



MACKAY SCHOOL TIMES

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents,

The state of New Jersey observes the Week of Respect during the first week of October. School Violence Awareness falls on the week of October 17th - 21st. We encourage Mackay families to help us maintain a safe and supportive learning environment for our children.

We have special events planned throughout the month of October, one per week:

- On October 7, we will have *Mix-It-Up-Day* where students will be given the opportunity to *mix* with other schoolmates during lunch time. This activity encourages children to move out of their comfort zones and connect with someone new.
- On October 11, students from grades K-5 will have the opportunity to see an Anti-Bullying Assembly.
- On October 19, the entire school will gather in the courtyard at scheduled times, to write positive messages for inspiration.
- On October 24, we are planning to have a "Mindfulness Monday." This will occur during Morning Meeting, where all Mackay students and faculty take a few extra minutes to settle into their day.

Here are additional upcoming events for October:

- 10/6 Digital Distraction Presentation 7:00 at TMS
- 10/10 Picture Day
- 1028 Annual Halloween Dance 6:00-9:00 PM
- 10/31 Halloween Parade at 1:30

Detailed information will be coming soon about the upcoming Halloween Parade.

Thank you,

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome fall! We are busy in the library preparing for Helen Lester's visit on Friday, October 14. Students across grade levels have been reading and discussing many of Helen Lester's books and enjoying the humor and important messages that they contain. We are excited to meet her.

We have started book circulation and have gone over ways to not only take care of books, but select books to read as well. Here are some ways you can help:

- 1) Please watch for a book to come home on your child's library day. This year we are using special library bags for our youngest students in K-2 to help keep our books safe and to encourage responsibility. Please place the book in your child's bag on his or her library day and return it to school.
- 2) Help your child choose a special place at home to keep their library book (and bag) so that he or she will always know where it is. 3) Help your child remember to bring the book back to school on his or her class's school library day so that he or she will be allowed to check out another book when the class comes to the school library.

SHOUT OUT TO OUR HSA

Thank you for the Author Visit and the Digital Distraction Presentation! We are also looking forward to our Anti-Bully Assembly this Tuesday!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NURSE

Get vaccinated
Influenza or "flu" can cause serious illness. Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and your family.

Cover your cough or sneeze
Cover your mouth and nose with your sleeve or a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Toss your used tissue in the waste basket and wash your hands.

Wash your hands
Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
If you touch surfaces with the flu virus, you can get the flu by touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Stay home if you are sick
Flu viruses go wherever you go when you are infected. Stay at home and check with your healthcare provider when needed.

Fight the Flu
It starts with you

ART NEWS

I will once again be posting 4th and 5th grade art projects on artsonia.com. Artsonia is the world's largest student art museum. It's a free, safe, educational program designed to connect parents and families with their child's creative activities happening in the art room. Artsonia stores all of the projects your student creates in their "ePortfolio." Invite family and friends to join your child's official "Fan Club" so they can receive notification when new artwork is posted. Friends and family can leave positive comments about your child's artwork. You may also purchase high-quality custom keepsakes with your child's art. The school arts program receives 20% of your purchase towards art materials and other supplies. Students who are now in 5th grade should already be enrolled from last year unless they are new to the school. I will be emailing parents of 4th grade students to have student accounts set up. If you have any questions please email me!

tstevens@tenafly.k12.nj.us

Ms. Stevens

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 1ST GRADE

The first graders have gotten a great start to the new school year. They are already immersed in learning and have their first field trip of the year planned. In mid October, the first graders will be going to Secor Farms to learn about all the changes in nature that take place in the fall. They will also be learning lots about pumpkins and apples and will even get to pick their very own pumpkin and apple. First Grade learning is in full effect!