

# Maple River ECFE/SR Newsletter

## Facebook and Webpage Resources

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- The Early Childhood webpage link can be found on the Maple River homepage.
- Payments can be made on-line for preschool and ECFE tuition payments only.
- Registrations are paper form to be mailed in or faxed.

### Things to find on our webpage:

- Early Childhood Family Education, School Readiness (Preschool) and Early Childhood Screening information
- Class Offerings and Schedules
- Forms
- Newsletters

### “Like Us” on Facebook to get:

- Updates and Registration Reminders
- Community Event Information
- Community Resources for Young Children
- Program Contact Information

## Sponsor-a-Child Program Donators

The importance of a quality Early Childhood education and experience is getting more and more attention for future school success.

We want to give all children the opportunity to have a quality education, so we run a program that helps families who can't afford to pay for preschool. Giving the children of our community a good start will help our community for years to come.

Our program reaches out to district residence and business to support our program by giving donations. We appreciate our donators so much because of their generosity we are able to have 15-20 children in the program every year... WOW! That is a lot of families helped! What a great community to be part of.

If you are interested in donating, know of someone that might or are part of a organization/business that we can add to our sponsor list next year, please let one of our staff know.

### We would like to recognize and thank our donators for last years donations:

- **Amboy Fire Department**
- **Jackson Lake Lutheran Church**
- **Mapleton Chamber of Commerce**
- **Mapleton Community Chest**
- **Sertoma**
- **United Methodist Church of Amboy**

## Mark Your Calendars:

- Week of September 12— First week of preschool
- Week of September 19; Fall ECFE Session begins.
- Fall Early Childhood Screening will be some time in October. If you don't have an appointment set up by October 1, please call us.
- Saturday October 8; Field Trip to Fall Festival

## Using the Internet for Parenting Answers

The Internet is a great resource, but it is also a public forum, where anyone can make a claim or an assertion. If you find an article that provides relevant information for your research topic, you should take care to investigate the source to make sure it is valid and reliable. It is your responsibility as a researcher to find and use the trustworthy sources. There are several ways to investigate your source.

### Author

In most cases, you should stay away from Internet information that doesn't list an author. While the information you find may be true, it is more difficult to validate information if you don't know the credentials of the author.

### URL

If the information is linked to an organization, try to determine the reliability of the sponsoring organization. One tip is the url ending. If the site name ends with .edu, it is most likely an educational institution. Even so, you should be aware of political bias. If a site ends in .gov, it is most likely a reliable government web site. Government sites are usually good sources for statistics and objective reports. Sites that end in .org are usually non-profit organizations. They can be very good sources or very poor sources, so you'll have to take care to research their possible agendas or political biases, if they exist.

(Referenced from about.com)

Start your internet search for parent related topics using this website for guidance.

[www.more4kids.info/549/best-parenting-websites/](http://www.more4kids.info/549/best-parenting-websites/)

## ECFE Fall Session Classes

Starting the week of September 19

### Infant-Toddler Class

This class is for children birth to 24 months old. It is an informal hour for you to spend with your infant or toddler to learn about normal development. It's also a time to experience many new and fun activities. One of the classes will include a visit from a pediatrician. Classes meet for 4 weeks on Thursdays in the Mapleton ECFE/Preschool classroom. Choose from two class times for your convenience; 4:30-5:30 or 6:00-7:00

### 2-5 Year Old Class

With families today caught up in their busy lifestyles, this program provides a great opportunity for you to spend quality time with your child away from phones, computers and TV. It also helps them become more familiar with the school building and environment.

Take an active part in this learning experience with your child by attending classes under the direction of licensed early childhood teachers. You will also have time together with

other parents and a parent educator to have discussions on many different topics regarding parenting. Friday class will be play time only with the parent piece being incorporated (no separation time) Daycare groups welcome :)

This class meets once a week for 8 weeks at each Maple River site. Sibling care is available if needed for \$2 per class or \$10 per eight week session if paid prior to the start of the session. Reduced tuition available upon request.

See the ECFE registration form in this newsletter to sign-up.

