

LOUDONVILLE NEWS

Loudonville School

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Ms. Kerry Flynn, Principal



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
October						1
2	3 Fire Prevention Assemblies Gr. 5 Adolescent Growth and Development Parent Preview, SJHS, 6:30	4 Parent Program at Southgate, POSTPONED	5 Gr. 6 Adolescent Growth and Development Parent Preview, SJHS, 6:30	6	7 Field Day Go Home Drill Yom Kippur (begins at sundown)	8 Yom Kippur
9	10 Columbus Day NO SCHOOL	11 Homework Club begins, 3:30-4:05	12 ESYO Concert, Gr. 4, 10:30 Cross-Country Races at CTP, 4:00 pm. Gr. 4-6	13 GIRAFFES Homework Club, 3:30-4:05	14 Shaker Road/Loudonville Fire Department Open House, 6-9 pm.	15
PTA Book Fair						
16	17	18 Homework Club, 3:30-4:05	19 Elementary Visiting Day, 10:00 – 2:30 Cross-Country Races at CTP, RAIN DATE	20 Homework Club, 3:30-4:05	21 School Pictures	22
23	24 Progress reports go home Bd. Of Ed. Mtg, Loudonville, 7:30 pm	25 Homework Club, Parent Program, ADD/ADHD 6:30 Loudonville Auditorium	26 Diwali PTA meeting, 7:15	27 Homework Club Gr. 5 LEP Project, 9-1 GIRAFFES	28	29
30	31 Halloween Breakfast Parade, 2:10				2011	

From the Principal – Ms. Kerry Flynn

Welcome to October! Thanks to all the parents and staff members who worked so hard to make sure our students had a wonderful start to this school year.

October is full of special school and district events. We will hold **Field Day** on Friday, October 7. Information was sent home previously. The annual **Parent Visitation Day** will take place on October 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please read the information included in this newsletter. I hope to see many of you at some point in the day. We recognized **Fire Prevention Week** with assemblies for all grade levels on Monday. Students were very interested in discussing their fire safety plans at home. The Shaker Road/Loudonville Fire Safety Open House is noted on our calendar. Our school plans for **Halloween** are also included in this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support of our student activities.



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AT LOUDONVILLE SCHOOL

The October Board of Education meeting takes place on Monday, October 24 at Loudonville School. Board members will be available to meet informally with the public in the school gymnasium from 7:15-7:30. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

REMINDER

Our teachers are not able to distribute party invitations of any kind in school. Please join the PTA to receive your copy of the Loudonville directory so that you have every child's address.

SAFETY REMINDER

Please remember that if you are driving children to school in the morning, drop off is only permitted at the back of the building (Old Niskayuna Rd. entrance). Students can enter the building at 8:40. The front lot must remain free of traffic for buses to unload students quickly and safely. The school day officially begins at 8:50 and all students are expected to be in their classrooms by that time.

For the latest school news and information, check out the North Colonie School District Web site at

www.northcolonie.org

The newsletter is also posted there!



DISTRICT ELEMENTARY CROSS-COUNTRY MEET – OCTOBER 12,

The annual District Cross-Country Meet for Grades 4, 5 and 6 is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 12** and will begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Colonie Town Park. Transportation to and from the Colonie Town Park is the responsibility of each participant. If your child will be riding with someone else, please sign the form that Coach Maguire sent home.

SAFETY ISSUE

Please respect our neighbors on Noxon Court, the street across from the school. Visitors to our school should not park on lawns, block driveways or fire hydrants. Do not park on both sides of the street because doing so hinders emergency vehicles. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.



We strongly recommend that, if at all possible, children ride the school bus to and from school to reduce dangerous traffic congestion in the back lot and to reduce the number of children who are tardy each day.

When children are driven to school, drop off must be highly supervised by parents. Remind children to look both ways before crossing any part of the parking loop. Please exercise extreme caution when driving into the back lot to allow children exiting vehicles safe crossing into the school. It is dangerous to pull next to cars dropping off children; please wait in a line until you can pull up to the back of the building to drop your children off safely. The lot is small and everyone's cooperation and patience is greatly appreciated.

We are so pleased to have Karen Croteau as our crossing guard this year to assist safe crossing of Osborne Rd. for our "walkers". Karen's services are provided by the Town of Colonie Police Department.

SCHOOL PICTURES



Picture Day is coming Friday, **October 21**. School portraits by **Lifetouch** offer casual, studio-style photography that gives students more freedom to create a look that's truly their own. Visit www.lifetouch.com for clothing suggestions, grooming tips, program details and more.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Loudonville Newsletter will be posted once a month on the district website. The PTA will also be distributing a separate newsletter. Please make sure to read each issue as many important notices and memos will be attached with each newsletter. Other notices will be sent home if necessary, so please keep checking backpacks!

DRESS DOWN FOR CHARITY

On some Fridays you may have noticed the faculty and staff dressing down in jeans. These "spirit days" have been a wonderful fundraiser for many worthy causes. So far this year we have donated to Hurricane Irene Relief. Making Strides for Breast Cancer, Lee Denim Days and Adopt-A-Family are other charities that we will continue to support this year. The faculty and staff at Loudonville take great pride in helping out our community, especially during the holiday season. We hope to continue this tradition of giving.

