

October 2010

Office: 842-1244

October News



PINNACLE CHARTER SCHOOL

Kindergarten

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe it is October already! September was spent building community in our classroom, getting used to daily routines, and learning classroom procedures. We also began our new Reading Program. Everyday, between 8:45 and 11:00 we are busy listening and responding to literature, learning to recognize letters and their sounds, and participating in literacy centers. To find out in more detail what we are learning and how to help at home, please read the "Classroom Connection" that is sent home every 3 weeks. It includes the letters and words we learn each week. Please take a moment to do the simple, suggested activities with your child each week.

In Math, we continue to work on counting forwards and backwards from ten, recognizing shapes and numbers, and creating patterns. Please work on the "Home Links" that are sent home with your child during the week. Also, see what your child does in Math Class by attending Family Math Night— Thursday, October 21st at 6:30 pm. Bring your child for a FUN night!

In Science, we have been focusing on different weather patterns, while learning our weather song. We also started to explore seasons and have discussed the different things that happen in fall. Soon we will be apple tasting and making applesauce in the classroom! Later, we will explore real pumpkins, play a pumpkin matching game and create our own pumpkin model out of construction paper, seeds, and yarn.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Haven Mrs. Raybeck Mrs. Turner

New Faces in our Rooms...

Mrs. Raybeck will have **Laura Trentinella**, a graduate student from UB, helping in the classroom this fall. Then, from January– March, she will complete her student teaching with the class.

Mrs. Turner will also have a student in her classroom this fall, **Phyllicia Brown**, from Canisius College who will then complete her student teaching from January– March.

Also, through the help of Catholic Charities, we welcome two Foster Grandparents who volunteer in the Kindergarten classrooms:

Mrs. Bertha Smith works with Mrs. Haven on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings.

Ms. Allie Dixon works with Mrs. Turner's class on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.



Please look for progress notes coming home soon for Math and Reading. Sign and return a copy of the note to school.

CLASSROOM Reminders



To ensure your child has a successful year in Kindergarten:

- **Breakfast** is served from 8:10 until 8:25.
Students should arrive to school between 8:15 and 8:35.
- Pack a healthy **snack** EVERYDAY.
Students need to re-fuel! It is a long day for them.
- Return your child's **BLUE FOLDER** to school everyday.
Make this an opportunity to teach your child responsibility. They should empty it out every night and put it back in their book bag.
- **Sign & return** the Weekly Behavior Report that comes home every Friday.
- Allow your child to come in the room on their own in the morning.
When given a chance, it's amazing how independent they can be! They will love feeling "grown-up" when hanging up their own coat & book bag!
- Make sure you hand in the **\$20 supply fee** from the beginning of the year.
Please see your child's teacher if you need more time.
- The Uniform Policy states that **sweaters** and sweatshirts must be BLUE.
- Please make sure your child has a rest blanket at school.



Helping Your Child...Learn to Read (Part 1)

What can I do to help my child read? It's simple! Check out this newsletter every month for helpful tips and strategies to support your child's love of learning. All information is taken from the book Helping Your Child Learn to Read, created by the U.S. Department of Education.

TIP #1: WORLD OF WORDS

Here are a few ways to create a home rich in words:

1. Hang posters of the alphabet on bedroom walls or make an alphabet poster with your child.
2. Label the things in your child's pictures. If your child draws a picture of a house, label it "house" and put it on the refrigerator.
3. Have your child watch you write when you make shopping or to-do lists. Say the words out loud and carefully print each letter.
4. Let your child make lists, too. Help your child form the letters and spell the words.
5. Look at newspapers and magazines with your child. Find an interesting picture and show it to your child as you read the caption out loud.
6. Create a scrapbook. Cut out pictures of people and places and label them.

Stay Tuned...

October 11th- No School (Columbus Day)

October 21st- Math Night @ 6:30pm

October 29th- *Career Day*

Students may dress-up as something they want to be when they grow up. Halloween Costumes *will not* be allowed.