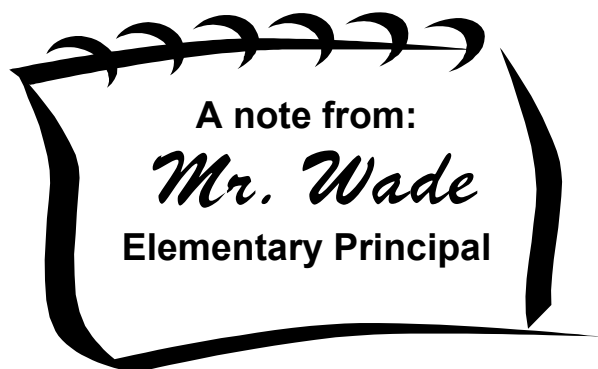




Parents Make A Difference!

Vol. 9, No. 2 Oct. 2006



A note from:
Mr. Wade
Elementary Principal

1st Question: What kind of future do you want for your children?

2nd Question: What have you done as a parent to help increase the chances they will have such a future?

These questions are designed to get you to think. We can probably all agree that most parents want their children to have a life that is prosperous and full of happiness. The only problem is that as we all know it doesn't always work out that way.

As parents we try and teach our children to make smart decisions, to treat others the way we want to be treated and to always do their best. So why do some students achieve success while others stumble down the road of hard knocks? Does it all boil-down to parenting?

My opinion is yes and no. I believe you can be an outstanding parent but still have children that follow the wrong path. I also believe that we all have room for improvement. We could probably do several things better. Some areas may include: having higher expectations regarding our children's school work, have more heart to heart talks with our children about making good choices, visit with our children about future career options and the importance of getting a good education. These are only a few areas we should look at when we evaluate ourselves and the job we do as a parent. That leads us to our final question:

3rd Question- Is there anything you can do or do better to help increase your child's chance of living a life full of success?



October Calendar

October 3- Pre-K- Miami Fire Department.

October 4- Kindergarten to Pumpkin Patch in Carl Junction.

October 5- Parent-Faculty Club Meeting at 3:30 PM in the elementary cafeteria.

October 9- Support Appreciation Week Begins

October 9- All School Pictures

October 10- Fire Prevention Program at the Coleman.

AM Pre-K, K, 1st, & 2nd starts at 9:30 AM
PM Pre- K, 3rd, 4th, 5th starts at 1:30 PM

October 13- Kindergarten to Commerce Fire Department 9:00 AM

October 18- Pre-K to Shank Farms Leave at 8:15 AM.

October 19 & 20 Fall Break- No School

October 23-27 Red Ribbon Week
Wear Red on Tuesday, October 24

Halloween Parties- Tuesday, October 31. Parties will be in the late afternoon. Check with your child's teacher to find out actual times.

November 8- Picture Retakes

November 10- Veteran's Day Recognition Assembly 2:00 PM

November 22-24- Thanksgiving Break

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Ways To Become A Great Reader

1. Read every day.
2. Read out loud with someone else.
3. Read about things that you like.
4. Take a book with you wherever you go.
5. Read everything you can, like maps, menus, signs, newspapers and magazines.
6. Talk about what you've read.
7. Keep a log of what you've read.
8. Be proud of your reading accomplishments.



Make Parent-Teacher Communication a Must

Your child's teachers need your input. Speak to them early in the term. Find out what is expected from your child and let them know anything that may improve your child's desire and ability to learn. Discuss any home situations that may affect your child's life, such as changes in the family structure. Schedule meetings with teachers as needed and attend those set up by the school.

A message from school counselor Dr. Helmig

This past month in my counseling session with each of the classes I talked with the students about self esteem, how one thinks and feels about himself/herself. I asked the students to name one thing they are proud of themselves for and many had great difficulty in identifying a quality for which they could feel proud. So please, when telling them goodnight or goodbye in the morning tell your child what they are good at doing. Give them a compliment of character, such as, "you were so responsible in getting ready this morning," or, "You were so nice to your brother last night." During the month of October our lesson will be on good decision making. Thank you for sharing your children with us and if you would like your child to visit with me I will find time to honor your request.

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Ways to HELP Your child Manage Time

1. Give your child a daily planner or calendar. They're valuable aids for organizing and gauging time.
2. Limit TV, computer, and phone usage so they don't interfere with the time needed needed to get schoolwork done.
3. Promote proper rest and nutrition. Plenty of sleep and a healthy diet increase energy and the ability to accomplish more.
4. Encourage making a "To Do" list each night so your child prepares for what needs to be done the next day.
5. Help your child prioritize. The most important tasks should be completed first.
6. Suggest keeping materials and papers organized. The less time spent looking for items, the more time spent getting things done.
7. Try to prevent your child from taking on too many activities. Make sure enough time is allotted for schoolwork and sleep.
8. Teach your child to break large projects into smaller tasks. This will make daunting assignments more manageable.
9. Remind your child that perfection isn't necessary. Trying to be perfect can cause stress and procrastination.
10. Have your child combine activities---such as reading while riding the bus---to make an effective use of time.

Remember

You serve as a role model for your children, so manage your time wisely also.

At Alexander Elementary



**We Appreciate
Our Support Staff!**

Support Appreciation Week
October 9 - 13