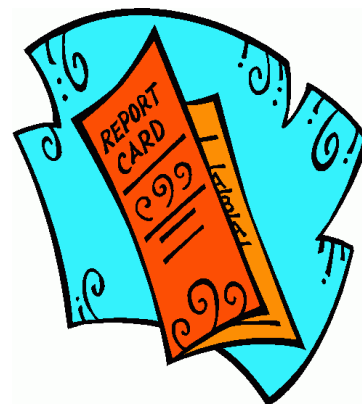


GRACE FAMILY NEWS

November 1, 2010



Report Cards Go Home Tuesday

Report Cards for the First Quarter will be sent home with K-8 students Tuesday, November 2. We are still adjusting the format based on the new online Gradebook system, and if you have any helpful suggestions regarding appearance and readability of the 2nd – 8th grade report cards, please contact Stacey Magill. Also, if you would like an access code to the online gradebook so that you can see your student's grade as each quarter progress, be sure to let Stacey know.

To help you interpret the grades, here is the section from the Parent Handbook that explains our grading policies:

GRADING POLICIES

Grading Scales

For students in Second through Eighth Grade, the grading scale is:

90-100	A (Excellent)
80-89	B (Satisfactory)
70-79	C (Needs improvement)
69 and below	F (failing)

For children in First and Second Grade the grading scale is:

90-100	E (Excellent)
80-89	S (Satisfactory)
70-79	N (Needs Improvement)
69 and below	U (Unsatisfactory)

Late Work

An assignment is considered late when it is not ready to hand in at the beginning of class. The teacher will determine whether he/she will allow the student to receive full, partial or no credit when the assignment is turned in. In general, our policy is to deduct 5 points for each day (or class session) that an assignment is late.

Report Cards

Report cards will be issued at the end of each academic quarter. Progress reports, for students in grades 2-8, will be issued at mid-quarter, to keep parents and guardians informed of the student's progress.

Academic Probation

If a student receives a quarter grade of 69 or less in a subject, that student will be placed on Academic Probation. The parent should schedule a consultation with the teacher of that subject immediately to address ways in which the student can improve and pass the course. Students on academic probation will be required to attend tutoring session until grades are raised.

Grade Advancement

At the end of each school year GLS will promote students who are adequately prepared to handle work on the next grade level. In case of unacceptable academic progress or excessive absenteeism, promotion of the student must be left to the discretion of the teacher and principal after consultation with the parents. Unacceptable academic progress is based on the average of the four quarter grades; a student who fails either one core course (English, Math, Science, Social Studies) or two non-core courses may be prohibited from advancing to the next grade level.

ATTENDANCE POLICY (K-8)

In order to provide the highest quality educational experience, we expect students to be prompt and regular in their attendance.

Students are more likely to be successful when they have been absent no more than 10% of the school year. For that reason, eighteen (18) unexcused absences per year could result in the child's failure to automatically pass to the next grade level. Only the Principal will consider requests to set aside this policy. A fair effort will be made to determine whether promotion to the next grade level would be in the child's best interest.

Parents are expected to contact the school office by 10am on each day a student is absent and confirm his/her absence.

Absences are excused for illness and extreme family emergencies. Each student will be afforded five days of excused absences per school year; however, all requests for excused absences must be in writing. A child who is sick for a week or more is required to submit a doctor's excuse in order for the absences to be excused. Please request a written excuse from your child's doctor and submit it upon your child's return to school.

School begins at 8:15 AM and students are expected to be in their seats, prepared to start the day, at that time. Children arriving after 8:15 will be considered tardy. Tardy students must go directly to their classroom, sign in on the attendance clipboard, and cause as little disruption as possible. Three tardies per quarter are equal to one unexcused absence.

Our Photographer Was Sick! School Pictures Postponed



To Tuesday, November 9
During School Hours
Be sure to wear your logo shirt!

Umm . . . about those candles . . .

A few days ago our students went home with information about a Scentsy fundraiser sponsored by the PTL to provide some useful improvements to our playgrounds. Well, some of you band parents received information *today* about *another* candle fundraiser being sponsored by Music Learning Band, our band instruction provider, the proceeds of which assist students in raising funds for the Dallas Stars games, Spring Break Ski Trip, or 2011 Band Camp.

On top of that, the Fall Walkathon to help raise scholarship funds had been scheduled for November! Mr. Stigler is visiting with staff and the Principal Advisory Panel to consider how to adjust that plan.

So, which candle fundraiser should you support? That's up to you! We're happy with any generous support we receive. Thanks!

Thanks for Your Trunk or Treat Help! We had lots of fun and you blessed our community!



*Would you like to help plan the 2011 Golf Tournament
to benefit our Scholarship Fund?
Be sure to contact Mr. Stigler or your child's homeroom teacher
and your name will be forwarded
to the Golf Tournament Steering Committee Chair, Lou Anne Hoffman.*

Thanks!

THANKSGIVING FEAST



Our students will enjoy a special Spirit Day on Tuesday, November 23rd featuring a Thanksgiving Feast. We're having a different kind of lunch in the spirit of the first Thanksgiving dinner, when everyone shared their bounty.

The meal is hosted by the preschool, but all of our students are invited to attend. The preschool students will dine at 11:30am and the K-8 students at 12:30pm. (Reservation forms for lunch will be included in the K-8 Lunch Order Packet). Parents and other family members are invited to join us; you may purchase a meal at the same time you purchase your child's. We will need to have a final count by Monday, November 22nd.

We need parents of our Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle School students to help serve the Preschool children at 11:30am and some Preschool parents to serve the older children at 12:30pm. Let Elizabeth Ott or Stacey Magill know if you can help!

Go Saints!

