



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parent/Guardians,

It is hard to believe that we have been in school for almost nine weeks now. There continues to be many changes but I am proud to say that all Desert Spirit members (students, staff and community) have handled it wonderfully. We are always trying to improve our school so our students can learn. The entire school community continues to embrace our school motto: Ignite, Engage, Encourage, and Expect Excellence.

Class Dojo: If you have not yet signed up for Class Dojo, please make sure you do so as soon as possible. This is the quickest way to get school information, find out your child's behavior, contact teachers and ask general questions. Please ask your child's teacher for an access code.

Report Cards: You will be receiving a report card for your child during parent-teacher conferences. GESD's grading system is based on numeric grades of 4, 3, 2, or 1 with a grade of "4" as the highest grade. Teachers utilize a variety of formative assessments to evaluate student learning. Some objective-based assessments are scored by points and others are performance-based with rubric scores. The grading scale works mathematically for both types of assessments. Please keep in mind that scores are based on a student's mastery of standards. A 3 indicates that a student is meeting the standard. A score of a 4 indicates that a student is working above and beyond the level indicated in the standard. During parent teacher conferences, teachers will be able to further explain the GESD grading scale if needed.

Back Gate: Beginning Monday, October 15 the back gate will be locked at 8:45 for the safety of our students and staff. All students should be in classrooms at 8:45 and parents who use the gate need to exit before 8:45. After 8:45 parents will need to walk exit through the front door of the school. The reason for locking the gate is it is the start time of school and staff is not outside to watch who enters/exits.

Homework: All students should have homework Monday through Thursday. Please be sure to check their work nightly to ensure that it gets completed. If students say that they do not have any, this is likely untrue. Ask them to show the completed work to you. If all work is completed, have them read for 20-30 minutes. Reading 20-30 minutes per night exposes your child to over 1 million vocabulary words per year.

Educationally yours,

MaryBeth McKim



THE FALL FESTIVAL IS COMING..... THE FALL FESTIVAL IS COMING....

When: October 26th
Time: 4:30—6:30

What to expect: inflatables, games, food trucks with yummy choices!
Food is a separate cost and is paid directly to the food truck vendor.
More information to come at a later date!


IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE:
Children may not attend school if they have a contagious or infectious disease until cleared by a doctor. Students who have been vomiting or with fever, should be vomiting/fever/Tylenol free for 24 hours before returning to school.

- MORE HELPFUL HINTS TO PREVENT LICE:**
- **Do not** share hair brushes, combs, etc.
 - **Do not** allow students to touch each other's hair for any reason
 - **Do not** allow stuffed animals in your room
 - **Do not** allow students to share articles of clothing (jackets, gloves, etc)
 - Let students know that they can spray peppermint or green tea oil in their hair so that they can prevent the spread (both products are sold at Walmart).
 - **Do not** share hair clips and accessories
 - **Do not** share hats and bike helmets
 - **Do not** share headsets and earbuds

TEMPORARY BUS PASS
Please remember: bus riders will be able to get two (2) temporary bus passes PER QUARTER. This next quarter will run from October 15 to December 21, 2018. After the 2nd temporary pass, parents will be required to pick up their students by 4:00 PM.

PICTURE DAY
Thursday, 10/26
Bring envelopes & SMILES
SMILES REQUIRED

- OCTOBER EVENTS:**
- 10/1: 4:00-6:30 Parent English Classes
 - 10/2: 4:00-6:30 Parent English Classes
 - 10/3: 12:45 Early Release-Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - 10/4: 12:45 Early Release-Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - 10/5: 12:45 Early Release-Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - 10/8-10/12: FALL BREAK
 - 10/15: Start of Quarter 2
 - 9:30 Awards Assembly-Grade 1
 - 1:00 Awards Assembly-Grade 2
 - 1:45 Awards Assembly-Grade 4
 - 10/16: 9:30 Awards Assembly –Grade 3
 - 10:15 Awards Assembly-Kinder
 - 10/19: Dental Clinic
 - 9:30 Awards Assembly-Grade 7
 - 10:15 Awards Assembly-Grade 8
 - 1:15 Awards Assembly-Grade 6
 - 2:00 Awards Assembly-Grade 5
 - 10/24: 12:45 Early Release
 - 10/26: **PICTURE DAY**
 - 10/26: 4:30-6:30 FALL FESTIVAL
 - 10/31: 12:45 Early Release

 **KEEP SAVING BOX TOPS AND HELP YOUR CLASS WIN AN ICE CREAM SANDWICH PARTY BY TURNING IN THE MOST BOX TOP LABELS TO YOUR TEACHER.**

D
E
S
E
R
T

S
P
I
R
I
T

M
U
S
T
A
N
G
S