LUNCH MONEY REMINDER

The cost of breakfast for students is \$1.25. Lunch is available for \$1.80. Milk is \$.60. Prepaying for meals is an option that works well. You can either prepay \$36.00 by check or cash or pay on line at paypams.com. With each \$36.00 that is deposited into your child's account, he/she will receive one bonus lunch free of charge (21 lunches total). Checks can be made out to NCCS Food Service. Students may also purchase a la carte (snack) items daily for an additional charge. Any questions, contact the Food Service Office at 786-8856.

LATE BUSES

Late buses will start on October 11. Students will need to have signed permission slips to ride the late buses home. We will have **Homework Club** on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

GO HOME DRILL

Regulations of the Commissioner of Education require school districts to conduct annual drills to exercise their School Emergency Management Plan. Our school district will carry out a practice *GO HOME PLAN* by dismissing all students fifteen minutes before the normal dismissal time
on
Friday, October 7, 2011.

KINDERGARTEN 2012

If you have a child or know of any child who will attend Loudonville School for Kindergarten 2012, please call the school office at 434-1960. To be eligible for kindergarten at the opening of school of any year, a child must be five years of age on or before December 1st.



MILES IN THEIR SHOES – Walking to help the children of Likiteng Village Lesthoto

We are so pleased with the enthusiasm and high level of participation in the recess walking program, "Miles in Their Shoes." Despite the rainy weather, we have walked and run many laps as a school community. All pledges are due on October 20. This school community's generosity is deeply appreciated. Please see the website: www.qmconnect.org

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are moving, please notify the Central Registrar, Susan Arditi at Central Office at 785-8591, ext. 3130.

PARENT VISITATION DAY

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

The elementary Parent Visitation Day (Open House) is a wonderful North Colonie tradition that gives parents and guardians an opportunity to spend time in school with their children and observe the instructional program on a typical school day. In an effort to minimize disruptions to learning and to address serious security concerns, we have set guidelines to ensure that this activity is conducted in an orderly manner.

The beginning and end of the day are important times for getting students organized and taking care of school business. These are also the times of day when buses must have clear access to the buildings. To facilitate activities at the start and end of the school day, the hours of Visitation Day are from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Visitors will not be allowed to proceed to classrooms prior to the start time. Parents are asked to sign-in at the office and take a nametag to wear during their visit. At the conclusion of their stay, visitors should sign-out.

To avoid disruptions during lessons:

- Visitors should sit in a designated area in the back of the classroom, not beside their child.
- Visitors must let school staff members provide the instruction – they should not assist students unless the teacher involves them in an activity.
- It is expected that visitors will avoid discussions with other parents in the room, so as not to distract the students.
- Confidentiality is extremely important. The privacy of all students in the classroom must be respected. Visitors should never discuss the behaviors or abilities of students they have observed in the classroom.
- Cell phones should be turned off. There is no cell phone use allowed in the classroom.
- Consumption of food and drink is not allowed in the classroom.
- Photography, still or video, is not permitted.
- Pre-school siblings, including infants, should not be brought to school on Visitation Day.
- Please do not attempt to discuss your child's progress with the teacher. Visitation Day is not an appropriate time for a conference. Appointments may be made to meet at another time.
- Visitors should observe only in the classrooms where they have children enrolled.
- Visitors will be surveyed prior to Visitation Day regarding their lunch plans. This will alleviate overcrowding in the dining room by allowing the schools to provide additional seating areas where needed.

The faculty and staff of the North Colonie schools are proud of the work they do with your children and want all parents to have the opportunity to observe this work first hand. If these few guidelines are observed, we will be able to provide a positive atmosphere where parents can observe instruction and experience a normal school day.

HALLOWEEN PARADE AND PARTIES

The Loudonville School Halloween Parade is scheduled for Monday afternoon, October 31, 2011 from approximately 2:10 to 2:20 p.m. Students whose families choose to include them in Halloween activities should bring their costumes to school. Participating students will be dressing-up for the parade at 1:45 p.m. in their classrooms. Room parents will be present to help younger children dress. Parents are also welcome to help their child dress-up at this time. Please remember to sign in at the office. The morning kindergarten will be having a separate parade as noted in the letter to kindergarten parents from Ms. Mattingly. The morning kindergarten class may return to school to view the parade with a parent.



Parents who are visiting the school to watch the parade are asked to sign in at the office and then proceed to the auditorium and be seated. The children will parade through the halls to the auditorium. Classes will parade across the stage and pause for photos! Younger siblings may also attend the parade with their parents. Room parents are asked to set up classrooms for the party during the parade.

Classroom parties, which have been arranged with room parents, will be held in each classroom. All post-parade parties will end at 2:55. If you are taking your child(ren) home with you at this time, please sign them out in the office or in the classroom. Also, please be aware that all visitors should plan to depart by 3:00 to clear the parking lot and bus loop for our regular dismissal.

In the interest of creating a cheerful, positive and peace-loving school environment, costumes need to be of a non-violent nature, free of fake blood and weapons. Please remember that no weapons of any kind can be brought to school. This includes toys or those made out of cardboard even if they are part of a costume. Please support our efforts to promote non-violence by assisting your child in creating a peaceful costume. As another measure of ensuring safety, it is also important that parents and other adults do not cover their faces and disguise their identities. With so many people here that day, we need to be able to recognize the adults who will be in our school and on our playgrounds. We appreciate your understanding and support.



