



OCTOBER 2018



F.P. Donnelly
Elementary School

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Happy October! The students have settled into their new classrooms, are adjusting to new routines and are well on their way to a great year of learning.

As always, we are committed to providing a safe and caring learning environment designed to educate the mind, heart and spirit of each student here at Donnelly. Please ask your child about our CUBS kick-off program and our first Golden Awards assembly. It was a wonderful opportunity for all of us to come together and renew our pledge to be Saber CUBS (Caring, Understanding, Bully-free, Safe).

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Curriculum Night. We hope you enjoyed the evening and feel well informed about your child's classroom and school year. It was wonderful meeting new parents and reconnecting with those already a part of the Donnelly family.

Mark your calendars for the Halloween parade on Wednesday, October 31 at 2 p.m. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Sincerely,

Jill Rich
Principal

An Autumn Day

Pumpkins in the cornfields,
Gold among the brown,
Leaves of rust and scarlet
Trembling slowing down;
Birds that travel southward,
Lovely time to play;
Nothing is as pleasant
As an autumn day!

-Carmen Lagos Signes



DATES TO REMEMBER

- * * * * *
- * Thurs., Oct. 4 - 2:45 - Early Dismissal
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- * Thurs., Oct. 4 - 6:00 - PTA Meeting
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- * Fri., Oct. 5 - Superintendent's Conf. Day
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- * No School for Students
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- * Mon., Oct. 8 - Columbus Day - No School
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- * Fri., Oct. 12 - School Picture Day
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- * Fri., Oct. 12 - PTA Movie Night
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- * Sat., Oct. 20 - Homecoming Parade/Football Game
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- * Fri., Oct. 26 - Fall Fun Night/Book Fair
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- * Wed., Oct. 31 - 2:00 - Halloween Parade

CHARACTER EDUCATION WORD OF THE MONTH: "COURAGE"

"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear."
-Mark Twain

"You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do things you think you cannot do."
-Eleanor Roosevelt

"All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them."
-Walt Disney

STUDENT DROP-OFF

Students arriving by car in the morning between 8:40 - 8:50 need to use the *South Entrance*. For your child's safety, please refrain from dropping off at the Main Entrance during bus arrival.

Students arriving after 8:50 a.m. are considered late and need to be signed in by an adult at the Main Entrance.

Thank you for helping to keep kids safe!!

HALLOWEEN



REMINDER: Children may not wear costumes to school. Children should bring their costumes in a bag, marked with their name. Also, children should be able to dress themselves in their own costumes. Masks with blood and gore, and weapons (replica or real) are NOT permitted.

If you need assistance in getting a costume for your child, please contact Stacey Stilloe at 775-0176, option 3.

All visitors must sign-in at the Main Office. We are looking forward to seeing you for the 2:00 p.m. parade on Tuesday, October 31th!

Thank you!

CURRICULUM NIGHT

The Donnelly halls and classrooms were filled with parents/guardians eager to learn about their child's time in school.

Thank you all for coming out to visit!

We look forward to seeing you at future events!

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher, the Main Office, Café or Health Office with any additional questions you may have throughout the year.



CELEBRATIONS

Due to allergy concerns here at school, please refrain from sending in homemade items. Snacks that are being shared with the class must be pre-packaged and labeled with ingredients. We appreciate your assistance with keeping our students safe and healthy.

SNEAKERS NEEDED FOR P.E.

Please remember students in grades PreK - 3 need to have sneakers every day for Physical Education class. Students in grades 4 and 5 need to have sneakers every other day for Physical Education class. Thank you.



NEWS FROM MRS. STILLOE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Welcome back students and families! I hope everyone had a relaxing summer and is ready to start the year off with an eagerness to learn and have fun. I am thrilled to be back at Donnelly full time again and I believe this is going to be another exciting year for our students and staff.

Donnelly will continue our school wide anti-bullying program, Olweus, part of which involves classroom meetings for every grade level. These meetings are designed to foster communication and create a sense of community among students. It is also building very important relationships between peers and teachers.

Our C.U.B.S. themed character education program is already in full swing as we had our kickoff on September 14th. C.U.B.S. stands for Caring, Understanding, Bully-Free, and Safe. Students will be encouraged to display "CUBS behavior" and make "CUB like choices" every day. Students also have the opportunity to earn CUBS CASH for doing good deeds and showing positive behaviors. They can turn in the CUBS CASH for various prizes or privileges.

In addition, we will continue to have our morning and afternoon monthly assemblies. Students will be recognized both individually and as classrooms to receive Saber Awards and Golden Awards for following the rules, making good choices and showing kindness towards their fellow peers and staff. It was very effective last year and the students enjoyed their rewards and recognition. We are looking forward to another year full of positive behavior!

I hope everyone has transitioned smoothly into their back to school morning routines. Enjoy the beautiful fall season and please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns.

Thank you!



AIS NEWS

When parents and families are involved in their children's education, students do better and have better feelings about going to school. In fact, many studies show what the family does at home is crucial to a child's success in school. There are many ways that parents can support their children's learning at home. Here are some ideas to get you started.

- Demonstrate a positive attitude about education to your children. What we say and do in our daily lives can help them develop positive attitudes towards school and learning. It can also help them to build confidence in themselves as learners.
- Show interest in your child's education. Parents and families can spark enthusiasm that encourages a love for learning.
- Encourage your children to complete their homework. Let your child know that you think education is important and that homework needs to be done each day.

