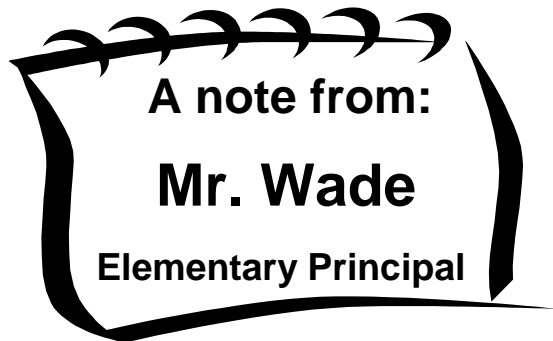


# Alexander Elementary

## Parents Make A Difference!



Vol. 19 No. 5 January 2018



A note from:

**Mr. Wade**

**Elementary Principal**

It is good to be back from Christmas Break! We hope all of our students and their families had a nice holiday. With a new calendar year comes a new school semester. With just over 4 months left in our school year, we encourage our students and their parents to continue to make school a top priority.

***“Make school a top priority.”***

Our first semester grade cards will go out on Thursday, January 4. They will show how your child performed during the first half of the school year. This is a very crucial time. It is a time to analyze your child's school performance and to make any adjustment necessary to insure they make appropriate gains. If you have any concerns or questions regarding their current progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself. If needed, we can come up with various strategies to help your child improve and perform at their fullest potential.

At Alexander Elementary, we appreciate the many wonderful parents we have that give their children the time and encouragement they need to be successful in school. It is our hope that by continually working together we can provide the best education possible for 2018 and beyond!

## January & February

**Grade Cards-** Thursday, January 4, 2018.

**Rise and Shine Assembly-** Monday, January 9.

**Accelerated Reading Reward Trips-** Chuck E. Cheese in Joplin. L: 10AM R: 2PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>- January 10  
1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>- January 11  
K & 5<sup>th</sup>- January 12

**No School Monday, January 15-** Professional Development for Staff.

**Vision Screenings For All Students-** January 18 & 19.

**PK Fieldtrip Stephen Fite Concert-** Wednesday, January 24 in Springfield, MO.

**Spelling Bee-** Thursday, January 25 at 1:30PM in the gym. (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades)

**No School Friday, February 2-** Professional Development for Staff.

**Va lentine Pictures-** Tuesday, February 6, 5x7 for \$3.

**Rise and Shine Assembly-** Monday, February 12.

**Progress Reports-** Tuesday, February 13.

**Valentine's Day-** Wednesday, February 14.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences-** Tuesday, February 20 and Thursday, February 22 from 3:30PM to 6:30 PM.

**No School-** Friday, February 23.

**Spring Break-** March 19 – 23.

**STAY INFORMED!**



PowerSchool parents and students have access to real-time student information via the free PowerSchool Mobile app, creating better communication, collaboration and success within a child's learning experience.

- ✓ Features of PowerSchool Mobile App:
- ✓ Access from IOS or Android mobile devices
- ✓ Access student homework assignments
- ✓ Real-time grades and attendance
- ✓ Teacher comments
- ✓ See all of your children under one parent account
- ✓ Daily bulletin board
- ✓ Course schedule
- ✓ Integrated family calendar
- ✓ Fee transactions and balance
- ✓ Automatic email messaging
- ✓ Instant push notifications for attendance or grade changes
- ✓ Track each student with grade trends

The district code is MDKD or search Commerce Public Schools. You can log in with your child's code. If you need assistance, please give us a call at 918-675-4336.

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*"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up!"*

-Mark Twain



## With A New Semester, Get Your Family Back Into the School Groove With These Tips

Along with a new semester after a substantial break may include some struggle getting back into a routine that makes school a top priority. Here are some practical ideas to help you and your family gear up for a final semester of learning:

- \*Make a plan for after-school activities. Schedule adequate time for homework, play, sports, clubs and family time.
- \*Scale back screen time. Set a weekly limit for time spent watching television, playing video games and surfing the internet. Maintain a firm rule that homework and chores come first.
- \*Establish family reading time.
- \*Start a change jar so you'll have spare money on hand for this and that.
- \*Reestablish bedtimes for school nights.
- \*Keep a family calendar. Mark each family member's activities in a different color.
- \*Set up a file for school papers. Place all school notices in it so you don't misplace them.
- \*Get ready the night before school. Encourage your child to set out his clothes and put his school bag near the door or in the car.
- \*Finally, maintain strong communications with the school to insure your child stays on track for the remainder of the year.



Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or music class. Explain that he can be absent only if he is sick or if there is a family emergency.