

Headlines

October 23, 2009

This week, I spent several days at home caring for my daughter (fever) and did not get much of an opportunity to roam the school. However, as a father, I really had a good time with Anna as we turned our house into craft central and enjoyed working on numerous projects together. Can a Head of School recommend hooky?

Why I love our (your) kids – In my brief appearances at school this week, I was struck by the manner of our students. At dismissal time yesterday, I watched with a warm heart as Santiago made sure that Teacher Dorothy's class card had been taken out to the bus monitors. His polite questions and offer to help let you know he really cared that this important task was accomplished. In Meeting for Worship today, it was wonderful to see Teacher Lisa's class take the lead. I was truly struck by the ability of Shaye Robinson, Lilly Johnson, Tushar Oomman and their classmates to stand up and make announcements in front of the whole school. Speaking in public can be an unsettling experience but they handled it well.

I believe that these opportunities for leadership and public speaking, even in the youngest grades, are some of the unique and endearing features of Friends and I love the way our (your) students responded.

Meals on Wheels - Community service has always been an important part of a Friends School education. We have several all-school projects planned for this year, and have recently completed our first. After a visit from the coordinator of Meals on Wheels, our students decorated nearly 200 bags for the bagged lunches that are delivered to Meals on Wheels clients with their hot meals three times a week. The children decorated the bags keeping a fall theme in mind, then Matias Berger (grade 4) and Anna Hendey (grade 3), accompanied by Tr. Tinka, delivered the bags to the Meals on Wheels kitchen. Be sure to check out the front bulletin board for pictures and look for more project news to come!

Reminders

Have some fun tonight! – It's finally here! An Autumn Evening at Friends School, our first all-school community social event of the year. This will be a relaxing evening for the whole family, a chance to meet new members of our community and greet old friends, have some good food, listen to some music, and more. Children are welcome and we'll have several different activities for different age groups. Please RSVP to Beth Giles at the school (814) 237-8386 or by email, bgiles@scfriends.org.

Picture day – All school picture day is Wednesday, October, 28th. A photographer will be at the school to take classroom and individual pictures. While there are no specific requirements for dress, please remember everyone will be in the classroom pictures. Ordering information is coming home today via Friday Folders and must be returned to school by Wednesday morning.

Halloween – is celebrated in a big way at Friends School. Parents are still needed to help set up on Thursday, assist during the day, and take the trimmings down on Friday. Please contact Mary at mziegler@scfriends.org if you can help and have not signed up yet. We are woefully short of help in three areas: 1) people who can help transport decorations from the Granary in Lemont to the school at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday; 2) clean-up help starting at 3:00 p.m. on Friday; 3) some help for the decorations' return trip to Lemont at about 4:00 on Friday afternoon.

Annual Scholastic Book Fair -This year, our annual Scholastic Book Fair will be held Wednesday, November 11 through Saturday, November 14. Students will have a chance to visit the book fair and make wish lists on Wednesday, then the fair will be open throughout the day on Thursday and Friday during parent-teacher conferences and again on Saturday morning. This has been a well-loved event for kids and parents, especially as the holiday season is approaching. We will be looking for several people to help out by volunteering for two-hour work shifts, so please keep us in mind as you are making your November plans. Inservice child care will be available at no charge on Thursday and Friday for children of parents who are volunteering at the book fair.

Please enjoy your weekend.

Warm Regards,

Dan