



PRAIRIE KNOLLS FALCONS

225 Nesler Road, Elgin IL 60124 Phone: 847-717-8100 Fax: 847-717-8105
Principal: Dr. Matthew Haug
Assistant Principal: Mrs. Carrie Ahlsted Assistant Principal: Mr. Matt Newquist

October 21-22 Falcon Flyer

Important Dates

Oct. 8-End of 1st Quarter

**Oct. 11-Columbus Day
No School**

Oct. 14-Report Cards

Oct. 20- Picture Retakes

**Oct. 21 & 22
P/T Conferences**

**Oct. 28-Quarter 1
Recognition Breakfast**

**Oct. 29
Halloween Dress Up Day**

Digital Bulletin Board



PKMS students support the ongoing fight for a cure
for pediatric cancer. Falcon Pride!

Dr. Haug's Message

From the Principal 10-01-21

Hello and Welcome to October at PKMS!

This will be a busy month for staff and students at PKMS! Before we get into the highlights of the month, remember that the days will become cooler, and our weather will likely begin to change. Please remember to tell your students to dress appropriately for the weather as they will spend more time waiting outside at the bus stops, during drop-off and pick-up, and as they walk or ride their bikes to school and home.

Quarter 1 ends this week. This is a good opportunity to have a conversation with your child about their academic progress and their work habits. Students with any missing assignments should check with their teachers as to what can still be turned in for credit. It is also a good time for reflection about how Quarter 1 has gone so far, and what they can do to improve their student behaviors going forward. Staying organized, being attentive, and finding balance are skills that all of us (students and adults) can benefit from developing and improving. Now is the best time for students to find what works for them.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming soon! They are scheduled for Thursday, October 21st, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and on Friday, October 22nd, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Look for upcoming information on Friday, October 8th, regarding signing up for Conference times with your child's teachers.

Finally, the end of October brings Halloween. Dressing for Halloween is permitted at Prairie Knolls and will take place on Friday, October 29th this year. Students are reminded that costumes and clothing worn on this day must meet dress code requirements and not disrupt the learning environment. Weapons, fake blood, masks that completely cover the head and face, and gory costumes will not be permitted. Inflatable costumes are not allowed, and any spray or cosmetic make-up must be applied at home and not brought to school. See inside this Falcon Flyer for more information about Halloween costumes.



Assistant Principal Mr. Newquist's Corner

Hello Falcon Families!

Well, that first month went by fast! I think it is safe to say that students, parents, and teachers have officially gotten back into the school year routine. As temperatures start to cool off (kind of) Falcon athletics have heated up. The Falcon Football team finished off a great season by capturing the NCJC Conference Championship. Congratulations to the players, Coach Valentini, and Coach Denman. Led by Coach Bender and Coach Scruggs, the Falcon Volleyball team earned the #2 seed at the conference tournament and finished tournament play in 2nd place. Way to go! Coach Ferstl and Falcon Cross Country finished off a great regular season. The boys took 3rd place, and, for the 5th year in a row, the girls captured the conference title. Cross country looks to hit the ground running next weekend at Sectionals. Congratulations and good luck to all Falcon Athletes!

Recently, student led programs like STAR, have taken part in activities that have exemplified these Character Traits. STAR students, guided by Mrs. Arroyo, have been focused on the donation drive for the Hoof, Woof, and Meow Animal Rescue. It is a volunteer-run, no-kill animal rescue that finds foster homes for pets until they are adopted. Students collected over 600 items to be donated, and the class with the highest donation percentage will win a visit from a therapy dog as well as some freeze pops! The group's next project will be focused on honoring our veterans. STAR will be collecting photos of our families' veterans to create a display as well as selling flags to raise money which will be donated to a local veteran organization.

As we've settled into the school year, I believe it's important to review a few of our PKMS Character Traits. As a PKMS community, it's imperative that we challenge our students to meet schoolwide expectations on a daily basis.

Citizenship

- Following school rules
- Being involved in school activities
- Doing what needs to be done
- Being a responsible member of the school community

Responsibility

- Accountability
- Taking ownership
- Empowerment

Respect

- Self
- Others (staff, peers, school employees, general public)
- Property

It's been a wonderful start to the school year....let's keep it going! Go Falcons!

