Welcome Back Shoemaker Families

The staff at Shoemaker are thrilled to be back and starting a new and exciting year with your children. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces today in all of the classrooms and we look forward to welcoming our PreK and K students on Monday. We will continue to focus on both academic and social progress daily in an effort to help all students grow and succeed and want YOU to be a partner in that work with us.

Core Values

Over the course of last school year, a large group of school personnel as well as community members, including a Shoemaker parent, met to develop a strategic plan for the district. As part of that planning, district core values were identified. I am sharing them because you are members of your child’s educational team as well as our school community and they send a powerful message for what we want for our students, your children. The 5 core values are: inclusiveness, shared responsibility, collaborative relationships, high expectations, and inspiring life-long learning.

Homework

The Shoemaker School is adopting a homework policy this school year that focuses on literacy as well as provides student choice. Students will not be receiving daily written homework but there will be an expectation of reading. Our goal is to inspire students to love reading as well as to have them reflect on what they need to do based on individual learning needs. Teachers will support this reflection but there will not be a one-size fits all model followed for what students are doing on a daily basis. Some may be practicing spelling words (using play-doh, shaving cream, magnet letters), while others will enjoy or benefit from playing math games. We welcome feedback as we embark on this change, and hope that it provides a more personalized learning approach for your student.

Upcoming Events

September 6th
Kindergarten Open House (9:00)

September 9th
First Day of School PreK and K

September 12th and 13th
Grade 5 Project Adventure

September 18th-September 25th
Scholastic Book Fair

September 19th
Title 1 Open House/Meet and Greet

September 26th
PTO Budget Meeting (6:00) - Budget for the year will be reviewed

Shoemaker PTO

If you are not currently on the PTO email list, please email them at shoemakerptolynn@gmail.com to be added.

Follow the Shoemaker PTO on their Facebook page (Shoemaker School PTO)
Open House and Title 1 Meeting/PTO Meet and Greet
In an effort to increase our family engagement and deepen family-teacher relationships, we will be holding the annual PTO Meet and Greet event in conjunction with the first Open House. The format will be sent out on a separate communication but the Open House will begin at 5:00 with the Meet and Greet beginning at 5:45. We hope that many families are able to attend what will certainly be a fun night. We are excited to have everyone check out the new GYM floor this evening as well!

School Spirit Fridays
Beginning, Friday, September 13th, we will have School Spirit Fridays! Students and Faculty are encouraged to wear blue or a Shoemaker shirt to show their Shoemaker Pride. Students who participate on a regular basis will receive a Shoemaker Sharks pencil. We will be opening our online spirit wear store soon so stay tuned for more information.

District Handbook/Title 1 Compact
Within the first few weeks of school, you will receive both the District Handbook outlining all policies as well as the Title 1 Compact. We ask that you read over the information and return the forms signed as soon as possible.

Summer Reading
We are in the process of collecting summer reading. If your child completed summer reading, please turn the assignments into their teacher as soon as possible. We will be having a “popsicle” party at the end of the month.

Lunch/Breakfast
Last school year, the Lynn Public Schools implemented FREE breakfast and lunch for all students. This continues for the 2019-2020 school year. If your child would like to come in for breakfast, the cafeteria opens at 8:00. If your child is buying lunch, please have them indicate that in the morning to their classroom teacher. Lunch and breakfast menus for September have been sent home but going forward they will be available on the Lynn Public Schools website.

Library
The Shoemaker School is lucky to have a wonderful library with an abundant selection of books for all students. We want to be able to provide each classroom with a time to visit the library but in order to do that, we need YOU. We welcome parents, grandparents, or other family members to volunteer. Library is typically held in the mornings from Wednesday-Friday but more information on exact days and times will follow. I encourage you to think about volunteering if your schedule allows. Library volunteers do need to complete a CORI through the main office.

Scholastic Book Fair
Before our weekly library time begins, we will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in the library. We are still looking for a parent volunteer to be the point person for the fair. It is very difficult for a staff member to do because it takes them out of a classroom for an extended period of time. The book fair runs over the course of 1 week and we have parents volunteer to work the fair during the day so each class is able to attend twice. The fair will also be open during Open House/Meet and Greet as well as before school (volunteer permitting). More information on signing up to volunteer will be coming home next week. The proceeds from the book fair allow us to buy each child a book for Read Across America Day in March as well as meet student requests for library books.
Snacks
Each classroom has a snack time daily. In order to accommodate students with allergies, we ask that all snacks that are to be eaten in the classroom are nut-free. We do have a snack wagon daily where snacks and waters are sold. Prices range from $0.25 to $0.50 and are sold from 8:15-8:30 ONLY. The snack wagon will begin Monday, September 9th.

Attendance
We encourage all students to attend school every day! Last year, the district introduced the “Every Student, Every Day” policy and that continues this school year. Of course, we understand that illness happens and we ask that you follow the district policy of 24 hours illness free (no fever, vomiting, or diarrhea) before sending your child back to school. We hope by following this policy we will minimize the number of students and staff that get sick throughout the year. If your child has been absent, please send in a note the following day. When a student is marked absent, an automated call goes out at approximately 9:30 even if you called the school in the morning. In addition, we ask that doctor and dentist appointments are scheduled after school hours. When students miss time at school, they are missing valuable instructional time, we appreciate your cooperation in following this policy.

Parking/Arrival/Dismissal
In recognizing the lack of parking around Shoemaker School and in order to ensure the safety of all students, we ask that the following guidelines be observed at daily drop-off/pick-up:

- We ask that NO ONE double park on either Regina Road or Clearview Avenue as it impedes traffic and creates a hazard for families crossing those streets. In addition, double parking on Regina Road makes it impossible for the buses to get down each afternoon.
- At morning drop-off, the bus zone on Regina Road is to be used for LIVE drop-off only. If you want to watch your child walk into school or get out of the car, we ask that you please find an appropriate parking space. As soon as you have dropped your child(ren), please pull forward so that families are not having to let children out between cars on Regina Road.
- Out of respect for our Shoemaker neighbors, please do not park in spots designed Resident Parking or block driveways at pick-up or drop-off.
- Parking in the school yard is reserved for a limited number of teachers, please do not pull into the school yard at drop-off or pick-up.

School Improvement Council
The Shoemaker School Improvement Council will meet on the following dates throughout the school year to share information as well as elicit feedback from families: October 8, 2019, December 4, 2019, March 3, 2020, and May 5, 2020 at 2:45. All meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

Upcoming Events:
Friday, October 11th-Fall Picture Day (Retake: December 2nd)
Monday, October 14th-No School, Columbus Day
Friday, October 18th-Progress Reports
Thursday, October 24th-Monster Mash (PTO sponsored evening event)
Thursday, October 31st-Halloween Parade and Basket Raffles
Saturday, November 2nd-Turkey Shoot (PTO Raffle Fundraiser at Nahant Country Club)
Tuesday, November 5th-Election Day (No School and PTO Bake Sale)
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