Let's have a great school year!

Sincerely,

The AIS Teachers:

Steve Haskell
Shannon Hogan
Carolyn Orzel
Mike Vavra



MATH COACH CORNER

Parents often wonder what they can do at home to help their child(ren) with math. Our one word answer: **FLUENCY!** It takes time and repeated practice to become fast and accurate with math facts. Extra practice at home can really speed things up for your student.

Practice does not need to be long or tedious. Asking math facts while waiting in line or in the car can help pass the time. A little flash card review can be a game. Skip counting (by 2's, 5's...) or by fractions ($\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{2}{3}$, 1, $1\frac{1}{3}$, $1\frac{2}{3}$, 2...) is excellent practice. Games with dice, dominoes, or cards can be fun for all.

In school, all students at Donnelly use Mobymax.com as part of their daily math lessons for building fact fluency and extra math practice. In conjunction with [Mobymax](http://Mobymax.com), the 4th and 5th graders have been assigned an IXL.com account for additional math practice. Both [IXL](http://IXL.com) and [Mobymax](http://Mobymax.com) can be access at home. There are many great websites dedicated to helping your children improve while enjoying themselves. For additional websites try these: fun4thebrain.com, abcya.com, multiplication.com, and xtramath.org.

Parents of BK and Kindergarteners should help students practice recognizing and writing numbers. First graders need to internalize combinations that make ten ($10 + 0$, $9 + 1$...). Second graders need to know the addition and subtraction facts up to $9 + 9 = 18$. Grades three through five must know their multiplication and division facts up to $9 \times 9 = 81$.

Keep it short, keep it fun, but keep it a part of your home routine and soon your kids will be able to whiz through math facts with speed and confidence.

Steve Haskell & Mike Vavra
Math Coaches



Make Reading a Part of Family Time

Family time is so important and is a great way to include reading with your kids. Always remember to make it fun and you can create a comfy place in your home for reading fun. Here are some ways to include reading every day.

- ❖ Read Bedtime Stories
- ❖ Play a board game
- ❖ Listen to stories on tape
- ❖ Make a book together
- ❖ Read favorite stories over and over
- ❖ Visit your local library
- ❖ Read a recipe and cook something yummy together!
- ❖ Read comics, magazines, short stories, poems and rhymes
- ❖ Read directions and signs when driving and shopping
- ❖ Play I spy: "I spy something beginning with a d."
- ❖ Let your child see you enjoy reading
- ❖ Make words with magnetic letters
- ❖ Treasure hunt for words
- ❖ Write in a journal to each other
- ❖ Story telling - Talk about family history.



MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE



The Health Office is available on the Remind App. This is a free app that can be downloaded to your cell phone or can be used on a computer by going to remind.com. To join the health office by cell you can text @c87cfhd78h to 81010 or you can join by email by sending an email to c87cfhd78h.remind.com. This is an easy way to keep in touch with the school nurse, report absences, ask questions, or just receive health related bulletins that I may post. I hope you will give it a try!

Your School Nurse,
Rebecca Flanders, RN

NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

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* Welcome back to the ART ROOM!!!! I am very excited to be introducing and creating many new art projects this year. Ask your child/children what we are making in class!! **All students** should be wearing an art shirt to art class to prevent their clothes from getting dirty.
* *** Pre-Kindergarten & Beginning Kindergarten-** We are learning the art rules and procedures when in class. The boys and girls have been practicing how to hold a crayon and how to color in a nice manner. We learned how to hold and cut with scissors. Students did some cutting and gluing with their geometric shapes that we colored. They all did an awesome job!!!
* *** Kindergarten-** We are learning the art rules and procedures when in class. We reviewed how to use our "pinchy fingers" when coloring with a crayon. The boys and girls colored in shapes as neat as they could. Then, we reviewed how to hold and cut with scissors. Lastly, we will arrange our shapes on construction paper and glue them on.
* *** First grade-** We are learning the new procedures in art this year. Our friend, Larry the Line, has visited our class. First graders will be learning about the various types of lines. Then, we will learn the proper way to hold and use a paint brush. Students will use a variety of colors and paint different types of lines. We will use this painted paper to make a cat collage. I cannot wait to show the kiddos this!!!
* *** Second grade-** We are learning the new procedures in art this year. The boys and girls are creating a collage (cutting and gluing) from colored paper. We are using shapes to create a fall landscape filled with trees. Line will be used to create a variety of details on their trees. Can't wait to see how they turn out!!
* *** Third grade-** We are learning the new procedures in art this year. Third graders created a contour line drawing of two leaves. We will then use fall colors and create a watercolor background. I'm looking forward to seeing how they turn out!!
* *** Fourth grade-** We are learning the new procedures in art this year. The boys and girls learned about the technique of printmaking. We learned that the backside of a leaf has texture. When a small amount of paint is applied and rubbed onto the back, a print is left from the leaf. We will be creating a pile of printed leaves.
* *** Fifth grade-** We are learning the new procedures in art this year. The boys and girls learned about The Day of the Dead in class, which is a holiday that celebrates the life of people that have passed. Students learned how to draw and cut out a skull. The eyes, nose and mouth will be cut out and glued with black paper. Students will use line, shape and color to add details to their skulls. Keep up the good work!!

* I'm looking forward to another great year! :)
* Mrs. Ray, Art Teacher