News from the Nurse

We ask any students with any of the following symptoms to remain home:

- New cough
- Diarrhea
- Fatigue from unknown cause
- Fever
- New onset of moderate to severe headache
- Known close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, if unvaccinated
- Muscle or body aches from unknown cause
- Vomiting
- New loss of sense of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat



In order to return to school or any extracurricular activities a negative COVID test must be submitted, otherwise a 10-day exclusion is required. Home testing for COVID-19 will not be accepted per Kane County Health Department and IDPH. Please wait for confirmation from a district nurse before sending your student(s) back to school.

If you would like to submit proof of your student's COVID-19 vaccination, please contact the Nurse.

For further information [Click here for the 2021-2022 Back-to School Guidance](#)

General News

Need To Know-From the Front Office

To pick up a student you must complete the QR code by using your cellphone at the front entrance of the school. When completed, notify the office by pressing the button and we will call your child from class.

To drop off a student after the start of school, the student must complete the QR code by using their cellphone at the front entrance of the school. If the student does not have a phone, the student will push the button to have the office manually enter the required information. When completed the student will enter and receive a pass to class.

Calling a student in absent: Please note that parents are expected to call the main office to give a reason for any absence. Absences can be called in (24/7) before or after hours by calling, 847-717-8100 and follow the prompt to connect to the Attendance Voicemail. Be sure to leave your students first and last name, grade, and a detailed reason for the absence. If your child is feeling sick, please report the symptoms of the illness. This information will be recorded, and if appropriate, main office staff will follow up with you.

Daily Announcements: Morning announcements are read throughout the building in the morning to inform students of upcoming events, activities, sports highlights, and other items of importance. If you would like to know the happenings at PKMS, log into Skyward. Both parents and students have access to the message board when you log into Skyward.

Picking up a Student Early: It is recommended that you send your student with a note stating the student's first and last name, grade, time of pickup and the reason for leaving early and to bring it to the office at the start of school. We will then make a copy for him/her to bring to his/her teacher. This will make the teacher aware he/she will be called from class. This is especially recommended if a student is being called from PE. If anyone other than a parent is picking him/her up, please note that as well.

Special Education Records

Central Community Unit School District 301 will destroy special education records from school years 2015-2016 and prior of students who graduated, transferred, or otherwise permanently withdrew from special education services. Special education records may include reports of psychological and social work evaluations, multidisciplinary planning conferences, annual reviews, copies of Individual Education Programs and other relevant information. If a parent or student wants those records, they should call the Student Services & Special Education Office at 847-464-5863 before October 20, 2021.

Veterans Day Celebration!

The Social Studies classes are looking ahead to Veteran's Day – Thursday, November 11, 2021.

Contact Information

Below are individuals that you can contact if you have any questions:

Dr. Matthew Haug, Principal (matthew.haug@central301.net)

Mrs. Carrie Ahlstedt, Assistant Principal (carrie.ahlstedt@central301.net)

Mr. Matthew Newquist, Assistant Principal (matt.newquist@central301.net)

Mr. Brody Hamel, Athletic Director (brody.hamel@central301.net)

Mr. Charles Brooks, School Social Worker (charles.brooks@central301.net)

Mrs. Rose Simpson, School Social Worker (rose.simpson@central301.net)

Mrs. Lauren Sak, School Nurse (lauren.sak@central301.net)

6th Grade Team News

ELA - Sixth grade ELA just wrapped up their first unit of reading standards and their first 6th-grade writing piece. They read an article about different ways to cope with anxiety (which is based on our read aloud, *The Canyon's Edge*), and then they wrote an explanatory paragraph using two pieces of evidence from the text (we call this ICE format). You should see these paragraphs! October begins our nonfiction book clubs where students choose one of 5 different nonfiction books, meet once a week with peers reading the same text, and work on nonfiction standards all at the same time. We will also be starting our new spooky read aloud, *Scratch Scratch* this month.

