

# Lincoln Elementary School Newsletter

## May 2026



### **From the Principal's Desk**

Hello and Happy May!

Wow! Just two more weeks of school. We will have one more newsletter at the end of the school year with report cards on the last day of school, which is May 22nd. Dismissal will be at 11:55 AM.

We had a wonderful week celebrating our teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. We have an outstanding group of educators who dedicate their careers to ensuring students learn and feel loved and safe. They mean the world to me, and I am so thankful they are Lincoln Lions. We also recognized our amazing school nurse, Jennifer Cook, RN. Nurse Jen also serves as the head nurse for District 709. She takes such great care of our students. You can be assured they are in great hands! Thanks, Nurse Jen for all you do.

Thank you so much to the parents who are providing food on May 12th for our last luncheon. This is such a highlight each month. We appreciate your generosity.

The next 9.5 school days will FLY by...so much fun and activities ahead of us! Please be sure to keep track of us on Facebook and refer to the dates in this month's newsletter to know what's happening for the next two weeks!!

Sincerely,  
Wendy Vastine

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### **From the Assistant Principal's Desk:**

Wow! What a fast, great year this has been. As we wrap up the year, I want to thank parents and guardians for all of your attention to the positivity that you have instilled in your children for learning. Every positive reminder for children to do their best builds into a happy, well rounded student. It doesn't go unnoticed! As we think towards next year, please consider taking advantage of our School Kits program to help you with your school supply purchasing. Scanning this QR code will take you to the Lincoln specific ordering page to simplify the process. Have a great summer!



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## **From Mrs. Poshard in the Lincoln Library**

Here we are, our school year quickly winding down, and we have completed our last week of check-outs in the library. All books are now due and should be returned to the library.

If you receive an email with notice of an overdue book, please help your student locate the missing items. You may pay the replacement cost for the book, which is included on the email notices. Alternatively, gently used replacement copies are accepted.

Thank you so much for your support of our Lincoln Library! Have a wonderful summer!

Mrs. Poshard

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## ***Send a Sip***

Help us make the end of the year extra special for our staff. You can "Send a Sip" to our staff through Traveling Toms. For a \$6 donation, a staff member will have the opportunity to order a drink to enjoy on May 18th.

Thanks for making it an extra special end of the year!



<https://customer.travelintomscoffee.com/#/T139X1549028>

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## **ANNUAL SCHOOL PICNIC TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 15TH**

One of our favorite end of year activities is our annual all school picnic. The Annual School Picnic will be held on **Friday, May 15th**. Parents are invited to come to school to eat outside with their children during their child's lunch/recess time. We will use the bus loading parking lot, the staff parking area, the grassy area to the north of the school/cafeteria and the grassy area along Jefferson Street for families to gather for lunch. There will also be a few tables set up inside if you would prefer to eat inside.

We encourage you to bring lawn chairs, blankets, etc. for eating outside. Due to limited indoor seating, our picnic day will be canceled if it is raining or if there is the likelihood of rain. (Look for an email alert by 7 am on Friday, along with a Facebook post if the weather is questionable for 5/15.)

### **Your child's picnic time is about the same time that your child eats lunch:**

4th/5th/6th: 11:00-11:55 am

3rd: 11:30-12:25

Kindergarten/1st: 12:00-12:55 pm

2nd: 12:30-1:20 pm

(This time also includes their recess time)

The picnic menu will consist of:  
Grilled Hamburger or Grilled Hot Dog  
Cole Slaw Baby Carrots  
Apple Cookie Milk

The picnic note order form for placing your hamburger or hot dog order is included with this newsletter. Please complete this form if you wish to purchase a school lunch on picnic day! We need it by Monday, May 11th at the latest. Only cash or check will be accepted on the day of the picnic (no credit card sales).

Our PTO has arranged to have dessert food trucks at Lincoln during Picnic Day. The items are available for purchase. These trucks will be parked in the circle drive in front of the school. Because of the increased pedestrian/child traffic with these trucks, we will keep our parking lot open only for handicapped accessible parking from 10:45-1:15 pm on Picnic Day. Thanks to our Lincoln PTO for arranging such special treats for Picnic Day!

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## End of Year Housekeeping

As we approach the end of the school year, there are always a few housekeeping items to remind families of:

**Missing Text Books:** If your student is missing a textbook or classroom library book, it also needs to be returned or the cost of the book paid by May 22nd.

