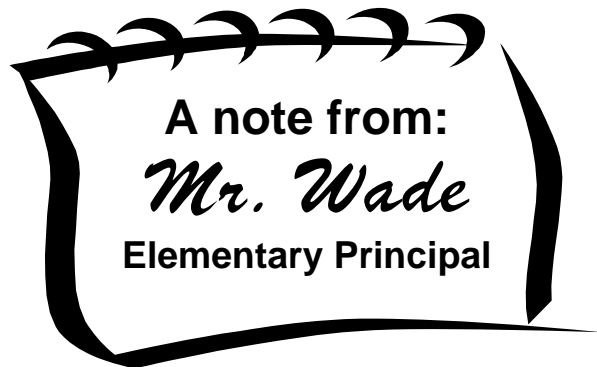


Alexander Elementary



Parents Make A Difference!

Vol. 11 No. 2 October 2008



A note from:
Mr. Wade
Elementary Principal

Most would agree with the old adage, "Showing up is half the battle." Many also accede that showing up "on time" is just as important.

At Alexander Elementary on average we have 24 students that are absent each day. We currently have 462 students enrolled. That means approximately 5% of our students are not in school each day. We also have an average of 11 students that are not in their class by 8:00 AM each morning making them tardy.

We realize that some absences and even some tardies may not be avoidable. When students are sick or when there is a family emergency, missing school or coming in late may not be helped.

We do want to encourage parents to try and make sure students are in school and on time every day possible. When students are absent or arrive late they get behind missing out on important material being covered during that time. It is important to never fall in the habit of missing school or running late for poor reasons. We encourage appointments to be scheduled during school breaks or after school hours.

Educators will tell you the top students in the school are the ones that are on time and never miss. Making sure your children get to school every day possible and on time will teach them an extremely important lesson. They will learn to be responsible, dependable and punctual. These are character traits necessary to insure success not only in school but in the world of work and life in general.

**...top students
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Fire Prevention Program-
Tuesday, October 7 at the
Miami Civic Center.
PK, K, 1, 2 starts at 9:30 AM
3, 4, 5 starts at 1:30 PM

Fredrickson Farm Field Trip- Friday, October 10.
Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Goodwin.

Parent-Faculty Club Meeting- Tuesday, October 14 at
3:30 PM in library.

1st Grade to OJ Allman Pumpkin Patch- October 14.

Pre-K Field Trip- Southwest City- Wednesday, October
15.

Fredrickson Farm Field Trip- Wednesday, October 15.
Mrs. Boyd and Mrs. McQuigg

Fall Break- No School- October 16 & 17.

Grade Cards go out- October 21.

Wear Your Cap To School Day- October 23. Students
pay \$1 to help raise awareness and funds for children
who have been diagnosed with and are being treated
for cancer.

Pre-K Field Trip- Friday, October 24. Stephen Fite
Concert, Miami Coleman Theater.

Picture Retakes- Wednesday, October 29.

Halloween Party and Parade- Friday, October 31
Parade begins at 1:00 PM.

Tulsa Air and Space Museum Field Trip- Gifted and
Talented Students and 5th Grade. 8:15 AM – 3:00 PM



**We Appreciate Our
Support Personnel!**

**Educational Support Personnel Week
October 6 - 10**

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Trick-or-Treaters

- *Carry a flashlight.
- *Walk, don't run.
- *Stay on Sidewalks.
- *(If no sidewalk) walk on the left side of the road facing traffic.
- *Obey traffic signals.
- *Don't cut across yards or driveways.
- *Wear a watch you can read in the dark.
- *Make sure costumes don't drag on the ground.
- *Shoes should fit (even if they don't go with your costume)
- *Avoid wearing masks while walking from house to house.
- *Carry only flexible knives, swords or other props.
- *Wear clothing with reflective markings or tape.
- *Approach only houses that are lit.
- *Stay away from and don't pet animals you don't know.

Parents

- *Make your child eat dinner before setting out.
- *Ideally, young children of any age should be accompanied by an adult.
- *If your children go on their own, be sure they wear a watch, preferably one that can be read in the dark.
- *If you buy a costume, look for one made of flame retardant material.
- *Older children should know where to reach you and when to be home.
- *You should know where they're going.
- *Although tampering is rare, tell children to bring the candy home to be inspected before consuming anything.
- *Look at the wrapping carefully and toss out anything that looks suspect.

Homeowners

- *Make sure your yard is clear of such things as ladders, hoses, dog leashes and flower pots that can trip the young ones.
- *Pets get frightened on Halloween. Put them up to protect them from cars or inadvertently biting a trick-or-treater.
- *Battery powered jack o'lantern candles are preferable to real flaming candle.
- *If you do use candles, place the pumpkin well away from where trick-or-treaters will be walking or standing.
- *Make sure paper or cloth yard decorations won't be blown into a flaming candle.

Cont. Col. 2

Safety Tips!

Cont.

*Consider healthy food alternatives for trick-or-treaters. These may include: packages of low-fat crackers with cheese or peanut butter filling, single-serve boxes of cereal, packaged fruit rolls, mini boxes of raisins and single-serve packets of low-fat popcorn that can be microwave later.

*Non-food ideas for treats: plastic rings, pencils, stickers, erasers, etc.



Time Management

Some people seem to fit more things into a day than the rest of us. No, they haven't found a way to stop the clock—they've just learned to use their time more efficiently. Here are some ways you can get control of you time.

*Use time in the car with children of any age, or even bath time with young children, to squeeze in a little more learning. Of course, your child can't read library books in the tub—but he can repeat the addition facts. He can't write an essay in the car—but he can talk about what he's going to write or, perhaps, review spelling words.

*Set priorities. Decide what's really important to you. (Odds are, it's your children.) Then consciously decide how to spend your time. Make sure your decisions reflect what matters. Have a choice between cooking a fancy dinner or reading with your child? Order a pizza and read the book.

*Spend one-on-one time. Children need both "quality" and "quantity" time. But, there's nothing like spending time alone with a parent to make a child feel special. Every week, make an appointment to spend some time alone with each child. Get out your calendar and write it in. Then treat that appointment as seriously as you would an important business meeting.

*Remember the 80/20 rule. Businesses often use something they call the "80/20 rule." Simply stated, it means that 80 percent of the results of any job come from just 20 percent of the effort. Use this rule as you decide how to spend your time. Instead of just "doing things right" you'll start "doing the right things."



**HAVE A GREAT FALL BREAK!
OCTOBER 16-17**