Math - Math 6 just finished our Unit 1 and completed a mini-project where students applied their knowledge of operations with decimals to plan a party. In Unit 2, we will look at positive and negative numbers, plotting and comparing numbers on a number line, and graphing and reflecting points on a coordinate plane. Unit 2 is a shorter unit, and we will quickly be moving into Unit 3. Compacted math is cruising right along. We have completed the 6th grade Number Sense units and will finish the 7th grade Number Sense unit before the end of first quarter. Then we will be moving into the Expressions unit.

SS - This month we are full-fledged into Ancient China. We are learning about different dynasties, their rulers, government, philosophies, and inventions that are still being used today! Study of the Silk Road is on the horizon and students will experience how the much-desired commodity of silk generated a trade route that spread not only goods but ideas, religion, and cultures!

Sci - During the month of October, students will learn how sedimentary rocks formed layers that became the Colorado Plateau. We will learn that many different types of environments existed during the millions and millions of years that it took to form the Colorado Plateau. We will also learn how scientists were able to figure out which environments existed by analyzing the rock layers and the fossils that each layer contained. Students will also be analyzing a model of rock layers and applying the knowledge that they gained throughout this unit.

7th Grade Team News

ELA- Students in ELA class are continuing with our Determination unit. We will be starting our extended text for this unit, *Beanball*, by Gene Fehler. This is a verse novel that students will read in class, focusing on secondary characters and conflict. We will also be finishing our read aloud book and culminating with an in-class activity. After *Beanball* students will participate in Argument Writing lessons, leading up to their big Argument Essay where they will have the opportunity to choose their own topic to research and write about. This a lengthy process, but the essay is broken down into manageable pieces for students with multiple writing conferences with their teacher along the way.

Math 7-Students will be finishing up Unit 1 Rational Numbers in the first couple of weeks of October. We will be taking our first summative assessment at the end of the unit. We will begin Unit 2, Expressions. In this unit students will create equivalent expressions and algebraic expressions, solve multi step equations, use variables to create equations, graph and solve one step inequalities, and use equations to find unknown angle measures.

Compacted Math- In Compacted Math, we will be starting Unit 3: Solving Equations with Rational Numbers. This unit is a Pre-Algebra Unit. During Unit 3, students will be solving two-step and multi-step equations. In addition, students will be able to determine if a linear equation has one solution, no solutions, or infinitely many solutions. We will stress the importance of what a solution is and how to verify that a value is a solution.

Science- In science students at the beginning of the month, students will study the kingdom fungi and what makes them different from plants. We will study their different characteristics and take a closer look at these fun fungi under the microscope. Next, we will be learning about the kingdom of plants. We will look at the question, “Why do leaves change colors in the fall?” Perfect for this time of year! We will tie that into learning about photosynthesis. Students will be exploring the different characteristics of these organisms by looking at vascular and nonvascular plants, and plants that have seeds or are seedless. We will also discover the different ways seeds are dispersed throughout an ecosystem.

