

## Hundred Languages; Visions of a Child



A Reggio Emilia Inspired Early Childhood School



### Winter Edition 2019

#### \* WINTER HIGHLIGHTS \*

- January 12, 2019 - EA Winter Program & Silent Auction at Drury Lane, Oak Brook 9:00-11:30 a.m.
- January 31, 2019 - EA celebrates the 100th day of school
- January 31, 2019 - "Inspire your heart with art day"  
\*Sponsored by the Arts & Humanities Committee
- February is Dental Health Month... Dr. Thurmon-Brown DDS visits students in the River through Lakeview classrooms on Feb. 6, 2019. \*Sponsored by Health & Safety Committee
- February 14, 2019 - EA celebrates Valentine's Day
- February 18, 2019 - EA is closed for a Teacher Institute Day
- February 22, 2019 - EA Spirit Day! Students & Faculty are asked to wear RED - CARING
- February 25, 2019 - Registration for the 2019 Summer Session & 2019-20 School Year begins
- February 28, 2019 - EA Celebrates Digital Learning Day

You're invited to travel  
the globe at the  
Elmhurst Academy



17th Annual  
*Celebration of Diversity*  
*Friday, March 22, 2019*

*5:00 - 7:00 p.m.*

*This is a school event you do not want to miss!*

*\*Please note that Elmhurst Academy closes at 3:30 p.m. this day to prepare for this cultural extravaganza.*





## Elmhurst Academy Lakeview Presidential Election Results

*Congratulations to our new Class President **NATALIE DORKO**  
and Vice President **HANNAH HINRICHS***



*In conjunction with the national elections, Elmhurst Academy's kindergarteners wrap up their own presidential race as they selected their new class leaders to guide them into the 2018-19 school year. The students jumpstarted their political study by looking deeper into the branches of government, presidential qualifications, and responsibilities one has when holding a position of power. With this strong foundation, the kindergarteners were motivated to become more informed citizens and mature presidential candidates as they ventured into class elections.*

*After a month of campaigning, a successful meet and greet, and a closing debate, the final vote was held and students, parents, and faculty casted their ballots as well-informed voters.*

*Elmhurst Academy then welcomed local leader and Elmhurst Mayor Steven M. Morley, as he revealed the results of the kindergarten presidential election. Congratulations to president Natalie Dorko and vice-president Hannah Hinrichs for a well-run campaign!*

**A special thank you to Elmhurst Mayor,  
Steve Morley for delivering Lakeview's  
Presidential results.**

**We are honored to have you support  
our students in their leadership  
endeavors.**



## Winter Solstice Celebration ~ December 21, 2018

Winter solstice is an astronomical event that is caused by the tilt of the Earth on its axis and its revolution around the sun, which made Friday, December 21, 2018 the shortest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. The Solstice is celebrated around the world by many cultures through various traditions and festivals. Many holiday traditions are rooted in ancient celebrations of the winter solstice.

The students created outdoor lanterns and nature bird feeders to add to their connection to the outdoors during this time of year. They also enjoyed a Lighting Ceremony on our East & West Discovery Play gardens.



## Block Building Days ~ December 27-28, 2018



On December 27 & 28, 2018 students participated block themed explorations and feats of engineering with the celebration of Block Building Days.



When children play with blocks, they are practicing mathematical skills. In selecting blocks of different sizes and shapes and comparing surface volumes and areas, for example, they are unwittingly using classification and seriation. Because it involves measuring lengths, widths, and heights (if only by eye), block play develops a child's ability to mentally visualize relationships. Such manipulations are similar to those used in geometry and algebra during the child's later school years.

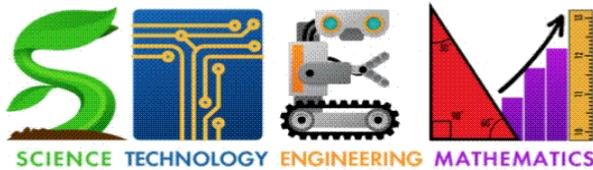


## *EA Science Olympiad ~ December 13, 2018*

*Elmhurst Academy's Science Olympiad Dives into Hands-On Investigation and New Scientific Discovery*

*On Thursday, December 13, 2018 Elmhurst Academy transformed into a center for scientific exploration at the annual Science Olympiad. Hosted by the school's S.T.E.M. Committee, each classroom investigated a unique science discipline through diverse hands-on activities and answering important scientific inquiries. These disciplines included studies into the five senses, force & motion, investigations of solids, liquids & gas, all things bubbles and reflections.*

