



Deer Crossing Elementary Newsletter

October 8, 2009

School Calendar

Date	Event	Time
Tuesday, October 13	Parent/Teacher Conferences	Evening
Wednesday, October 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences	Evening
Thursday, October 15	Parent/Teacher Conferences	Afternoon
Friday, October 16	Schools Closed	
Thursday, October 29	Classroom Halloween Parade/Parties	1:45 PM Parade
Friday, October 30	Two Hour Early Dismissal	1:30 PM

News from the Office

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on October 13, 14 and 15.

- ❖ On Tuesday and Wednesday, October 13 and 14, school begins four hours later at 1:00 p.m. Students may start arriving at school at 12:30 p.m. **LUNCH IS NOT SERVED.**
- ❖ On Thursday, October 15 students attend school in the morning and are dismissed at **12:00** noon. Lunch will be served. The lunch schedule is as follows on that day:
 - Grade 1 – 10:30-10:50
 - Kindergarten – 10:40-11:00
 - Grade 4 - 10:50-11:10
 - Grade 5 - 11:00-11:20
 - Grade 2 - 11:10-11:30
 - Grade 3 - 11:20-11:40

Pre-Kindergarteners DO NOT ATTEND school on all three conference days.

Conference Confirmation Forms will be sent home by Friday, October 9. We look forward to meeting with you individually to discuss your child's educational progress for the first seven weeks.

What Do You Really Think?

FCPS Surveys Parents

Parents: What do you think about our parent-teacher conferences schedule? The FCPS Family-School Partnership Committee has launched a survey to gather your feedback about the conferences, held in the fall and early spring of each school year. FCPS will compile responses to the quick 10-question survey with information supplied by the local PTA County Council and FCPS teachers. The committee will present findings to the Board of Education later this fall. Parents are our most important partners in education. It's important for FCPS to hear what you think of the current schedule and also learn more about other ways parents typically communicate with their children's teacher(s). Thank you to all who go to this link and tell FCPS what you think: <http://tinyurl.com/PTConferences>. The survey closes October 16. Parents wishing to complete the survey via paper/pencil may email Paula.Oden@fcps.org or call her at 301-696-6912. She will mail the survey to parents and provide a stamped return envelope.

Better Report Cards

New Format Gives Parents More Information

Elementary report cards will look different when students bring them home this year, starting with the Term 1 report cards that we plan to issue November 13.

FCPS is launching different report cards for each elementary grade level, prek-5. They will specify details about what students are learning in each subject and at what level. Two main goals of the new report cards are to provide parents a clearer understanding of what their children are mastering in each subject and a report card that best represents curricular objectives.

Report cards for kindergarten through fifth grade will show which instructional level the student receives:

essential curriculum

essential curriculum with enrichment

essential curriculum with intensive intervention

alternative curriculum based on IEP (Individualized Education Program).

Content mastery is indicated in a separate section from mastery of skills such as task completion, participation, organization and ability to follow procedures and work effectively in a team.

Samples of the new report card formats for each elementary grade level are online at www.fcps.org/reportcards. Parents may also view the samples at our school during October parent-teacher conference days. For more about elementary grading procedures, see FCPS Regulation 500-6 at www.fcps.org. To access a sample report card please go to the following site:

Go to fcps.org

Click at the top on **ACADEMICS**

Scroll down to **Student Performance**

Click on **Grades and Report Cards**

There are samples of each grade level report card

Service Learning Project

During the month of October DCES will be collecting liquid soap and bars of soap as a Service Learning Project. All items will be donated to a local food bank for those in need. Thank you for your generosity.

Recent Redistricting Impacts Our School

Deer Crossing Elementary School is one of 15 schools whose attendance areas are affected by the Board of Education's recent Oakdale High School Redistricting. You may live in an area where the boundary lines have been redrawn, meaning that your child could attend a different school starting in August 2010. Please become familiar with the new boundary maps at www.fcps.org/ohsredistricting and on display at our school. You will also find answers to frequently asked questions and feeder patterns on the web page. For further information, please inquire at our school office.

End of Day Changes - If your child will be taking another form of transportation home (other than the usual routine) we must have a note from the parents stating the change. Parents picking up students at the end of the day will need to use the front entrance of the school. No child is permitted to go with a parent at the bus entrance. We appreciate being notified of the changes prior to 3:00 PM.