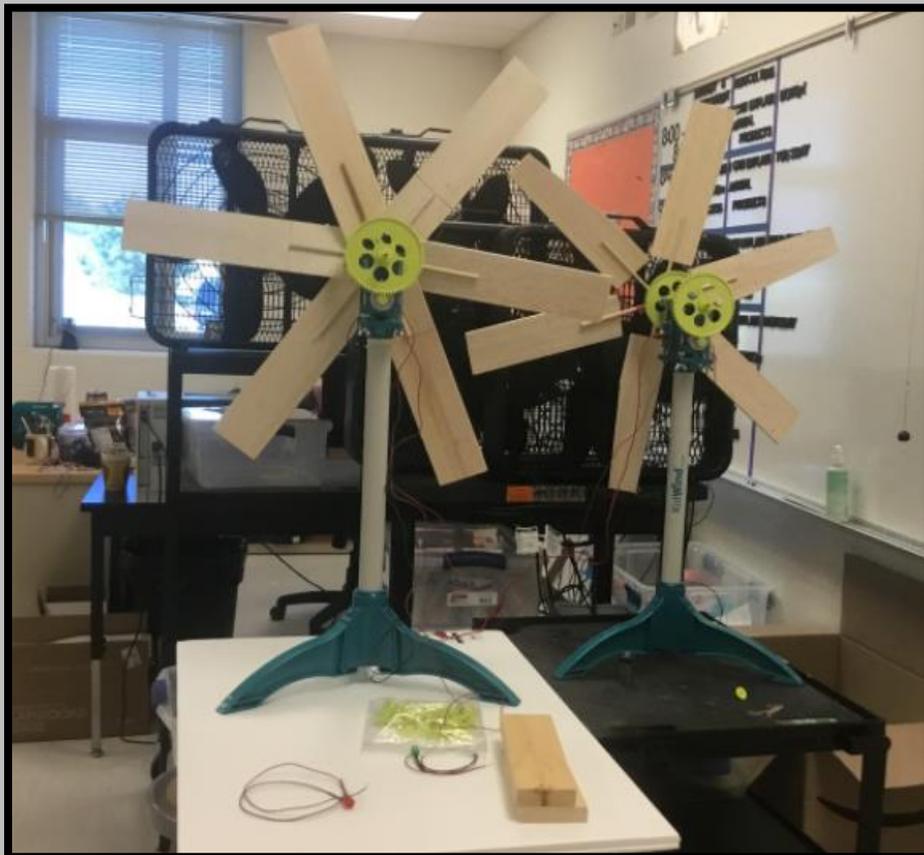
Social Studies- In SS students are completing their study of the 13 Colonies, which will lead the class into the Revolutionary War unit. We’ll be learning about the setting in which the revolution began, and how that has led to certain aspects of our country today. We will continue with our read aloud, *Johnny Tremain*, in which a boy about the age of the students gets wrapped up in all of the events of the American Revolution in Boston (Boston Tea Party, Lexington and Concord, etc.). This will lead us into November, in which we will look more specifically at the core events that caused the colonies to declare independence, to start the Revolutionary War, and how all of that shaped our country.

Encore Team News



Wow, it's hard to believe it's already second quarter! As we head into a brand-new quarter of World Languages, we are gearing up for our first round of vocabulary: Spanish & German Greetings. In order to have fun with our new languages, we will be learning how to create and participate in a short conversation in each one! Throughout the unit, we will also be sifting through various holidays and cultural pieces practiced.

In Energy and the Environment, we are currently creating wind turbines to pump water. The wind turbines run electric motors that are wired in series. The individual turbines are then wired in parallel to run the water pump. Currently the students are studying blade design, angle, and wind current to develop the best blade design. Some of our concepts are series and parallel wiring, resistance as applied to electrical current, wind resistance, negative and positive current, voltage and amperage. This is a fun and engaging lesson using many real-world concepts. Stem learning and applications are first and foremost.



Falcon Athletics

Football, Cross Country, and Volleyball are close to wrapping up their successful seasons! We had great a great turnout for all home games. Thank you for your support of PKMS Athletics!

As the end of the season approaches the head coaches will be giving information to the kids about turning in all uniforms provided by the school. A fee will be charged for any lost or damaged items. Please contact the head coach or Mr. Hamel if you have any questions.

Just a friendly reminder, per district policy, unleashed or leashed pets are not allowed on the school premises for the safety of all.

We are just a few short weeks away from the start of our boys' basketball and cheerleading seasons! Below you will find information about trying out for these sports.

General Tryout Information

Students who want to try out for a sport must have registered for that sport on 8to18 (il.8to18.com/prairieknolls) and have turned in an up-to-date physical before tryouts start. Any questions should be directed to each sport's coach or PKMS Athletic Director, Brody Hamel. All students interested in trying out for a winter sport should have attended one of our lunchroom meetings that highlighted important tryout information.

Boys' Basketball Tryouts

Tryouts will be held on:

Thursday, October 7th 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday, October 8th 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

7th grade Head Coach – Mr. Richman

Assistant Coach – Mr. Valentini

Cheerleading Tryouts

Students who are interested in joining the cheerleading squad must attend two days of tryouts in the cafeteria. During these practices the athletes will learn the sideline cheers and halftime dance that they must perform for tryouts.

