



Making Progress

As we enter the third month of school, we see signs of progress and growth everywhere we look, from the classrooms to the playground, to the planters in front of our school.

Students have settled into their classroom routines. As I walk through I see wonderful collaborative conversations, higher level thinking tasks, and evidence of quality instruction across the campus. Most students are now able to access Accelerated Reader and DreamBox online which can extend their learning time into after school hours. If you do not have internet access at home, remember that the public library up the street has several computers with free internet available.

Out on the playground, students are learning to use appropriate social skills, to ask for help as needed, and to play safely in a variety of games. We have received a new set of volleyball poles and a net, and are in the process of deciding the best place for the court. It will be able to be used by students at recess once installed, as well as by teachers and their classes for PE. There are numerous games that can be taught as lead up skills to the actual game of volleyball, starting in our youngest grades. We are excited to get it installed as soon as possible.

You may have noticed that the front planters of our school are being renovated. The old plants and sprinklers will be removed and new plants and trees plus a water efficient drip system will be installed. As the work proceeds, let's remind the students to walk around the planters and use the sidewalk. We will want to keep our new plants alive and thriving as they grow!

Digital Citizenship

While we are teaching our students how to use current technology and preparing them for the skills and tools they will be using throughout their lives, we must also teach them to be good digital citizens while they are online. Digital citizenship is appropriate, responsible behavior with regard to technology use.

Each grade level has a series of lessons that are taught each year on the topic of digital citizenship. RUSD's goal is that "Each student will effectively, efficiently, and ethically use digital media and technology to communicate, create, and collaborate."



As a parent of an elementary school child, there are numerous resources available to support you as you address this important topic within your own family. Take a look at the following websites for some interesting information and great ideas.

DigitalCitizenship.net This website has a variety of articles and links to other resources. There is a parent pledge and a child pledge for being a good digital citizen.

CommonSenseMedia.org This is an excellent resource for parents, teachers, and child advocates on all topics related to media. There are short videos you can watch on everything from cyberbullying to character development to social media. There are also "Best Picks" for movies, books, websites, apps, and more!

PTA Corner

Whew, we made it through October! First of all, thank you Woodcrest families for such a great turn out for the annual Halloween Happening. Thank you for all the candy donations! We especially want to thank all of the volunteers that came to help make Halloween Happening a special event for our students. We also want to thank the many community sponsors who helped contribute to Halloween Happening. A list of our sponsors can be found at www.woodcrestpta.org, under the "Sponsors" tab.

We want to thank each one of our parents, staff, and families that have signed up to be a PTA member. At the Oct. 24th PTA meeting a drawing was done for the movie gift card raffle. To be eligible for this raffle, PTA members had to sign up before September 30th. Shelly S. was the winner of the \$25 movie gift card. There was also a PTA membership raffle for the Woodcrest Staff. Mrs. Drake was the winner of the staff raffle. Congratulations!

Wednesday, **November 2nd**- Kids are First Fund-raiser will be delivered to the classes.

Friday, **November 4th**- PTA Reflections program entries due to the office.

Monday, **November 14th**- PTA meeting @ 3 pm. (Anybody is welcome to attend.)

Thursday, **November 17th** will be Woodcrest's first Barnes & Noble Book Fair. The event will be from 5:00—8:00 pm and will include a story time with Mrs. Prescott reading to students. Please keep an eye out for the event flyer to be sent home with your student.

Don't forget to keep turning in the Box Tops to the office. Box Tops can be submitted at any time.

Thanks!

Coming Events

- November 10th Minimum Day
(Dismissal at 11:50)
- November 11th Veteran's Day
No School
- November 14th -18th Spirit Week
- November 14th PTA Meeting
@ 2:45 in Room 202
- November 15th Lifetouch Make-up
Picture Day
- November 15th ELAC Meeting
@2:45 in Room 202
- November 17th Barnes & Noble
Book Fair 5-8 pm
- November 21-25 Thanksgiving
Break

Character Building

Each month we focus on a different character trait with the students, defining it, finding examples of it, and encouraging them to practice it in class and on the playground. Our Student of the Month award each month goes to the student in each class who best models that month's trait in all that they do.

For the month of November, our focus is on self-control. This can be challenging for students who have a tendency to be impulsive. Talk to your children about what it means to use self-control and ways they can help themselves to practice it at school each day.