**iPad Damages:** We will begin collecting student iPads soon. You will be contacted if your child's iPad has any damages which need to be taken care of before the end of the school year.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP WITH THESE END OF YEAR TASKS!**

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### Don't Forget to Pre-Register Your Incoming Kindergarten Student for the 2026-2027 School Year!

If you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2026, it is time to begin the kindergarten registration process.

1. Please complete the pre-registration form by May 15th.

<https://morton709.powerschool.com/public/formbuilder/form.html?formid=255044> The pre-registration form should be completed for any new student to the district.

2. In May, the principals will review the pre-registration forms to determine building placement for pre-registered students. You will then receive an email with directions for setting up your parent access to the PowerSchool Portal.

3. In June, students who have pre-registered by May 15th will receive a welcome to kindergarten letter that indicates your child's anticipated school placement.

4. On July 13th, registration for 2026-2027 will officially open, and you will be able to complete the official registration process. All kindergarten and new families **must** attend registration day on Tuesday, July 28th, in person to submit the required registration

documents, pay school fees, and sign up for a Kindergarten Round-Up time. Registration documents can be found on the District's [REGISTRATION](#) page. Documents you will provide on registration day include:

- Original certified birth certificate (must have before your child can start school)
- 3 proofs of residence (must have before your child can start school)
- Immunization record
- Medical exam form
- Dental exam form
- Eye exam form

5. On August 3rd, families that pre-registered after May 15th will receive their official school assignments. Every effort will be made to place new families in their neighborhood schools, but that is not always possible due to class size limits.

6. On Thursday, August 6th, your child will attend Kindergarten Round-Up, at your designated time, at your assigned school.

7. On Friday, August 7th, your child's teacher assignment will be available in PowerSchool.

8. On Tuesday, August 11th, your child will attend his/her first day of school!

Please contact the district office at 309-263-2581 or our school office at 309-266-6989 if you have any questions about the kindergarten registration process. We look forward to working with you and your child!

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### **Important Upcoming May Dates:**

Sunday, May 10th

-Happy Mother's Day!

Monday, May 11

-3rd Grade Walking Field Trip to Butterfly Park and

Carius Creamery 12:30 PM

-MEC 2:45-3:45 PM (DO)

-5th-8th Choir Concert 6:30 PM (Grace Church)

Tuesday, May 12

-Teacher Luncheon provided by the PTO

-Kind Kids Club

-5th Grade Field Trip to Funk Prairie Home

-6th-8th Grade Band Concert 7:00 PM (JH Kiln)

Wednesday, May 13

-2nd Grade Field Trip to Luthy Botanical Gardens  
(rescheduled date)

-District 709 Retirement Reception at Bertha Frank

3:30-5:00 PM

Thursday, May 14

-6th Grade Field Trip to St. Louis

-MEC 2:45-3:45 PM (DO)

Friday, May 15

-Lincoln School Picnic

-6th Grade Early Civilization Museum Day-

12:15 - 12:55 - Museum doors open for parents and families to tour civilizations

Sunday, May 17

-MHS Graduation 2:00 PM

Monday, May 18

-Speech Language Pathologist Appreciation Day

Tuesday, May 19

-Buddy Walk to Carius Creamery 1st and 5th Grade

1:00-2:30 PM

Wednesday, May 20

-Summer Reading Program presentation by the

MPL 2:00 PM K-5 only (gym)

Thursday, May 21

-Field Day (more information to come...parent  
volunteers needed!)

Friday, May 22

-Last Day of School!!

-Awards Assembly 9:30-10:30 AM (gym)

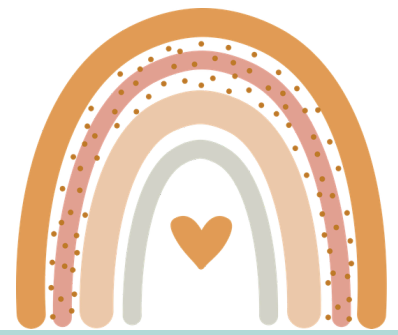
-Dismissal 11:55 AM

Monday, May 25

-Memorial Day

# Monthly Newsletter

from your Social Workers and School Psychologist



## MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

**Responsibility and Good Choices** was highlighted this month. Our students learned...

- Expected and unexpected choices
- Taking ownership of our choices
- Learning from our Mistakes helps us grow
- Blaming vs Responsibility Words
- Ways we are responsible at home and school
- Using "Pause, Think, Okay" stoplight when making choices
- Loving ourselves and being the best us we can be
- Identifying the Size of the Problem
- Matching our reaction to the size of the problem

**We love to have our Lincoln Lions expand their knowledge of what they learn to their every day - school, home, and in the community.**

## 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE UPDATE

Sixth graders wrapped up the year with a stress and mindfulness escape room challenge, working in teams to solve five puzzles in hopes of escaping the "mountain of stress" and unlocking a prize from Mrs. Winkler's treasure chest. Students collaborated thoughtfully, supported one another, and demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship throughout the activity!

