
Essex Elementary School

Happenings

September 28, 2023



Throw Open the Doors!

Our annual Open House was, once again, a community event filled with joy. Students shared their delight and pride in their school as they served as the tour guide for family and friends. Thanks to all of you who joined in on the fun!



.....

So, what is Authentic Learning?

The Glossary of Education Reform defines authentic learning as “a wide variety of educational and instructional techniques focused on connecting what students are taught in school to real-world issues, problems, and applications.” Our own

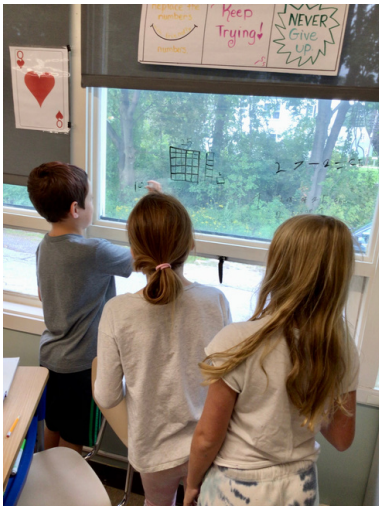
elementary teachers defined authentic learning as learning that engages students in multi-disciplinary experiences that encourage higher order thinking. It is student-centered, relevant, and accessible to all. Authentic learning is grounded in real world connections.

Examples of authentic learning can be found in classrooms throughout our school. From collecting measurements of students to identify the proper size of wooden stools to figuring out math problems that relate to a real world problem, our students engage in

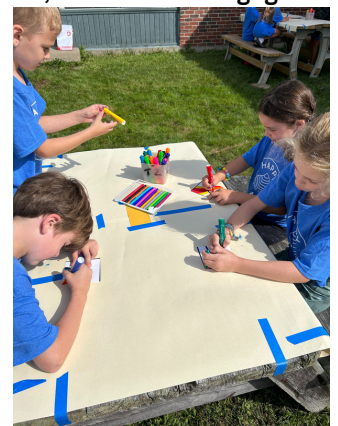
critical thinking, “learning by doing” as they relate meaning to their world.

As a family, you can join support your child’s learning in this same manner. As students cook, create, and build at home, encourage them to connect learning at school such as fractions, measurement and scientific concepts to these activities.

Interested in learning more about the benefits of authentic learning? Check out the [action research in the International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology.](#)



Students in Mrs. Field’s class explore mathematic problems, representing their thinking in visible ways from which they explain their thinking.



Art classes took advantage of the wonderful fall weather to explore and create.

Join us on **Wednesday** as we walk, bike or roll our way to school! We'll meet up at the Police/Fire Station at 7:50am. From there, we'll kick it into gear and walk our way to school.

All are welcome! Our numbers have been growing for every one of these events. Let's see if we can grow even more!

PUT ON YOUR WALKING SHOES!



HELP WANTED!

Have a little time on Tuesdays or Thursdays?

Our library could use a little assistance! Mrs. Silag, our librarian, could use help shelving and cataloging books as well as aiding students in signing out books. Interested? Please reach out to Mrs Silag @ silags@mersd.org

Friday, Sept 29: Gr 3 to Cape Ann Museum

Monday, Oct 2: 3:15-4:15pm School Council meeting~open to all

Agendas for our School Council meetings can be found on our [website](#). These open meetings are the basis of our school improvement plans. Our first meeting agenda includes an examination of our latest MCAS performance. Join in person or virtually. Watch your email for a link.

Wednesday, Oct 4: 7:50am iWalk to School event

Thursday, Oct 5: 7:30pm Friends of EES meeting~zoom in or join us in person

You can find the link [here](#) and on our Family Calendar on the website.

Friday, Oct 6: NO School~District Professional Development Day

Monday, Oct 9: NO School Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day

Wednesday, Oct 11: The Cape Ann Museum visits our Kindergarten Art classes

Tuesday, Oct 17: School Picture Day!

Thursday, Oct 19: Book Fair

Friday, Oct 20: Book Fair & 6pm Hoe Down

Upcoming **EVENTS**



Be sure to check out Family Calendar for the most up-to-date events:
<https://www.mersd.org/Page/16#calendar3050/20230907/month> !



Join us Friday October 6 from 3-5pm on the lawn of the library.

Join members of your community and celebrate your freedom to read! Grab a book, bring your chair and catch up on your reading. All ages are welcome to participate and no registration is required.

Refreshments will be served. We will be inside if rain.

According to the American Library Association, there were 45 book challenges in Massachusetts in 2022 affecting 57 titles. That's more than the past 9 years (2013-2021) combined which totaled 38 challenges.

Nationwide, ALA reported 1,270 book challenges in 2022, up significantly from 350 in 2019.

For more information <https://mbic.state.ma.us/news/news-releases/2023/nr230921.php>

Story Hours Begin

Wednesday, October 4th

9am Wee Ones Story time for ages 0-2yo

20 minutes of songs, rhymes, stories and creative play!

Drop-ins are welcome. If you are planning to attend, please register at our website:

<https://essexpubliclibrary.org/kids/story-hour/>

ESSEX SCARECROW FEST 2023



SCARECROW KITS ARE \$25 EACH

CASH OR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

FRIENDS OF THE ESSEX COA

AND WILL BE SOLD AT THE ESSEX SENIOR CENTER

17 PICKERING STREET

ON THE FOLLOWING TIMES ONLY:

MONDAY 9/18 9AM TO 11AM

TUESDAY 9/19 1PM TO 3PM

WEDNESDAY 9/20 4PM TO 6PM

THURSDAY 9/21 3PM TO 5PM

FRIDAY 9/22 4PM TO 6PM

SATURDAY 9/23 9AM TO 11AM

10am Preschool Story Time for ages 3, 4 and 5 years

30 minutes of songs, rhymes and stories read aloud and concludes with a themed craft.

Drop-ins are welcome. If you are planning to attend, please register at our website:

<https://essexpubliclibrary.org/kids/story-hour/>

Halloween Magic Show

Monday October 30 at 4pm, 3rd floor

Kids! Ages 4-10, join us and magician Tommy James for a hysterical, fun for all ages Halloween Magic Show! Don't miss a wizard's wand taking on a life of its' own, a haunted jack-o-lantern, Frankenstein and even an appearance from "Bunnacula" the (real!!!) bunny! This program is 50 minutes long and will have you belly-laughing the entire time. Reserve your spot today!

