

8 November 2018

Dear Upper School family and friends,

I have to warn you that the next few weeks are going to be hectic and busy. November and December always seem to fly by because there are so many things going on. I am pretty sure that this year will prove to be the same.

The first thing that I want to bring up is that we need drivers for the two upcoming field trips. Next week on Wednesday we are going to Castle Park. We will be leaving the school right before noon and leaving the park at 2:45. If you can drive for this trip, please let me know by Monday and also let me know how many seat belts you have for students to ride with you.

The next field trip that we need drivers for is the all-school field trip to Cedarhurst on Tuesday, December 4. I will not be able to drive or attend this field trip as I will be taking the eighth grade students to CCHS for the PSAT. Please let me know if you can drive to Cedarhurst and how many seat belts you have. I need to know about drivers for this trip by Monday November 26.

For those of you who are new to our class, academic progress reports with both percentage grades and narrative comments will be emailed to parents on Tuesday, November 20. This is the day of our Thanksgiving feast. I will start scheduling student-led conferences at that time. The conferences are on December 19 and December 20. Students must attend and lead the conferences to be considered present for these days.

Yesterday we worked on choosing roles for the play we are doing at the Winter Program and we will start working on that today. We will be working on this and the all-school song until the program.

Students also chose groups to work on our class's miniature castle model. One group is working with a kit and the other is working to make their model using recycled materials and their own imaginations. We will be looking for cardboard and other materials, so contribute what you may feel is useful. We will also be making pomanders, so we need a lot of whole cloves. Have your student bring in as many as possible.

Students voted to make apple pie for the Thanksgiving feast. We will need donations of canned apple pie filling and frozen pie crusts.

In ELA we are working on various conventions like capitalization and punctuation. Writing dialog has been our major focus this week. In social studies the students have been working on current events and geography. In math we are covering a variety of topics depending on the student's grade level. All students are working on basic skills. Fourth graders are working on multiplication; fifth graders: writing algebraic expressions; sixth graders: factors and multiples; seventh graders: algebraic expressions and problem solving; and eighth graders: graphing proportional and nonproportional relationships. In science we are still working on elements and atoms.

Be sure to come out Saturday to help with our work day. Remember there is no school on Monday. Thank you for all your help and sharing your wonderful children with me.

Best wishes,

Carla

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Saturday, November 10: Work Day

Monday, November 12: Holiday, No School

Start of Food Drive

Wednesday, November 14: Castle Park Field Trip

Tuesday, November 20: Thanksgiving Feast

November 21-23: No School