Moving into junior high often brings mixed emotions, both excitement and nervousness as students prepare for new experiences, expectations, and opportunities for growth. This is an important transition, and it's normal to feel a range of feelings along the way.

Check out the following page to talk with your child about how to feel prepared, confident, and ready for junior high!

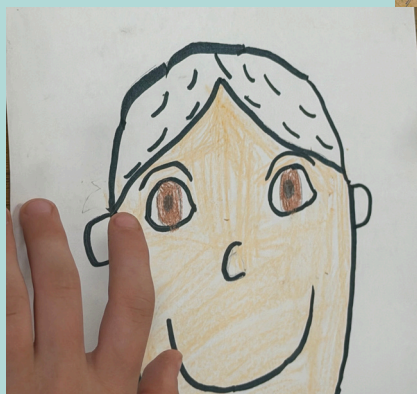
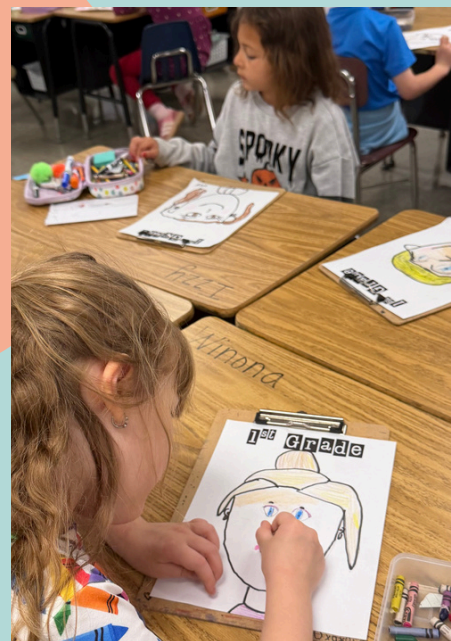
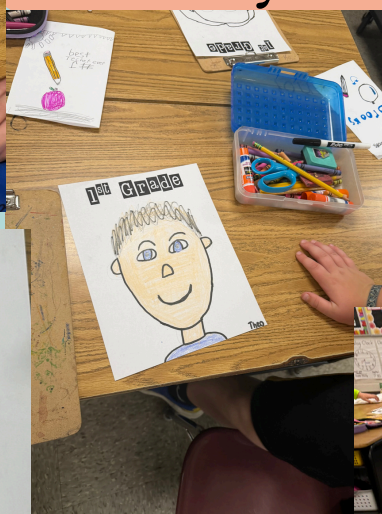
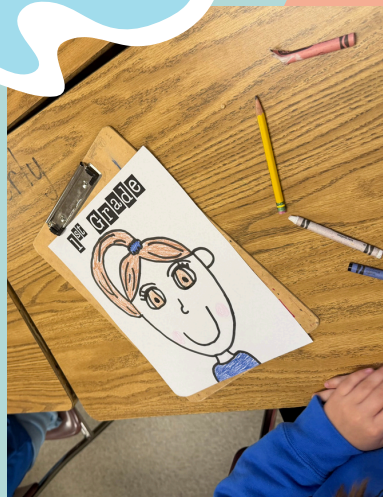
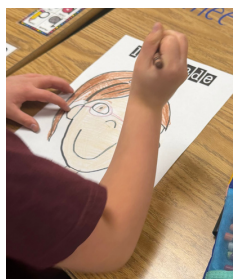
## CHECK IT OUT

Challenge your family to a fun game of social emotional learning bingo this summer!