Tryout Dates:

Wednesday, October 6th and

Thursday, October 7th 3:00-5:00pm

Wrestling season begins in early December. Information about the season will be posted on the PKMS website in early November. **Girls' Basketball** begins in January after we return from winter break. The tryout information will be posted on the PKMS website in early December. Our last sport of the year is **Boys' and Girls' Track** which begins in March. Information for track will be available on the PKMS website in early February.

NCJC Champions!



The football team traveled to Dekalb on September 30, 2021, for their championship game and they came ready to play winning the game 32-10. The offense could not be stopped behind Bennek Braden's 4 touchdowns on the day. One of those came from a beautiful throw from Jon Andrinopoulos for a 60-yard touchdown. The defense dominated the game led by Ben Hultgren, Logan Gibson, Andrew Peterson, Matthew Zierk, Connor Schrekov, Liam Schutlz, Tommy Wyse, and Asher Parrinello.

**This is the first NCJC football championship
in PK school history!**



NCJC Champions!



On Friday, October 1, 2021, the girls team continued to make history by once again winning the meet and becoming conference champions! That makes this the 5th year in a row that the girls are NCJC champs! Carrying on the tradition were Julia Haacker, Sophia Monaco, Gianna Monaco, and Brenna Costantini with some fantastic runs. Good luck at Sectionals on Saturday, October 9, 2021. The boys Cross Country team finished 3rd in conference, thanks to the efforts of Matthew Malkani, Cooper Cigrand, Noah Rudden, and Noah Ballantyne.



The 7th grade girls' volleyball team took 2nd place at NCJC on Saturday, October 2, 2021! Chloe Colsant, Tiernan Naus, and Ainsley Wilson led the team with over 20 serves combined, while Keaton Campbell, Maddie Manganiello, and Kelsey Covey protected the back row. Ryann Miller, Riley Hayes, Victoria Tu, Mia Lindquist, and Leah Merigold supported the team with serves, cheers, passes to the team setter--Makenna Manganiello, and even taking care of the team mascot--Mr. Wiffles. What a great season, ladies!

AWESOME!!!

October 1-29

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>CHICKEN NUGGETS (5) 4</p> <p>MASHED POTATOES GREEN BEANS CHILLED APPLESAUCE CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>TWIN BEEF TACOS (2) 5 W/CHEESE, LETTUCE, SALSA</p> <p>FIESTA BLACK BEANS CELERY STICKS / WITH RANCH DIP CHILLED PEARS CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>ORANGE CHICKEN 6 OVER BROWN RICE BROCCOLI FLORETS W/RANCH DIP ORIENTAL BLEND VEGGIES CHILLED PEACHES CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>ROUND 5" CHEESE PIZZA 7 MIXED GREENS SALAD W/CHERRY TOMATOES W/RANCH DRESSING TENDER PEAS CHILLED PEACHES CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>CHEESE PIZZA SLICE 1 SEASONED CORN GARDEN SALAD W/CHERRY TOMATOES & CUCUMBER SLICES W/DRESSING CHILLED PEARS CHOICE OF MILK</p>
<p>COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY 11 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>HOT HAM & CHEESE ON A WG BUN 12 (MADE W/TURKEY HAM & CHEESE) GREEN BEANS CARROTEENIES WITH RANCH DIP CHILLED PEARS CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>CHEESE FRENCH BREAD PIZZA 13</p> <p>BROCCOLI TENDER PEAS FRESH APPLE CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>HAMBURGER OR CHEESEBURGER ON A WG BUN 14 BAKED BEANS CORN MIXED FRUIT CUP CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>MINI PANCAKES AND MAPLE SYRUP CUP 8 W/ CHICKEN SAUSAGE PATTY</p> <p>CHEESE STICK TRI-POTATO PATTIES GOLD RUSH JUICE BOX FRESH APPLE SLICES CHOICE OF MILK</p>
<p>BEEF HOT DOG ON A WG BUN 18</p> <p>BAKED VEGETERIAN BEANS TATOR TOTS CHILLED PEARS CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>MASHED POTATO BOWL 19 W/ CHICKEN, CORN, MASHED POTATOES SEASONED CORN CARROTEENIES FRESH APPLE SLICES CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>MEATBALL SUBMARINE 20 W/ SHREDD MOZZ CHEESE CELERY STICKS W/ DIP SWEET POTATO FRIES CHILLED APPLESAUCE CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES 21 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>CHICKEN NUGGETS (5) 15 OVEN FRENCH FRIES CELERY STICKS WITH RANCH DIP CINNAMON APPLE SAUCE CHOICE OF MILK</p>
<p>CHICKEN PARMESAN ON A WG BUN 25</p> <p>CARROTEENIES w/ dip STEAMED BROCCOLI CHILLED PEACHES CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>HAMBURGER OR CHEESBURGER ON A WG BUN 26 CRISPY TATER TOTS BAKED VEGETERIAN BEANS MIXED FRUIT CUP CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>BAKED POTATO TOPPED 27 WITH BROCCOLI & CHEESE SAUCE SEASONED CORN FRESH APPLE SLICES CHOICE OF MILK</p>	<p>PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES 22 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>BOSCO CHEESE STICKS (2) 29 WITH MARINARA SAUCE GREEN BEANS CELERY STICKS W/ DIP ORANGE WEDGES CHOICE OF MILK</p>

