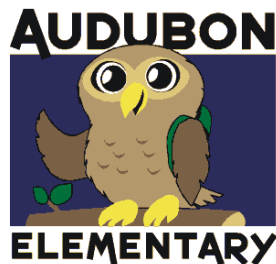


The Owl's Nest



November 4, 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Dear Families,

What a week! It was fun to see students and staff enjoy the afternoon on Halloween – this was a great opportunity to relax and celebrate all of our hard work this fall. Thank you to so many parents who attended, dressed in costume, and participated. Thanks also to the tremendous support to classrooms to provide food and games for the classes. It really was a treat!

Parents, I need your help. Our parking for events at Audubon is less than ideal, I understand. While I know this can be frustrating, we also have an obligation to keep the fire lanes open for emergency vehicles. If an emergency occurred, we would want the police, fire and rescue to have clear access to someone in need of their help. It is **critical** that we do not park in the yellow fire lanes.

We also need to be aware of the parking rules we have in place to keep our traffic flowing freely. If you park in the drive up lane for a school event (like a Halloween Party), please make certain you are in your vehicle by 3:00 or school dismissal, and please do not park in the bus chute during these events. On Halloween, we made repeated announcements about cars that were parked in the bus chute and in the drive-up lane with no response from the drivers. It places our staff and me in an unfair position of having to monitor the parking lot and drivers, rather than monitoring the children. It would be much simpler if everyone would follow the rules all of the time – no exceptions. It is also possible that the folks who need to know are not reading our newsletters, so we would appreciate you all passing the word on to friends and neighbors.

Thanks for all you do to make Audubon a great school...and for keeping it that way by spreading the word. ☺

Have a fantastic week!

Karen Dickens

Immunization Letters went home:

Some of you may have received a letter this week informing you that your child's immunizations are not current. It is very important that you get the needed vaccinations, or provide to our school registrar, Mrs. Weiss, the appropriate information so we can update your child's school records. By state law, if your child's vaccinations are not complete by November 16, 2011, he/she will not be allowed to attend school until the vaccinations are complete and the information is in our hands. Only parents of children with incomplete vaccination records received the letter.

Calling All Veterans!

On Thursday, **November 10th at 8:45am**, we will have an all-school assembly honoring active military personnel and veterans of our military. If you are either of these we would love to invite you to attend our assembly to enjoy student performances and to be honored by all.

Don't forget these important dates!

11/10/11 Veterans Day Assembly, 8:45a.m., in the cafeteria
11/11/11 No School – Veterans Day Observance
11/23/11 Early Release – Students dismiss at 11:30am
11/24 & 11/25 No School – Thanksgiving Holiday Observance

THE VOTES ARE IN!

We recently surveyed the 5th and 6th grade parents to find out whether they prefer having a single promotion ceremony this year for our 5th and 6th grade students or if they would prefer two separate promotion ceremonies. The votes are in, and the decision has been made. Of 101 total responses received, 87% voted for two separate ceremonies and 13% preferred a single ceremony. There were two neutral responses. Thank you to all who took time to vote and send in the survey sheets.

In addition, the teachers polled the students to find out what they prefer. A strong majority agreed with the parents and would prefer two separate promotion ceremonies (78% prefer two ceremonies). The next step is to plan for a committee of parents at each grade level interested in helping to plan this wonderful event. Watch for more information to come from the 5th and 6th grade teachers.

Emergency Drill to be Practiced at Audubon:

As you know, each year we practice various kinds of emergency drills throughout the year so, in the event of an emergency, students and staff will know how to respond. Each month, we have either a fire or an earthquake drill. Last week, we participated in a district-wide shelter-in-place drill. In November, we will practice a recess lockdown drill. The purpose is to practice evacuating the playground in the case of a school lockdown. We teach the students a signal and give them a direction for moving into the building quickly. We will practice this at one primary and one intermediate recess during the month. Teachers will know ahead of time and will prepare students for the drill. At a later date, we will practice a "surprise" drill so that students can practice a more realistic drill. You can help by discussing the importance of being prepared with your child when they come home and tell you about the drill and emergency procedure.

POLAR PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS!

Calling all Polar Plungers: Tis' the season to be "*Freezin' for a Reason*" for Special Olympics Washington! Are you ready to take a dip in the frigid waters of Lake Washington for the 2012 **Polar Plunge** in Redmond? Follow the link below for more information:

[Save the Date and Register today!](#)

**Sunday, January 1, 2012
Idylwood Park - Redmond, Washington
Plunge takes place at noon**

http://www.specialolympicswashington.org/calendar/letr_events/polar_plunge

Lake Washington Schools Foundation Grant Writing Workshop:

Registration for the rescheduled *Reaching for Success Grant Writing Workshop* is now available at www.lwsf.org! The workshop will be held on **Monday, November 7th** at **4PM**.

We will be using Microsoft Lync as a way to host an online conference to provide information about the *Reaching for Success* grant application process and answer all your questions. Interested staff and/or parents are welcome. If you have any questions please contact grants@lwsf.org.