



Don Callejon School Weekly News

Principal Hans Barber's Newsletter for Don Callejon Families • October 27, 2010

Si usted necesita esto traducido al Español, por favor comuníquese con la oficina de la escuela.

Dear Don Callejon Families,

We are looking forward to celebrating our Halloween festivities with you this week! This Friday we will be celebrating Halloween with our annual Halloween parade beginning at 10:15AM. During middle school lunch, middle school students can participate in a costume contest, and we will have our first middle school dance later that night!

We are also in the midst of celebrating Red Ribbon Week, with a daily dress-up theme. Students will also receive a Red Ribbon Week gift from their homeroom teacher, thanks to DCSCO.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns, and we will do our very best to tackle them in a timely manner. This is a crucial time in the lives of all of our students.

Hans Barber

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Starting Arts:

All K-5 students will enjoy three six-week sessions of Art through the Starting Arts Program. This program is funded exclusively by DCSCO fundraising, and it will offer students a chance to experience Music, Theater and Visual Art. The Music Session ended on October 15, and the Theater session began Monday, October 25. Please take a moment to ask your child about this program, and find out what they learned during this time.

Site Council Meeting:

The Site Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 27, has been rescheduled for Tuesday, November 2. We will meet from 5:00- 6:00PM in the front office staff room. These meetings are open to the public.

Spirit Days/Spirit Wear:

Don't forget to show your DCS spirit by dressing up for spirit days every Friday. This Friday is Halloween Costume Day. Wear your costume or black and orange.

Halloween Parade:

This year's Halloween parade for Kindergarten through 5th graders will take place on Friday, October 29, from 10:15AM-11:00AM. Parents are welcome to attend this event. Students may come to school in costume or change during recess. Middle school students will be involved in a lunchtime activity put on by our leadership class. Please make sure that your student's costume is school appropriate by following the school dress code and the short guidelines below. If you have a question regarding the appropriateness of your student's costume, please call the school and we will help you with that.

1. No violent or overly gory costumes, masks or shirts.
2. No imitation weapons or sharp instruments.
3. No fake blood.

Students with inappropriate costumes will have their parents called and asked to change.

GATE Opportunities:

There are several upcoming events for students identified for Gifted and Talented Education (GATE). If you are a parent of a GATE student and would like to receive future email alerts about GATE events, please contact our GATE Parent Representative, Estela Ramirez, at ersantaclara@yahoo.com

Project Cornerstone Corner:

Last month, our students in Grades 1-5 read *Have You Filled Your Bucket Today*, by Carol McCloud. The students learned how to fill buckets with warm fuzzies, including their own. The book for Grades 1-5 this month is "Simon's Hook", by Gedig Burnett. The focus of this book is to teach children how to put a lid on their buckets. They will learn the Rules for Being a Free Fish:

1. DO little or nothing! Don't react!
2. Agree with the hook!
3. Distract! Change the subject!
4. Laugh at the hook! Make a joke!
5. Stay away! Swim in another part of the sea!

Our Kindergarten students will read *Join In and Play*, by Cheri J. Meiners. *Join in and Play* teaches children about being a friend, making a friend, and playing together. It teaches them the rules for getting along, being a good sport, and cooperating with others.

If your child likes *Simon's Hook & Join In and Play*, they will also like: *My Mouth is a Volcano*, by Julia Cook, *If Everybody Did*, by Jo Ann Stover, and *How To Lose All Your Friends*, by Nancy Carlson.

If you have any questions about the Project Cornerstone ABC Program at Don Callejon School, please send an email to Jenn and Andrea at: dcabclead@gmail.com

Important Dates and Details:

- **Red Ribbon Week:**
October 25th – 29th
- **School Site Council Meeting:**
November 2nd
- **End of First Trimester (K -5):**
November 5th
- **Veteran's Day Holiday:**
November 11th
- **Report Cards Go Home:**
November 12th
- **Thanksgiving Holiday:**
November 24th – 26th
- **Fall Book Fair:**
November 29th – December 3rd

After School Sports:

Girls Basketball has begun and our first game will be at Peterson this Thursday. Our final Flag Football game is this Thursday, October 28, at Millikin. Please come out and support your Cubs!!

Library Link:

Busy days in the library!! Thank you to our parents who help make sure that their children's library books are returned on time. I am also pleased that so many parents are continuing to check books out for home use. If you have not yet signed up for a parent library number, stop by and see me – it only takes a minute.

Most of our classes now have terrific library volunteer parents who help with book circulation and shelving of books each and every day of each and every week. These volunteers truly are essential to our library. This September, our students more than doubled the number of books they checked out over last year – to be exact, the DCS community checked out more than 7800 books in September. That is a LOT of reading which is a great thing. It is also a LOT of reshelving and our gold plated volunteers truly are the best. The words "thank you" really do not express my gratitude enough.

Hicklebees is sending the Anne Isaacs, author and Paul Zelinsky, illustrator of *Dust Devil*, the sequel to the American tall tale *Swamp Angel* to meet with our 2nd and 3rd graders on Tuesday October 19. Students will have the chance to watch an illustration created as well as hear about the writing process by this award winning duo. Watch for an exciting National Geographic event for our 4th, 5th and 6th graders in early November – also thanks to Hicklebees.

We have recently purchased an online research tool for elementary grades and you all are able to access this from home. Please visit www.pebblego.com and enter the username Callejon and password school. This is a terrific interactive site for early researchers – with some great games and a daily poll.

Mark your calendars now for our upcoming annual Scholastic Book Fair. Our Fair will be setting up on the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving and sales will begin November 29 and go through December 3. Look at the school homepage under the library section for more book fair info. Now that our weather is finally turning cooler and more autumn like, we can trade in sitting in the sun with a book to snuggling with a blanket and a book. Wonderful opportunities for creating memories with our children – of ALL ages!