## Fall Festival Field Trip Planned!

All Maple River families are welcome to join us for the Fall Festival at Center Creek Orchard in Fairmont, MN. By going with our ECFE program your family can have the opportunity to get to know other families in the district and get the chance to meet future classmates!! Cost is \$5 per person or \$10 family max. Date is Saturday October 8. Please sign up on the registration form included in newsletter.

Visit the website for more information and pictures, it looks like a great field trip spot! [www.centercreekorchard.com](http://www.centercreekorchard.com)



## Fall Screening

**Does your child need to be “ready” for screening? Does there need to be a concern for you to get them screened?**

**NO!**

They just need to be at least 3 years old. The sooner the better because it gets your child’s information to the school so we can guide you and remind you of all the things that need to be done before Kindergarten.

Fall screening is set up tentatively for Tuesday October 11 and Wednesday October 12. The screening appointments are scheduled during the day.

If your child is at least 3 years old and not screened you should receive a phone call to set up an appointment. If you do not receive a phone call by October 1 and your child needs screening, please call the ECFE office listed on this newsletter.

### What is checked at screening?

Vision, hearing, immunization record, health history, height/weight, and their overall development

### Why does my child need to be screened?

Screening can detect possible health or learning concerns, so that children can get help before they start school. It gives the parent more knowledge about their child and how they are developing or what the parent can work on with the child when getting ready for Kindergarten.

Screening is not a test and is geared toward child’s age.

## Kindergarten Camp

-Ready for K Camp is open to all 2011-2012 Kindergarten students in the Maple River School district. The focus of the camp will be to introduce students to their school building, classroom, peers, and routine of the Kindergarten day in a 3-day simulation of the classroom schedule. The camp will be led by Maple River Flying Eagles Preschool teacher, Joan Morrison, with input from your child’s Kindergarten teacher. Register on-line under Community Education “Ready for K Camp”

**MRW—Good Thunder: August 9,10,11 MRE—Minnesota Lake: August 16, 17, 18**

## Meet the ECFE/SR Staff

### Early Childhood Teachers:

Joan Morrison

Brenda Blank

Laura Gunsolus

### Parent Educators/Facilitators:

Stephanie Conrad

Carol Supalla

### ECFE/SR Paras

Vicki Ratcliff

Ann Bramer

Donna Robbins

### Preschool Child Care Staff

Donna Robbins

*“I really like how creative the teacher is with the projects.”*

*“I love giving my child the opportunity to get to know future classmates and the school they will go to. They will have more of a comfort level that first day of Kindergarten..”*

*ECFE/SR Parents*

Maple River ECFE/School Readiness  
PO Box 515  
Mapleton, MN 56065

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone:  
507-524-3918 ext 241  
507-462-3348 ext 113  
Fax: 507-524-4882

***Maple River Schools***

NON PROFIT STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #4  
MAPLETON, MN  
56065

ECR WSS

Playing to Learn.  
Learning to Play.

«Last Name»

«Address 1»

«City» «State», «Postal Code»

## Registration for Preschool 2011-2012

Maple River School Readiness (preschool) is designed to help children 3-5 years old get ready for school success.

Class sizes are limited to 15 . Grants and financial assistance are available upon request.

Flying Eagles Class Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs 8:30-2:30 with an optional third day on Friday available. This class is held in Mapleton. The class is for preschoolers going into Kindergarten fall of 2012.

**Monday/Wednesday Flying Eagles Class is full and other classes filling up quickly!**

Preschool Child Care open Monday through Friday in Mapleton. Times correlate with preschool class times. Open 7:30-5:30

\*More details on these and all class offerings available, see column on right on how to get information.

## How to Get All Information on Class Offerings and Register

You need to fill out the preschool registration form and send in with registration fee. (On-line registration not available)

### **Either:**

Visit our new webpage on-line at the Maple River website at <http://isd2135.k12.mn.us/index1.html> Click on the "Early Childhood" tab on the left side of the home page

### **Or**

Call/email Laura Gunsolus to have them sent in the mail. Office 462-3348 ext 113  
Email: [lgunsolus@isd2135.k12.mn.us](mailto:lgunsolus@isd2135.k12.mn.us)