

EAST DERRY ELEMENTARY



JANUARY 2026

Newsletter



D. Robert Reeder III

Principal

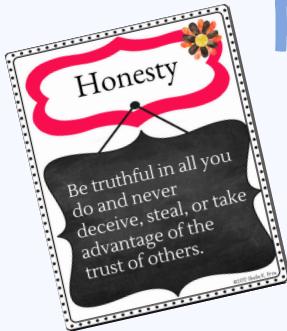
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Victoria Mattey

Assistant Principal

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RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, READY & SAFE:

In January we will focus on Honesty and Trustworthiness. We will be encouraging our students to be truthful in all that they do and showing others that they are reliable and believable by their actions.



WINTER WEATHER NOTES:

- When possible, weather related decisions will be made the night before school or no later than 5:30 am.
- If there is a 2 or 3 hour delay, NO BREAKFAST will be served. Lunch will be served.
- If the Mifflin County School District is in session and a parent/guardian determines the roads are unsafe to travel, the parent/guardian is permitted to have the student(s) remain home for the day. This is an excused absence only when the parent/guardian submits an excuse to the school stating the roads are "unsafe".



DRESS FOR THE WEATHER!

As the weather gets colder, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the changing temperatures. Since students go outside for recess each day (weather permitting) if the real feel is **30 degrees or higher**, we recommend sending them with coats, hats, and gloves to keep them warm while playing outside. Thank you for helping keep our students comfortable and ready to enjoy recess!



Please reach out to the school if you need items such as coats, hats, and mittens for your student.

MCSD POLICIES:

Parents are encouraged to share concerns through the proper channels. Policy 906 outlines the steps for addressing complaints. The full policy is located on the MCSD website.

You can view all MCSD policies on the MCSD website by clicking the School Board tab and then selecting the Board Docs box.



COMING UP:

- 1/12 - Dental Screenings
- 1/15 - Home & School Mtg - 6:30 EDES Library
- 1/16 - End of 2nd Marking Period
- 1/19 - School In Session (Snow Day Makeup)
- 1/30 - ACT 80 Day - No School
- 2/12 - Spring Picture Day
- 2/13 - ACT 80 Day - No School
- 2/16 - No School (Designated Snow Makeup Day)
- 2/23 - 2/27 - Spring Book Fair

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Any notes sent in to the Main Office MUST contain your child's full name, their teacher, and the information you are sharing (ex - early pickup, bus rider, illness excuse, etc)
- A note must be sent to the office for your child to be a parent pickup for the day.
 - Calls after 2:00 pm will not be guaranteed a change in dismissal status
- Family Access is the main source of family contact for important district information (including Sky Alerts for weather delays). To relay messages to parents/guardians EDES must have accurate information stored in Family Access. Please notify EDES office immediately of any changes in contact information.
- The MCSD website has the following important pieces of information: All Hazards Plan, Student Handbook, Bullying Policy, Curriculum Links, District Calendar, Lunch Menu, Cycle Day calendar, and much more! Check it out at www.mcsdk12.org



MEDICATION POLICY:



Over-the-Counter Medication forms were handed out to students on the first day of school. This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian in order for students to receive medication from the school nurse. If your child has not submitted the Over-the-Counter Medication form to the Nurse's Office, your child will not receive medication at school. Forms are available in the nurse's office.

As a reminder, students are NOT permitted to carry any medications on their person during school hours. This includes cough drops, medicated creams, eye drops or anything used for medicinal purposes. Any medication that is required to be taken at school MUST be transported to and from school by a parent/ guardian or designated adult and accompanied with a physician's order. Parents and guardians are required to sign medications into the nurse's office at drop-off.

If your child requires an inhaler, a new physician order must be submitted to the school nurse EACH school year before your child can carry an inhaler on their person. Failure to do so is a violation of the MCSD Medication Policy.

Please contact the School Nurse with any questions.

LOST & FOUND:

Our Lost and Found is growing! If your child is missing an item, please remind him/her to check the Lost & Found area outside the Music Room.