Picture Re-Take Day

Picture re-take day is scheduled for Thursday, November 5. Forms are available in the school office for students who did not have their picture taken previously. If you would like to have your child's picture re-taken, please send in the picture package you received with your child on re-take day.

Kids with Character at Deer Crossing

We will be celebrating Character Counts this year with a special kick-off during the weeks of October 19 to 27. Each pillar will be celebrated on a particular day. Please have your child/ren wear the colors of Character on the appropriate day to help celebrate. The list below outlines which pillar will be recognized each day and the color to wear.

Tuesday, October 20 – Trustworthiness – Wear Blue

Wednesday, October 21 – Respect – Wear Yellow

Thursday, October 22 – Responsibility - Wear Green

Friday, October 23 – Fairness – Wear Orange

Monday, October 26 – Caring – Wear Red

Tuesday, October 27– Citizenship – Wear Purple

See your child's Thursday Folders for more details.



HOLIDAY ADOPTION TIME!



Holiday time will soon be approaching! With the changes in the economy this year many families are feeling a financial stress.

During the year various organizations & communities contact our school to inquire about assisting families during the holidays by providing food and gifts. The generosity of these groups can ease some of the financial burdens of raising a family. If you are a family that could benefit from receiving some holiday assistance this year please contact Ms. McFadden, DCES School Counselor, at **240-236-5943** or at judith.mcfadden@fcps.org. If you know a family in our community that could use some help during the holidays please pass this information on to them.

All information is kept confidential.

Families are identified by numbers not by names.

Also if your family or organization would like to help with our Holiday Adoption by providing food and/or gifts please give Ms. McFadden a call.

Health Room Info

Intranasal Pandemic H1N1 Flu Vaccine

The Health Department will offer the first doses of intranasal pandemic H1N1 flu vaccine to children in Pre-K to 5th grade, in both public and private schools, by holding in-school vaccination clinics. Healthcare workers within these schools will also be offered the vaccine. Children in this age group are a priority for receiving pandemic H1N1 flu vaccine and, except in cases where it's contraindicated, are eligible to receive the vaccine in the intranasal mist form. Additionally, the State has recommended that healthcare workers, another priority group, be among those who receive initial doses of the vaccine.

At this time, the supply of H1N1 flu vaccine is not sufficient to vaccinate all schools at once. Therefore, schools were selected by lottery to decide the random order of schools, both public and private, to receive vaccine. This list is available at www.frederickcountymd.gov/flu. Schools from the list will be provided more information as vaccine becomes available.

Seasonal Flu Clinics - October 16, 2009 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Brunswick High School, 101 Cummings Drive, Brunswick, MD

Governor Thomas Johnson High School, 1501 North Market Street, Frederick, MD

Urbana High School, 3471 Campus Drive, Ijamsville, MD

Health Room Reminder – If your child(ren) is exhibiting flu-like symptoms to include fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose, fatigue and/or vomiting, please inform the health room staff by calling X65907.

Attention children with diabetes-now Halloween can be fun for you too! Boscov's, in conjunction with the Frederick Memorial Hospital Diabetes Center present Halloween Candy Exchange Program, a special treat for diabetic children ages 14 years and younger. When you go trick-or-treating in your community this Halloween, you can exchange your bag of candy at Boscov's Courtesy Desk for a **\$10 gift card** to choose a game or toy. Children with diabetes may exchange their candy at Boscov's between Sunday, November 1 and Saturday, November 7, 2009 only. Participants in this program must pre-register. Registration form must be received by Friday, October 23, 2009. Please register by filling out the form below and mailing it to: Attn: Linda Hicks Frederick Memorial Hospital Diabetes Center 400 W. 7th Street Frederick, MD 21701 Phone (240) 566-3653 Fax (240) 566-3662.

NAME			
ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
PHONE #	AGE OF CHILD		
PHYSICIAN'S NAME AND ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
PHYSICIAN'S PHONE #			
YEARS TREATED FOR DIABETES			

Free Diabetes Prevention Program-Health Department is launching a new program *Power to Prevent*. This program helps adults who have and are at risk for type 2 diabetes to become more physically active and to eat healthier more often. Classes begin in November for 12 weeks (1 1/2hours) led by a registered dietician and community lay educator. Classes are Mondays 6-7:30pm New Dimensions Worship Center, 919 N. East St., Frederick or Thursdays 6-7:30pm Frederick County Health Dept., 350 Montevue Lane, Frederick. For more information visit www.frederickcountymd.gov/powertoprevent or call 301-600-1861.