

WILDCAT PRIDE

October NEWSLETTER



Happy Halloween! October flew by and our staff and students have been hard at work. Two new endeavors for us this year which I've previously mentioned in either newsletters or back to school information has been third-fifth grade detentions and redesigned reading intervention groups. In case you've missed either here are some reminders and updates.

*For detentions, a.k.a. Wildcat Reflections, we will continue to focus on our Wildcat PRIDE characteristics and continue to provide weekly and monthly rewards and prizes. This year however, through working with our staff and school wide behavior committee, we will be building upon our character education and strive to also teach our students personal accountability and responsibility. **Students in grades 3-5**, as well as students in grades 6-12, who exhibit significant behaviors that go against what Wildcat PRIDE stands for and what we expect out of our students at Cedar Bluffs will receive a Wildcat Reflection.

Classroom staff will still work hard to develop good character with all students and work with them individually on meeting not only their academic, but behavioral potential. If after numerous and various attempts to shape certain behaviors does not work, a Wildcat Reflection may be implemented. Certain behaviors such as being physical towards others, or over the top disrespect may be an automatic referral.

If there are any, reflections take place on Thursdays from 3:25-4:00. Students are not allowed to attend the after school program or use our transportation for the day and a family member must pick them up from the elementary office at 4:00. During the reflection, grade level teachers go over a reflection sheet with the student(s) and they problem solve how to make better decisions. The reflection sheet is then sent home with a copy left with the office.

The entire process is in our elementary handbook and is on our website. So far this year, we have had 3 students take part. This is more than I'd like, but still very few and a testament to how well our students behave most of the time and the efforts classroom teachers are continuing to make in their rooms.

*For our daily reading groups, we have continued to implement supplemental materials along with our regular curriculum to build foundational reading skills. In addition to that, we have performed additional screeners to our primary grade students to help us narrow down each student's specific area of need. Targeted and individualized interventions are taking place twice per week where students have an opportunity to focus on their specific need. As each students progresses, they move through each new skill level. From progress monitoring, it looks as if this has made an impact. Our next official benchmark testing will take place in early December.

*Some information you may be unaware of at this point is all of our current and upcoming maternity leaves. Currently, Mrs. Kloke (PK) and Mrs. Chvatal (K) are on maternity leave and just last week gave birth to two girls. Mrs. White (Art) will be going on leave this month and Miss Smoot (2nd) is due over Christmas break and Mrs. Walling is due in April. We have been lucky to fill all these leaves with long term subs and currently remain fully staffed.

*Conferences were just held. They are very important and a great time to hear about how your child is performing academically and behaviorally. **In the fall of 2018 we had 96% attendance, in 2019 94% in 2020 92% and in 2021 we had 97% of parents attending. This fall we had 98%.** That is AWESOME and THANKS for attending! We love to keep our percent attending near 100 and we did that this fall!! Thank you all for taking the time to visit with your child's teacher last week and if you were not able to come, please contact your child's teacher for a visit, or at the very least a phone conversation. Together, we can continue to make progress for our students.

It's crazy October is over, and I hope you all have a fun and safe Halloween tonight and Thanksgiving this coming month. **Thanksgiving break begins with NO SCHOOL starting on Wednesday, Nov. 23** and resumes on Monday the **28th**. Christmas break starts with a 1:30 out on December 21 and lasts until January 10. Until next month, take care and GO WILDCATS!

Mr. Hansen

REMINDERS

*If a student has a fever of 100 degrees or more, they will be isolated and will need to go home immediately. They must stay home for a full 24 hours before they may return and must also be fever free without help from meds. For example, if a student is sent home at any point during the day Monday, the earliest they may return is Wednesday.

*We now have a telehealth nursing system with certified nurses at our disposal through telehealth visits. The school may still call you to report on illness or injuries, but it will mainly be the telehealth nurse. If you receive a call from a 605 area code, it is likely our telehealth nurse. Please answer if that call comes. Nurse Katie's direct line should be 605-606-0550 and is typically our designated nurse.

*4-5th Grade Music Program is this Friday, November 4

**Reminder: there will be 3 nights of programs by grade levels. ** Grades 2-3 is Dec 9 and K-1 will be February 24. All will be at 6:30 in the gym. This is to be able to fit our audience in the gym. Our attendance at programs is always very high and will all in one night we exceeded a reasonable capacity in the gym. PK does have music twice per week, but at this time we do not have a program scheduled. If one is added, we will be sure to let PK parents know.



GO WILDCATS!