

April 2024

*Dare to SOAR!*

# SUNSET NEWS



## A Note from the Principal

Sunset Families,

We have entered the last nine weeks of the school year. Please encourage your child to finish strong and always give their best effort.

Sunset teachers have been engaged in professional development for implementing Visible Learning. This work supports our goal of fostering academic success and a true sense of belonging for our students. We will continue to strive to provide students with the best academic opportunity. We will continue to embrace challenges, create belonging, foster pride and inspire hope for Sunset students.

Our third, fourth and fifth grades did a great job completing the Kansas State Assessments.

We are expecting a good end of the school year. We still need parents to join PTA! We have open officer positions for the 2024-2025 school year. Looking ahead to the next several weeks, we have PTA events and Fifth Grade Honor Night.

Best regards,

Mr. Brandon J. Cheeks

Principal

Sunset Elementary School

P: 785-309-4520

[Brandon.Cheeks@usd305.com](mailto:Brandon.Cheeks@usd305.com)



Many Hands Make **LIGHT** Work

# NEW! Mobile Health Unit

A mobile health unit will be open to all students and their families on select dates and located in the NE parking lot of Central High School, near the tennis courts. Find information at this link: [https://www.usd305.com/for\\_parents/community\\_info](https://www.usd305.com/for_parents/community_info)

## Fun Night

Please join us for

## Family Fun Night

Friday, April 26th

5:30-7:30 p.m.

We will have food, games, and be selling chances to win some awesome prize baskets.



## Yearbooks

Yearbooks will go on sale in April!

Cost will be \$13.00.

Be on the look out for an order form sent home with your student.



## Kindergarten Roundup

Body text  
*Embark on a New Journey*



Our Kindergarten Roundup is on

**April 23, 2024**

**6:00-7:00 p.m.**

Will your child be five years old by August 31, 2024? If so, kindergarten registration is the next step on their school journey. We are excited to meet your child and partner with you in nurturing your child's development!

Register now on the district website. After registering, the school will reach out with more information and to invite you to attend their Kindergarten Roundup!

## PTA News

The next meeting is  
**Thursday, April 4, 2024**

**6:30-7:30 p.m.**

**in the art room**

Parent participation is still needed for the PTA to continue its support of the school.

# Spotlight on Fourth Grade



Miss Schreiber, Mr. Panuco, Mrs. Clark

Fourth grade has had a super busy year! We have worked really hard to learn and grow to prepare for fifth grade.

One super exciting thing we have done recently was our music program! Fourth grade worked very hard on learning how to play the recorders and got to perform for the school, friends, and family! Miss Rishel also took us on a field trip to watch the Salina Symphony perform.

In reading, we have been learning about the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Fourth graders got to dive deep into one of them and did a research paper on the Natural Wonder and why they thought it was unique and exciting. This writing was also a state assessment, and they worked hard for many weeks to complete it. We are beginning a unit on Tall Tales and the students will have a creative writing where they will get to make their own creation tale!

Math has been fractions, fractions, fractions! We have spent the last nine weeks learning all things fractions, from adding and subtracting, to mixed numbers and improper fractions. We will finish the year learning decimals to the hundredths place and conversions.





## Resource from Mrs. Stockwell



**1-800-CHILDREN**  
*Supporting Parents*

Powered by Kansas Children's Service League

parenting. Find helpful resources and supports near you through this site or connect with a real person by calling 1-800-CHILDREN. We offer free and confidential support in English and Spanish as well as multiple other languages.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, call or text 988 to reach the [Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#), chat with them online via their website, or text HOME to 741741 (multiple languages available). If this is an emergency, call 911.

**1-800-CHILDREN is here to provide 24/7 support without judgment.**

No question is too big or too small when it comes to

## Notes from Mr. Kuder

Hello Orchestra Families!



The time has arrived for our students to show off their musical progress that they have made in orchestra this year! They will be putting on a combined strings concert on April 30 at 6:00 p.m. at South High School's Auditorium!

Students will be given more detailed information regarding concert details closer to that time! I am very excited to share their progress with you on April 30!

Mr. K

tyler.kuder@USD305.com

# Library Policies



## **Library Catalog Access for Families:**

Parents have access to the library materials currently checked out by their student(s). For access, parents will have their student log into Destiny, the library card catalog:

1. Go to the school's website.
2. Under the Our School tab, click on Library.
3. Under Library, click on the school's library Card Catalog tab.
4. For your student to log in, they can click the Log In button on the top right corner.
5. Next, click on the Sign in with Google button.

## **Process for Parental Oversight:**

Library media specialists should be contacted directly if parents would like to provide expressed permission before their student checks out any book. At elementary, the library media specialist will notify parent by email or phone regarding the book the student would like to check out to get permission. At middle school and high school, the student will provide their parent with the title of the book they wish to check out. The parent will contact the library media specialist by email or phone to give permission.

## **Checking Out Materials and Loan Periods:**

### ***Elementary:***

Students may check out books for a two week period. (The number of books a student can check out depends on the student's grade level.)

### ***Middle School:***

Students may check out 3 books for a three week check out period.

### ***High School:***

Students may check out 8 books for a three week check out period.



## Ed Extras

Helpful information about learning brought to you by Reading Rockets, Colorin Colorado, and LD OnLine

### Building Your Child's Vocabulary

All parents want their child to do well in school. One way to help your child is to help them build their vocabulary. Beginning readers use knowledge about words to help them make sense of what they're reading. The more words a reader knows, the more they are able to comprehend what they're reading or listening to.

Talking to and reading with your child are two terrific ways to help them hear and read new words. Conversations and questions about interesting words ("The book says, 'The boy **tumbled** down the hill,' and look at the picture! How do you think he went down the hill?") are easy, non-threatening ways to get new words into everyday talk.

Sharing a new word with your child doesn't have to take a long time: just a few minutes to talk about the word and then focus back on the book or conversation. Choose which words to talk about carefully – choosing every new word might make reading seem like a chore. The best words to explore with your child are ones that are common among adult speakers but are less common to see in the books your child might read.

When introducing new words to your young learner, keep the following four helpful hints in mind:

- 1. First, provide a simple, kid-friendly definition for the new word:**  
*Enormous means that something is really, really big.*
- 2. Second, provide a simple, kid-friendly example that makes sense within their daily life:**  
*Remember that really big watermelon we got at the grocery store? That was an enormous watermelon!*
- 3. Third, encourage your child to develop their own example:**  
*What enormous thing can you think of? Can you think of something really big that you saw today? That's right! The bulldozer near the park was enormous! Those tires were huge.*
- 4. Last, keep your new words active within your house.** Over the next few days and weeks, take advantage of opportunities to use each new vocabulary word in conversation.

Take the time to share new words and build your child's vocabulary. You'll be **enormously** glad you did!

For more resources, visit the vocabulary section on Reading Rockets:  
[www.ReadingRockets.org/atoz/vocabulary](http://www.ReadingRockets.org/atoz/vocabulary)



# April Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 - Site Council at 12:00 p.m.

4 - PTA

8 - No School/Teacher Workday

23 - Kindergarten Roundup

26 - Fun Night

30 - Orchestra concert



## Contact Us

Brandon Cheeks - Principal

Christal Lantz - Lead Teacher

Gena Koch - Secretary

Main Office Phone Number: 785-309-4520

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