt

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**