# Excitement Abounds as our LINCOLN LIONS ROAR into Summer!!

Take a peek at the self portraits our younger Lions are creating as we wrap up the school year.



hello  
SUMMER



# SUCCEEDING AT



## MORTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

- 1 FOLLOW YOUR CURIOSITY & try out new activities, clubs, and sports offered in middle school. Not only will it expand your horizons, but it's a great way to meet new friends.
- 2 USE A PLANNER. Using a planner will help you stay organized with homework & project due dates, test dates, and your daily schedule.
- 3 DO YOUR HOMEWORK so you don't fall behind. Homework is intended to help you review important concepts and learn new skills. Plus, it sends the message to your teacher - and yourself - that you value your education.
- 4 ASK FOR HELP when you need it! This is an important skill, even for adults. Figure out who can support you with academic, social, and/or personal challenges and reach out to them.
- 5 When having to make a difficult decision, like what to do when faced with peer pressure, LISTEN TO YOUR WISE VOICE WITHIN. Ask yourself: is this safe, will someone get hurt, or what could be the consequences? Then make a decision that honors your values and empowers you to live your best life.
- 6 TAKE GOOD, KIND CARE OF YOURSELF. This includes eating healthy, drinking lots of water, and getting at least 8-10 hours of sleep each night.
- 7 JUST BREATHE. Middle school can be a wonderful, exciting time in your life. And there may also be moments when you feel overwhelmed with all the changes taking place. So slow down. Take it one step at a time. Practice healthy coping strategies. And breathe.
- 8 REMEMBER THAT YOU MATTER, BELONG AND ARE JUST RIGHT JUST AS YOU ARE. SO STEP INTO YOUR POWER AND BE YOUR BRAVE SELF!

# All About Responsibility

Parents,

Hello! Here at school, we have been very busy learning about responsibility-what it means and how we can be responsible students and citizens! Learning happens best when it is done both at school and at home. Below are many ways that you can help your child continue to learn about the theme of responsibility through reading about it, talking about it, and practicing it! We have really enjoyed exploring this topic at school, and I hope your family will enjoy it just as much!

## Read About It!

Here are some books to help you learn more about responsibility:

- I Just Forgot by Mercer Mayer
- But It's Not My Fault by Julia Cook
- The Paperboy by Dav Pilkey
- The Pigsty by Mark Teague

## Practice It!

Help your child practice responsibility by giving him/her special jobs! Let your child pick a special chore each week that they can be responsible for. Let them carry the groceries, wipe the counters or feed the pet!

## Talk About It!

Here are some discussion points to help you talk about responsibility with your child:

- What do you think responsibility means and why is it important?
  - Tell me about a time when it was hard to be responsible.
- What is a way you would like to have more responsibility at home?
  - What are your responsibilities in the classroom and in our community?

# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

## BINGO CHALLENGE BOARD

SELF-MANAGEMENT	SELF-AWARENESS	SOCIAL AWARENESS	RELATIONSHIP SKILLS	RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING
Set up a spot where you can go if you feel upset.	Do a feelings check in with yourself. How do you feel? How do you know?	Learn something about another culture.	Write a letter or make a card for a friend.	Work with your family to create a list of consequences for negative behaviors.
Journal, or talk to a family member about how you're feeling every day for a week.	Make a list of the things you love about yourself. Hang it where you can see it every day.	Notice when someone needs something, then meet their need.	Apologize for a mistake you made.	At the end of the day, talk to a family member about your behavior for the day. What went well. What could you have done better?
Set a goal for the week.	Spend two minutes trying to notice your thoughts.	Help a family member without being asked.	Introduce yourself to someone new.	Go out of your way to make someone else feel good.
Come up with a list of things you can do when you feel upset.	Come up with something you can repeat to yourself that helps you feel good about yourself.	Ask a family member how their day is going. Listen to their response.	Solve a disagreement or argument peacefully.	Do something that you are asked to do.



## School Lunch Annual Picnic

Parents are invited to each lunch with their child! The 2026 School Lunch Picnic will be held on the following date:

MAY 15

Please return this completed form by MAY 8.

Picnic lunch menu will consist of:

- Choice of Grilled Hamburger or Grilled Hot Dog
- Baby Carrots
- Coleslaw
- Apple
- Choice of Milk
- Cookie

Return the bottom portion of this form by MAY 8. You may keep the top portion for your information.

Student meals will be charged to their lunch account. Adult and sibling meals will be cash or check only.

If you have any questions, please call your school.

HAMBURGER MEAL	HOT DOG MEAL
# of Student Meals _____	# of Student Meals _____
# of Sibling Meals _____	# of Sibling Meals _____
# of Adult Meals _____	# of Adult Meals _____
Total Meals Ordered _____	Total Meals Ordered _____

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_