*Elmhurst Academy's event focused on setting a science foundation for its students and exposing them to scientific exploration at a high level. The students participated in several interactive stations, all related to their given field of study, that helped them to draw key scientific conclusions and receive a larger understanding of the world around them. Parent "lab rat" volunteers ran each station, taking an active hand in their students' learning and building strong family-school relationships.*

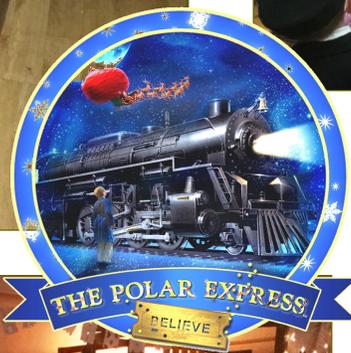


## Welcome to the Polar Express ~ Friday, December 21, 2018

*All Aboard the Polar Express!*

*During the month of December, the Woodlands and Lakeview students at Elmhurst Academy studied children's author/illustrator Chris Van Allsburg, who is best known for writing The Polar Express. During their literacy studies, they learned about various story elements such as characters, story sequence, settings, and are excited to see how these elements differ between the story and the movie. Children in both classes studied the illustrations and recreated them in large form to transform the classroom environment into the setting of the story.*

*The children were invited to wear their pajamas, received their golden ticket to board the train, enjoyed a special hot cocoa treat along with the characters in the movie and searched for the special bell that rings for all who believe.*



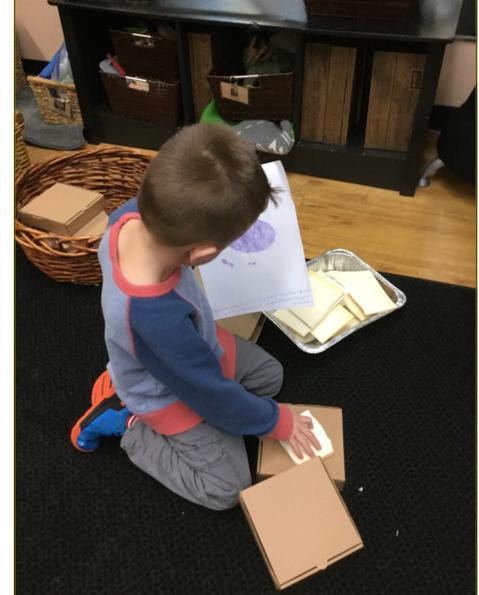
## *Kids Inventors' Day ~ January 17, 2019*



*Elmhurst Academy students put on their thinking caps, adjusted their goggles, and brought to life their own inventions in celebration of the national Kid Inventors' Day. This day commemorates the birthday of all-around genius and kid inventor, Benjamin Franklin and celebrates kid inventors around the world. It also aims to encourage children to be curious about the world around them and to be creative when solving problems.*

*The academy students used their own ingenuity as well as group collaboration to experience the thrill of invention in the classroom. They brainstormed their own unique inventions by sketching sets of detailed blueprints and then constructed 3D models using recyclable resources.*

*With the help of parent volunteers, the students used hammers, nails, drills, and other tools to build these complete inventions. Kid Inventors' Day allowed the students to discover their own innovation early in their development, gain the confidence to think creatively, and learn the value of collaboration to accomplish higher level outcomes.*



## *EA Literacy Committee Kicks off Reading Incentive Program*

*The Elmhurst Academy Literacy Committee is excited to be participating in the Cougars Reading Incentive Program sponsored by the Kane County Cougars for a seventh consecutive year. Students in the River, Prairie, Woodlands and Lakeview classrooms are invited to participate.*

*Cougars Reading Club is an eight week incentive program between the months of January and March. Cougars Reading Club tracks the progress of a student's reading around the bases of a baseball diamond with the three bases and home plate each representing two weeks of reading.*

*Students who complete the challenge will "hit a home run" and earn a free ticket to a cougar's game. (Elmhurst Academy game day TBD)*

*Other rewards students receive include: A Golden Ticket entitling them to complimentary admission to all June-September games. A hot dog and soft drink and an official Cougars Reading Club souvenir and a bookmark. The Kane County Cougars play at Northwestern Medicine Field, 34W002 Cherry Lane, Geneva, IL 60134*

