

Glossary of Elsmere Terms

Please let us know if there is anything we should add!

1,000 Books – A reading program for pre-K to second grade students. We have 100 bags with 10 books in each bag. After registering, a bag is given to a child each time he / she returns their previously read bag. The special challenge is to read all 1,000 books.

Afterschool Enrichment – organized by PTA, special enrichment classes are offered in six-week blocks once or twice a year. Classes include exploring the outdoors, drama, painting and more.

CAPER – Children and Parents Enjoying Reading is an hour-long evening program for all students and families held four times throughout the year. At CAPER, eight student volunteers read a short story to the audience. Refreshments are served.

Challenge – The district gifted and talented program for qualifying students in grades 3-5.

Class Buddies – all classes are paired with an older or younger class for the year. The two classes get together once or twice a month to work on special projects.

Elsmere PRIDE – Our character education program woven into each day. P = personal best, R=Respect and Responsibility, I=Integrity, D=Determination, E=Enthusiasm

Gently Used Book Sale: Held in the spring for all students. Families may donate and buy books for 25 -75 cents.

Giving Day – Around the December holidays, students make small gifts for local senior citizens. Children display these gifts at our December Assembly.

Grade Level Breakfast: Held once a year for each grade, 8:40-9:10. Families may bring their own breakfast to the cafeteria to eat with classmates and their families. PTA provides juice and coffee. Cereal and milk may be purchased from the school cafeteria.

Homework Club – an afterschool opportunity for a limited number of students to receive homework guidance once or twice a week.

Lip Sync – Every other year, groups of five or more children practice and perform a song of their choice at an evening program in the high school or middle school.

Monthly Assembly – Each month, the whole school gathers for a 30-45 minute assembly to recognize special accomplishments, birthdays, etc.

Nature's Classroom: 5th grade four-day trip to Becket, Mass. in the spring

PALS – Peer Assistance Leaders – 5th grader volunteers attend a multi-week training focused on leadership and problem solving. PALs then assist younger children at recess and lunch.

School Song: Written by a now retired teacher, our school song has been a favorite of students for many years. You can hear it on our webpage (sidebar: Elsmere mission and song)

School Spirit Club: Third, four and fifth graders who meet once a month during recess to plan special school activities promoting goodwill and fun at Elsmere.

School Store – Run by parents on Wednesdays during lunch in the cafeteria. Items sold include pencils, erasers and other school supplies ranging from five cents to \$1.25

Senior Assembly – In June, twelfth graders who attended Elsmere are honored for their accomplishments.

Student of the Week: Each week, one student from each grade is selected as the Student of the Week. To be eligible, students need to follow all school rules and show Elsmere PRIDE. Students who qualify receive a gold card which is sent to the office. When a student's gold card is marked eight times, the student receives a special Elsmere PRIDE pencil.

Wall of Fame – Students who have done something especially good may be asked to sign their name on the Wall of Fame bulletin board in the office.