ATTENDANCE:

Early dismissals require a note to the Main Office. DO NOT use Skyward to submit early dismissals as they may not be seen by the office staff.

Students arriving after 8:20am will be marked Tardy.

Students arriving after 9:30am or leaving before 2:00pm will be marked absent for a $\frac{1}{2}$ day.

Excuses must be returned within 3 days of an absence to avoid absence being marked unexcused.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Do you have a child who will turn 5 years old on or before September 1, 2026? It's time to start thinking about Kindergarten! Kindergarten Registration will take place at East Derry Elementary School on **March 18th & 19th, 2026**.

Please complete the form on the last page of this newsletter (or contact the school office for a copy) and return it to the EDES office before registration days. *Spanish version is available upon request*

And please help us spread the word! Tell friends, neighbors, and family members who have children starting kindergarten next fall. We can't wait to welcome our newest learners to the East Derry family!



DECEMBER AT EAST DERRY:

Kindergarten braved the cold and went on a field trip to see the ice sculptures & catch a movie!



Second grade had the chance to ride the Polar Express!



Students had a blast shopping for their loved ones at Santa's Workshop!



Save the Date!

Mifflin County School District



2026-2027

Kindergarten Registration

Will your child be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2026?

If so, please complete the back of this form and return it to your child's school. If you are not able to drop off or mail the completed form, you may take a picture of the form and email it to the building secretary. Their names and emails can be found on the back of this form.

Once the form has been received, a registration packet will be mailed to you with an appointment date and time. Appointments will be held during the school day on the following dates:

Indian Valley Elementary School: March 10th, 11th, and 12th

Strodes Mills Elementary School: March 16th and 17th

East Derry Elementary School: March 18th and 19th

Lewistown Elementary School: March 24th, 25th, and 26th



Please plan to provide the following items, as part of the registration process:

verification of child's birth date

proof of a physical

immunization records

proof of residence

custody agreements or court orders

Dear Parent:

The Mifflin County School District is conducting registration for children who will be eligible for enrollment in a kindergarten class for the 2026-2027 school year. A child must be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2026. There are no exceptions or provisions made for early entrance to kindergarten.

Information gathered from this form will enable the district to properly plan for its new enrollees and will provide an opportunity for school officials to communicate directly with parents and guardians concerning enrollment requirements.

Proper enrollment for school includes: a physical examination performed within one year of the start of the 2026-2027 school year, verification of birth date, proper immunization, proof of residence, and custody agreements/court orders (if applicable). Once enrolled, a kindergarten assessment will be administered to each child to determine learning potential. While this assessment has no bearing on eligibility for enrollment, it does aid the school in structuring meaningful and appropriate educational programs for new students. Once your child is registered you will receive more information about the assessment program.

Please complete the form below and return it to your child's school :

East Derry Elementary School - Mrs. Aleisa Baumgardner - (717) 543-5615, alb50@mcsdk12.org

Indian Valley Elementary School - Ms. Rylie Kepner - (717) 667-2123, rek14@mcsdk12.org

Lewistown Elementary School - Mrs. Kaitlin Lorson - (717) 242-5823, kml29@mcsdk12.org

Strodes Mills Elementary School - Mrs. Amber Peterson - (717) 248-7154, alp35@mcsdk12.org

Child's Name _____	Birth Date _____	SEX: <i>Male or Female</i>			
Last _____	First _____	Middle _____	Month / Date / Year _____		
Father's Name _____			Home Phone _____		
Last _____	First _____	Middle _____	Home Phone _____		
Mother's Name _____			Home Phone _____		
Last _____	First _____	Middle _____	Home Phone _____		
Guardian's Name _____ (if applicable)	Last _____	First _____	Middle _____	Home Phone _____	
Child Resides with: _____				Father/Mother/Guardian	
Address where Child Resides _____				Street / Box No. _____	City _____

Name of a local friend or relative to contact if parents are not available.

Name _____	Address _____	Telephone _____	Relationship _____
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