*For more information please visit: <http://www.milb.com>*

**GET READY TO READ!**

**Reading program kicks off JANUARY 2019  
More information to follow.**



## *EA Celebrates 100 days of school ~ January 31, 2019*



*Elmhurst Academy postponed its 100th Day of School Celebration due to the weather and finally were able to celebrate 100 days of school on Monday, February 4, 2019 by recognizing student milestones and impressive development. Following the day's '100' theme, each classroom had the opportunity to participate in activities that helped them think critically about the large amount of 100. In the Lakeview class, the students dressed as if they were 100 years old and engaged in several '100' centered math studies.*



## 2019 Annual Winter Program & Silent Auction

*Elmhurst Academy family & friends were treated to an inspirational program performed by the talented students in our Prairie, Woodlands and Lakeview classrooms at the annual EA Winter Program & Silent Auction on Saturday, January 12, 2019 held at the Drury Lane in Oak Brook.*

*Classroom performances were inspired by the theme "ELEMENTS OF WINTER". Guests were also treated to visual presentations from the students in the Nido and River classrooms.*



Elmhurst Academy  
2019 Winter Program and Silent Auction

Artwork by: Hannah Hinrichs, Parker Gabuzda, Ellen Ricketts and Audrey Suttles



*A huge thank you to Mrs. Dillard for your hard work overseeing the silent auction. We would like to thank all of our families who helped make our silent auction such a success. With your support, participation and generosity, the academy raised \$7,623 this year that will be applied towards our goal of \$22,000 as we work to bring new technology equipment to our school.*



*A total of \$225 was received in donations, which will be used to purchase a new stove for the River classroom.*



*Our thanks to the many friends and community supporters that help make this event possible each year!*



- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Abbey Resort                | Lake Brothers Beer Co.      |
| Adler Planetarium           | Lynfred Winery              |
| Alpine Creek Dental         | Mario Tricoci               |
| Ariel Investments           | Medieval Times              |
| Babygenics                  | Mellentine Family           |
| Brown Family                | Metropolis Performing Arts  |
| Casper Family               | Oakbrook Marriott           |
| Chicago Botanic Garden      | Pinstripes Bowling OakBrook |
| Chicago Children's Museum   | Ravinia                     |
| Chicago Children's Theater  | Roadhouse 66                |
| Chick-Fil-A~ Elmhurst       | Safari Land                 |
| David Mayhew~ Storm Chaser  | Schaumburg Boomers          |
| Drury Lane                  | Shakespeare theater         |
| Dunn Family                 | Shedd Aquarium              |
| Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra | Springhill Suites           |
| Gabuzda Family              | Studio Movie Grill          |
| Green Earth Institute       | Village Links of Glen Ellyn |
| Grodecki Family             | Waters Family               |
| Improv of Woodfield         | West Family                 |
| Kendra Scott Jewelry        | WGN                         |
| Kohl Children's Museum      | Wheel of Fortune            |
| Kuhr Family                 |                             |

***Spanish Foreign Language Enrichment begins February 2019 at EA!***



*"Children raised in a home where two languages are spoken grow up fluent in both and don't have an accent. Adults, on the other hand, often struggle to pick up a second language, and even when they succeed, they don't sound like native speakers." This observation was made in a special National*

*Geographic publication, Your Brain: A User's Guide. It continued.... "The difference lies in the greater plasticity of a child's brain. Young children recognize a greater range of language sounds than adults. They pick up vocabulary and syntax more easily. And, they process languages more efficiently, activating smaller regions of the brain than do adult learners."*

*Although the brain is particularly sensitive to learning languages at a young age, it's never too late to benefit from the mental gymnastics of wrestling with a new tongue. Adding a second language improves cognitive skills and memory, as well as exposes learners to new ideas."*



*Spanish foreign language enrichment with Mrs. Lardin will start the first week in February 2019 in the River, Prairie, Woodlands and Lakeview classrooms at Elmhurst Academy.*

## Inspire Your Heart With Art Day ~ January 2019



*Inspire Your Heart with Art Day celebrates art of all shapes, sizes and varieties. Whether it's a trip to a local museum, watching or acting in a play at the local theater or tapping your toes to a music concert, this day celebrates creativity with an artistic flair as well as the positive effect it has on our lives. Be inspired and get creative, appreciate all different forms of art. On Monday, February 4, 2019, students took time to reflect on how art affects their lives and were encouraged to explore the many facets of art in their classrooms.*