Choice of Milk: 1% Low-Fat Unflavored
Fat Free Chocolate

Menu subject to change
without notice



Halloween Costume Requirements

Students at PKMS are permitted to dress for Halloween. The dress up day will be Friday, October 29th. Students should be made aware of the following guidelines in order to maintain a safe and productive learning environment:

1. Halloween masks should not be worn. Students will be expected to adhere to the CDC ask guidelines in place since the first day of school.
2. Props will not be permitted as part of student costumes.
3. Do not wear cleats or spikes as they may damage floors and become slipping hazards.
4. No weapons, or look-alike weapons, are allowed at any time. No spikes, chains or ropes may be brought to school. Failure to follow this rule may result in disciplinary consequences.
5. Makeup, hair dye, sunglasses and hats are permitted as long as they are not dangerous or disruptive. Sunglasses and hats must be removed in the classroom.
6. No clothing that depicts drugs, alcohol, or their usage.
7. Costumes should not prevent the student from fully participating in learning activities. Students will still have PE on those days! Use good judgement!
8. All makeup, hair, and accessories must be done at home.
9. Students may not wear costumes that have inflatable features or have fans inside of them.
10. Building administration has the right to require students to change their apparel if it is deemed that the costume is not appropriate for school. If a change of clothing is not available, students will be required to put on clothes provided from the school if they are unable obtain a change of clothing





Early Childhood Screenings



Child Find is an ongoing process through which all children, from birth through 21 (i.e., through the day before the student's 22nd birthday), or who may be eligible for early intervention, or who may be in need of special education services are identified, located and evaluated. Each school district is responsible for actively locating, identifying and evaluating all children who live within the district boundaries who may qualify to receive special education and/or related services.

Children 5 years old and younger that reside in D301 can be screened at any location listed below. Children birth up to 3 years old can also contact DayOneNetwork at 630-879-2277 to discuss early intervention services.

September 24, 2021 - Prairie View Grade School

October 15, 2021 - Country Trails Elementary School

November 19, 2021 - Howard B. Thomas Grade School

December 10, 2021 - Prairie View Grade School

January 21, 2022 - Country Trails Elementary School

February 18, 2022 - Howard B. Thomas Grade School

March 11, 2022 - Prairie View Grade School

April 8, 2022 - Country Trails Elementary School

May 13, 2022 - Howard B. Thomas Grade School/Prairie View Grade School/Country Trails Elementary School

The following areas are sample behaviors that might indicate that a preschool child may be eligible for special education services:

- Does not talk or communicate as well as others his/her age
- Is always on the fringe of activities, never really involved
- Finds it difficult to play with other children
- Has difficulty with feeding, dressing and toileting
- Has difficulty putting together a puzzle, matching shapes/patterns
- Has difficulty sitting still while listening to a short story or watching television
- Does not know the names of common objects
- Cannot jump in place, appears clumsy, and/or walks into objects

If you notice that your child has displayed any of the above difficulties, or if you have other concerns, please call 847-464-5863 to arrange an early childhood screening.

For more information visit the Early Childhood website at <https://central301.net/early-childhood/>