

Dear Cossitt Families,

With our being just 6 days out from Halloween Monday, I just wanted to confirm that we will (weather permitting) be moving forward with our Halloween parade. For those of you who may have had the opportunity to actually be in the building in the past as this parade slowly grew and grew . . . as KDG connected up with First Grade and First Grade connected up with Second Grade and then . . .

We decided last year to move the entire parade "connection" to a fully outdoor event.

For **this year**'s version, we will continue with this format, as it proved to be much easier in allowing 460 bodies to navigate (minus last year's Halloween inspired rain storm during the last portion of the parade) around the perimeter of the building.

We will begin the process by having our 6th graders exit onto the blacktop and start the line-up right alongside the exterior of the playground gate on Madison. Fifth graders will follow after and walk past the 6th graders and then join the line. (The subsequent order will then be 4th, 3rd, 2nd, 1st and KDG). We will complete this entire process all the way around the exterior of the playground (Madison to Harris to Ashland). This will allow all of our students the chance to see each other's costumes. Once the entire building has emptied out, we will have our 6th graders start the formal parade down Madison toward Cossitt. We will walk the entire perimeter of the building and then enter back through the two recess entrances.

Classes will begin to be called down to start the parade at 2:00 pm.

While we have been very fortunate over the years with costume choices, I do want to reiterate the importance of expectations in a K-6 environment to avoid costumes/accessories that would be considered excessive representations of violence and gore (i.e. toy "weapons" and blood).

For those of you brave souls who are planning to be outside during the parade, I am asking that we all collectively allow the sidewalk area to be clear of parents. Because we have never needed to have all our students be stationary until everyone is out, it would be extremely challenging to logistically run this parade with excessive sidewalk traffic.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in helping to make this a success.

Watching all the cars pull up after lunch and having all of our pre-lunch students magically transformed into post-lunch costumed warriors has always been a moment each year to stand back and soak it all in.

Halloween Day Activities and Times FAQ Answers:

- Kids are not allowed to wear costumes to school.
- Kids will change into costumes at lunch. Your child can either go home for lunch and change and reenter on the black top at 12:10. If your child stays for lunch, they will be able to change here during their lunch/recess time.
- Halloween Lunch Sheet. Please fill out this google form for us whether your student is leaving or staying. You will NOT need to sign students out in PowerSchool for this day only. We will be able to work with classroom teachers better if we have this ahead of time.
- Parade will start at 2:00 PM with 6th grade leading and Kindergarten at the end.
- Parties will start at 2:30 PM

Halloween Party Volunteer Information

You will have a printed name tag you will receive before entering from Debra Reid. She will be standing outside Door #1 with your name tags. No one will be allowed into the classrooms before 2:00 pm.