*Thank you to the wonderful parent volunteers and faculty members on the Arts & Humanities Committee who shared their art inspirations in the classrooms.*



### THE LANGUAGE OF ART

*The language of art is prevalent in Reggio Emilia inspired schools. The everyday work of art is the process of making things with meaning, exploring the things others have made, and encountering daily life with a work-of-art attitude. At the heart of the ART experience is the respect and confidence given to children as curious learners. These are learners, not unlike artists, who ask questions, explore, compose, and construct with materials and media to understand themselves and their world.*

*In classrooms where it's all about art; teachers, artists, and parents believe with conviction that this process generates learning both on their part and the children's. They are adamant that children have the minds, hearts, bodies, and hands to explore, hypothesize, test, and make visible a world that is personally meaningful. As Loris Malaguzzi says, children have a 'hundred languages' to grapple with making worlds, exploring worlds, and reading worlds as they construct physical models of their knowing. This is exactly what artists do when they put things together, whether with words, their bodies, with voices, or musical instruments, paint, clay, or pencil. Students at Elmhurst Academy are enriched with art explorations throughout the year and celebrated "Inspire Your Heart with Art" the week of February 4th. 2019*



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**Like our school on Facebook!**



## ***February is ...National Dental Health Month***

*Each February, the American Dental Association (ADA) sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of oral health. Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums.*

*Dr. Hadley Thurmon-Brown, D.D.S. (Hayden Brown-Lakeview & Ethan Brown-River) and dental assistant Jenny Boonstra, visited with students on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 in the River through Lakeview classrooms. Students learned the importance of regular check ups to the dentist as well as daily brushing and flossing of their*



### **DATES TO REMEMBER**



- 3/1/19 - EA CLOSED for Parent/Teacher Conferences (end of the 2nd trimester)*
- 3/4/19 - EA Celebrates National Read Across America Day & Dr. Seuss's Birthday*
- 3/14/19 - EA Celebrates PI Day!*
- 3/21/19 - World Water Day Celebration*
- 3/22/19 - Celebration of Diversity 5:00-7:00 p.m. \*Please note that EA closes at 3:30 p.m on this day*

*4/3/19 - Woodlands II and Lakeview Poetry Night @Barnes & Noble, Oak Brook 6:30 p.m.*

*4/10/19 thru 4/12/19 - Outside the Lines Student Art Gallery*

*4/13/19 - Family Night at the Kohls Children's Museum 6:00-8:00 p.m.*

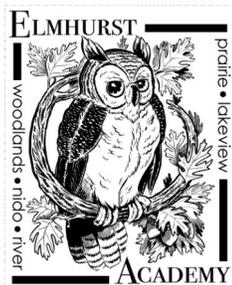
*5/17/19 - Earth Fest 3:30-5:30 p.m. \*Please note that EA closes at 3:30 p.m.*

*5/31/19 - Last Day of School (end of the 3rd. Trimester)*

## Elmhurst Academy

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www.elmhurstacademy.com  
Editor: Rose Zaccone



Thank you to Sir Speedy of  
Villa Park for making our  
publication of the  
Hundred Languages possible.

*Where character and education build a  
strong foundation for our future.*

### Emergency School Closing Information



*In the event of Elmhurst Academy being closed due to an emergency or extreme, unsafe weather conditions; families will be notified by using the Emergency Closing Center. You may register your email address for a personalized notification of our school's closing status at: [www.emergencyclosings.com](http://www.emergencyclosings.com)*

*Tune in to WGN Radio 720, WBBM NEWS RADIO 78-AM, or watch television channels: CBS 2, NBC 5, ABC 7, WGN 9, FOX 32 or CLTV NEWS.*



*Please be sure to visit the Parent Resource Center and sign your child in and out daily. As stated in the Elmhurst Academy Parent Handbook:*

*The daily arrival and departure of children at Elmhurst Academy is conducted in a way that protects each child's physical and emotional well-being. By law, children must be signed in and out by parents or a person specifically authorized by the parent, whose name is listed under the Transportation Authorization on the Application of Admission form. The daily arrival and departure log is located in the parent resource center.*

*Please sign your child in every morning and out every night after checking out with your child's teacher.*

*Thank you for your cooperation!*

Accreditations/Affiliations:

