

HIGH POINT ELEMENTARY

High Point Elementary News and Dates

October, 2011 Newsletter

Principal's Corner

Life at High Point has been exciting and filled with many joyous moments. The children are working hard in all our classrooms under the leadership of our dynamic teachers! Your support is greatly appreciated as we have launched into a great year of learning.

Fall weather is upon us! The colors on the trees are just beginning to change from green to warm autumn gold, the days are cooler and crisp. We are beginning to wear sweaters and sweatshirts again, and the daylight hours are shorter. Hooray for October and autumn. Enjoy this colorful time of year!

Next weekend, October 13-14, we have a long weekend. **There will be NO SCHOOL**. Be sure to take time to load up on pumpkins and apples. Enjoy the time with your children!!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education. We have enjoyed seeing all of our families as active participants in our school community.

September was awesome here at High Point! We had all Gr. 1 families join in the fun for PIE (the Partners In Education program). Market Day is up and running. More assemblies for the year are being planned. Special thanks to our parents who are here each day to help us with traffic safety. The Publishing Center is up and running. Volunteers are helping in classrooms and helping teachers. Literacy volunteers are in full swing. The HP Walk-A-Thon tomorrow will be fabulous and the day will be a picture perfect. Please be sure kids are dressed for the weather.

There are many wonderful programs at High Point and we are grateful for your involvement. October will be another great month!

Come visit us soon. We have much to be proud of here at High Point!



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Special points of interest:

- All fees are due now. Please send in your \$35.00 payment. Thanks.
- School menus for the lunch program are online. Have you checked your child's account? Our kids are eating!!
- Parent-Teacher conferences are Oct. 6 and Oct. 11th
- No School Oct. 13-14

Integrating Technology for 21st Century Learning



At the beginning of each month we will be sending home a hard copy of

a High Point newsletter with specific details and highlights of events or activities happening at High Point. Then during each week we will be sending you updates by e-mail. The monthly newsletter will also be posted on our High Point website. If you have an updated e-mail, please

be sure to send it to us. Also, you are reminded to check your home e-mails periodically for our correspondence.

Last year, the spring family survey indicated that you wanted to see more updated classroom websites and newsletters on the Gahanna website. Good news, teachers have been actively updating and revamping! We have new teacher websites this year. Please go to the Gahanna School

website to connect with teachers websites at <http://www.gahannaschools.org>.

Thank you for taking time to read our newsletters. If you have any questions, please let us know. We appreciate your support and input.

Mrs. Erhard's e-mail is erhardk@gjps.org if you need to contact me.



Safety Updates

Lock Downs

In the next week or so we will be practicing another safety drill which is known as a **Lock Down**. In the untimely event, that we have an angry, threatening intruder enter our school, we lock down all classrooms and school for safety until the threat passes. The wonderful Gahanna police join us in this practice drill. We want children and our school community to be prepared at all times.....just as we are for Fire Drills and Tornado drills. Be sure to talk about safety at home. Many thanks.

To and From School

As a reminder: Please remind your children about some issues of safety on the way to and from school AND when playing in our High Point neighborhoods. Children should NOT talk to strangers, should let an adult know if they are approached by a stranger, come home directly after school, travel the same route to and from school, and know how to cross the street in a safe manner. They should also know safe places along the way or in their neighborhoods should they need help. The safety of our children is very important!

News from our District Office – In our ongoing effort to be proactive in providing the safest possible learning environment for our students, the Gahanna Jefferson School District has a notification policy that, in the event of a convicted sexual offender who is classified as a sexual predator or a sexual offender requiring community notification, we will, within the guidelines of the law, notify community residents.

Additionally, please be aware that individuals wishing to have the most current status and information updates regarding sexual predators, habitual sex offenders or sex-oriented offenders, may do so by contacting:

The Franklin County Sheriff's Sexual Information Line at 462-3350

or

Visiting the web-site at:

Individuals can also go to the Ohio Attorney General's web-site and register to receive an email notification whenever an offender registers within one mile of an address of your choosing.

Veteran's Day Announcement

Veteran's Day is scheduled for November 11th with a special assembly at 1:00. The annual assembly is special because we have very special guests attend. See attached form for information and to register a special veteran from your family! All children are invited to bring a Veteran to the assembly where they will be recognized for their service to our country. We wanted to give you the heads-up now so you and your child will have time to invite a veteran. Children are asked to wear RED, WHITE and BLUE for this special day. More information to come!

Homework & Reading Reminder

Homework is a good tool to support classroom instruction. Children should only be doing homework for 10 mins per grade level. i.e. Gr. 2 would have 30 mins. All children should be reading each and every night too!! Research illustrates how children who read each night for 20 minutes or more (or who are read to in Gr. K or Gr. 1) will be life-long readers and excel in literacy development! Thank you for reading with your child each night or insuring that they have the opportunity to read!! If you are concerned about homework, please be sure to talk with your child's teacher.

We value talking with you!

Halloween/Fall Harvest Parties



On Halloween, which is on October 31st, we will celebrate our first seasonal party of the year. Yahoo for fun!!! The party will begin at 1:15 and end around 2:15. Thank you, wonderful room parents, for

arranging this celebration for us. Room parents are asked to contact teachers to let them know of your ideas for the classroom seasonal party. Teachers will need to approve of all plans for food and activities as you know. Please remember that we ask everyone to consider healthy snacks for the party and to refrain from peanut butter and nuts in the snacks. Suggested snacks include cheese, fruit, pretzels, veggies, nut free/peanut free sweets, jello, popcorn, etc.

In tradition, children may wear costumes for the party. **Costumes must be “school” appropriate** - in other words, no violent or gory costumes for this school event. Children may wear the costume to school or quickly put it on for the party. Costumes must be easy to put on. Please do not have the children bring any props along with their costumes. It is too much for them to manage. (Absolutely no guns, swords, daggers, etc.) If a child has a mask as a part of their costume, it is to be worn only at the party. They may carry the mask to school in a sack or book bag. Since the time is limited, we will not have time for children to apply make-up. Quick and easy costumes are best! Thanks. We are so excited for this annual event.

Plans for the High Point Music Programs This Year



Mr. Behary and our teachers have a special plan to showcase our students in the area of the arts this year! The musical performances this year are going to be slightly different than in years past. We are not having a combined 1,2,&3 performance at the High School. Rather, each grade will perform here, at High Point, at a particular time of the year.

Right now, it looks like **first grade** will have a performance in the spring to coincide with the animal unit they do each year. It will be an animal circus. Oh what fun!

Second grade will be having a Chinese Festival in February. They are learning the Chinese language/culture this year with the district grant and this will give Gr. 2 an opportunity to present some art and music that reflects what they are learning. This would take place in February, around the time of Chinese New Year.

Third Grade will have a patriotic sing-along in the spring as an early Memorial Day tribute. Also, they may lead us in song at the annual school Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute on January 13th.

Fourth and Fifth grades will still have a combined performance at the High School on December 1st. They will sing songs about Fall, Winter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the overall feeling that is connected to that time of year. We start learning the songs in October so you will should start to hear them. We hope you enjoy the shows and celebration of the arts!



Dates to Remember:

Please turn in Walk-A-Thon pledges ASAP (after Friday)



Thursday, October 13-14- No School

Tuesday- October 18th -Market Day pick-up- 4:30-5:45

Monday- October 31st-Walk- A-Thon Assembly at 9:00 am

- Halloween Party 1:15-2:15

Wednesday, November 2nd- Picture retakes. (Sept. Pictures to come before the end of October)

Friday, November 4th- Family Fun Night (come for dinner and loads of FUN with your kids) More to come.

Friday, November 4th-Hat Day Pride Day- and Wear Hats for \$1.00 for Honor Flight collection

Sunday, November 6th- Turn clocks back

Friday, November 11th-Veteran's Day Assembly at 1:00 (see attached)

Wednesday, November 16th- Last day of the 1st Trimester

Thursday, November 17 Early Release

Friday, November 18th- Gr. 1 and Gr. 3 Family Turkey luncheon (invitations coming home soon)

Tuesday, November 22- GO BUCKEYE BEAT MICHIGAN DAY. Wear our scarlet and gray!!!

Monday, November 28th- Report Cards come home



Wellness and good health rule at High Point!!
The Mileage Club is a blast!!!

Walk-A-Thon and Mileage Club

Rocks at High Point

The Walk-A-Thon tomorrow will be fabulous! Thank you Mrs. Birchler, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Unger, Mrs. Russell and ALL volunteers for your leadership and to all parents for coming ! What a great, perfect day it will be. THANK YOU!!!

This exciting event is ready to KICK-OFF tomorrow on October 7th! We are very excited. Under the direction of Miss Coldwell we have had great training in the spirit of wellness, health, and good physical fitness. It is a great opportunity to exercise and wake up our brains! Come join us!!

Also, if your child is a member of the upcoming Mileage Club

(Gr. 2-5), please consider volunteering for it. We have an overwhelming amount of children signed up for the Fall Mileage Club. Miss Coldwell needs parent volunteers in order to maintain the safety and success of the program. It is a great wellness activity for you and your child. Please contact Miss Coldwell as soon as possible if you are willing to help out with Mileage Club.

Thank you for your partnership in all our great events!!