Spring Quarterly 2026





The EL News Quarterly

A Message from Dr. Mary Lynn Westfall, Principal at EFHS:

"As we begin the second half of our school year, our students will have many opportunities to demonstrate their commitment, growth, and resilience. In the next few months, it is important to push through challenges in order to be well prepared for future education, employment, or enlistment. We are set to be focused and finish the school year strong! "



Happy Spring!

Welcome to the Spring edition of our Parent & Family Newsletter!

In the first half of the school year, your child had the opportunity to establish routines in class and in extra-curricular activities. Now that the second half of the school year has begun, teachers will continue to work hard to ensure your child learns all grade-level content. Class projects, reports, and tests are all opportunities for your child to show what they have learned. This newsletter will list ways you can help your child at home during this new time of effort and exploration .

Don't forget to fill out a quick survey to share any information or suggestions you might have for the next newsletter. We value your input!

What type of information would be helpful for you and your family about the education of your child?

- ◊ EL Identification process of your child
- ◊ Testing process, dates and at-home learning strategies
- ◊ Community resources available to support your family
- ◊ Adult education resources
- ◊ College support: financial aid, deadlines testing

Please share any additional feedback you would like to know by emailing your answers to inez.hill@k12.wv.us.

Thank you so much!

What is Daylight Saving Time?

Daylight Saving happens twice a year, and these changes are also called "spring forward" and "fall back". What does spring forward mean? In the Spring, you move your clock one hour forward, and for fall back, you move your clock one hour back in the Fall. Now, remember, Daylight Saving starts at 2:00 am on the second Sunday in March (March 8th, 2026) and ends on the first Sunday of November (November 1st, 2026).

This means more sunlight during the hours most of us are awake. But setting the clock forward or back also can cause sleep issues. Fortunately, there are ways to help your child adjust and get the sleep their growing bodies need. Turn the page to learn about ways to help your child prepare for the time change.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **March 13:** NO SCHOOL (Professional Learning Day for Teachers)
- **April 3-12 :** NO SCHOOL (Spring Break)
- **April 13:** NO SCHOOL (Professional Learning Day for Teachers)
- **April 29:** 3-Hr Early Out
- **May 12:** NO SCHOOL (Primary Election Day)
- **May 25:** NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)
- **May 28: NMHS graduation**
- **May 29: EFHS graduation**
- **May 30: FSHS graduation**

At Home Learning Resources for Students

Target Skills: Reading, Listening, Comprehension
Recommended Grade Levels: PK-4
Watch actors read books aloud and use the activity guide

The easiest way to use this resource is to:

Open **Storylineonline.net,** and Click on "All Books."

1. Select a book.
2. Click on the image to open the recording.
3. Click on "Activity Guide" to read about the themes in the book.
4. Listen to the story with your child and discuss the book's themes.

I recommend that you start with "Fresh Juice" by Robert Liu Trujillo:)

Target Skills: Reading, Listening, Comprehension
Recommended Grade Levels: K-12
Find lessons and activities for all grade levels.

Epic is a library of online storybooks, audiobooks, fairy tales, and more.

1. Open **Getepic.com**, and click on "I'm an adult," then, "Parent."
2. Select "Get Epic Basic" to get free access to books.
3. Once you create your free account, add your child's name to the account.
4. Select "Explore" to find a book.
5. Sit with your child to read or listen to the book.
6. Discuss the book with your child.

"My Favorite Animal: Humpback Whales" by Victoria Marcos is a great read!

Target Skills: Math and English
Recommended Grade Levels: K-8
Engage in fun activities that teach math and English.

1. Go to **prodigy.com,** and select the "Teachers and Parents" button.
2. Create a FREE account, and then add your child as a student for Math and/or English.
3. Have your child open a new window at Prodigy.com and click the "Play Now" button.
4. Your child can play any game they would like.
5. Log in when they are finished so you can track their progress.

This app has a free version that you can use to help your child practice basic math and English skills. Once you create your account, your child's progress will be tracked, making it easier for you to monitor their progress.

Routines for Success at School

It is important to establish and maintain routines. The routines not only make the transition from home to school easier, but they also result in a positive attitude toward learning. There are three routines that can be helpful for students to find success at school: Homework, Nighttime, and Morning routines.

Homework Routines



A routine that includes time for homework will ensure that your child completes it daily. Set some time aside either right after school or in the evening while dinner is being prepared. The goal is to make it a consistent, quiet time for your child to complete homework and read.

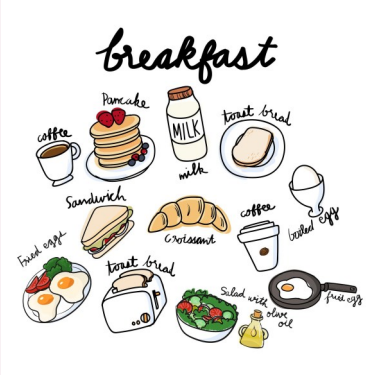


Nighttime Routines

As adults, we often develop routines without the help of our child. Research suggests that including your child in planning the routine. Ask your child to help pick and set out the next day's clothes and pack homework for easy access in the morning.

Morning Routines

It is helpful to allow for a consistent amount of time so that children don't feel rushed or frustrated in the morning. Children who wake up at the same time daily, eat a healthy breakfast, and get ready for school with little distraction can arrive at school on time and stress-free.



When routines are followed they result in a better experience for all members of the family, even on stressful days. The three routines explained on this page are just a few options, but the most important factor in all of them is **consistency.** Children that are not used to following routines will struggle if they are suddenly asked to follow one.



Two other important factors in establishing a routine are **patience and practice**. Focusing on consistency, patience and practice will help continue to guide your child toward academic success.

https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/setting-a-routine-for-success-at-school

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

West Virginia Department of Education's Mission for the Education of English Learners

Title III promotes student achievement by increasing the local capacity to support English Learners in attaining English proficiency and meaningfully access challenging curricular and extracurricular programs. We do this by providing leadership, resources, and services to educators, families and community partners.

West Virginia Department of Education's Vision for the Education of English Learners

The Department is committed to using English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards because they explicitly focus on the learning needs of the wide range of English Learner (EL) students from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade who come from widely diverse cultural, linguistic, and educational backgrounds and are at different stages of English language acquisition. Unlike other content standards, they take into account the critical role of language learning in the achievement of content and specifically focus on the learning styles and instructional needs of EL students. ELP standards represent a bridge for EL students to gain access to content instruction in English. .

The Marion County School District is committed to providing an effective Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP) that promotes the natural abilities of bilingual children to acquire language. It is characterized by creative teaching strategies and teacher support so that ELs can meet academic content and achievement standards as other students. Second language instruction incorporates the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. All modalities of cognitive and learning styles are included to make instruction relevant and comprehensible. Language instruction strives to accommodate individual proficiencies by presenting learning activities at the appropriate level of difficulty. EL instruction varies in scope and incorporates content areas in lessons when appropriate.

SPRING Testing For Students

ELPA21 (K-12 graders)

English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century

(February10-March 20, 2026)

PSAT (8/9,10 graders)

Preliminary SAT Exam

(March 2-April 30, 2026)

WVGSA (3-8 graders)

West Virginia General Summative Assessment

(April 13-May 22, 2026)

Three Rivers Festival (May 21-23, 2026)

The Three Rivers Festival has been a local tradition since 1983. This wonderful three-day festival includes a pageant, carnival, grand parade, food contests, car show, fireworks, a pepperoni roll bake-off and live entertainment. Let the Monongahela, Tygart and West Fork Rivers lead you to a weekend full of fun in the friendly town of Fairmont.



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