

Mustang Messenger

Achieving Excellence Together!

October 2010

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Amanda Elementary/ (513) 420-4542

Dear Members of the Amanda Learning Community,

October will be a very busy month at Amanda! Please make note of the following activities:

- Monday, October 4 thru Friday, October 8 - This is Count Week! The State of Ohio distributes the state share of our school funding based on our student enrollment during this week. We need every child to be at school in order for Middletown City Schools to collect the money owed to us from the state. If your child must be absent, please be sure to provide a proper excuse so it can count as an officially excused absence.
- Tuesday, October 5: The fall administration of the 3rd Grade Reading Achievement Test will be given to all 3rd grade students. In order for your child to do his/her very best, please make sure that your child arrives to school on time and is well rested!
- Friday, October 15: Fall student pictures will be taken by Life Touch.
- Tuesday, October 19: Come and have family fun at the fantastic PAC Harvest Night! More information will be forthcoming!
- Tuesday, October 26 & Thursday, October 28: Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held from 4-7:30 pm each evening. Teachers will be sending home scheduled times for this important event. We encourage all parents to attend!
- Friday, October 29: All Halloween parties will be scheduled for this day. Teachers will have class celebrations at various times. Please check with your child's teacher if you are unsure of the time of your child's class party.

Megaskills have become a very important part of our culture at Amanda.

The Megaskills that we will be focusing on this month will be:

- Problem Solving - This skill also involves the patience and perseverance to continue to search for solutions using multiple strategies.
- Teamwork - Together we can make a difference! Giving our students opportunities to see the power of helping each other is a goal that is embedded in many of our activities at school!

- Common Sense - Making decisions based on obvious facts or knowledge may seem to be a very simple task and yet this can be one of the most challenging skills to teach our students.
- Caring - It is our hope that our students see how many people - parents, family members, all Amanda staff members, neighbors- care for them and how the act of caring is a part of their lives everyday!

Again, a big thank you to the entire Amanda Learning Community for your on-going support!

We know you care! Together, with teamwork, we can begin:

Achieving Excellence Together!

Sincerely,

Dr. Candace McIntosh-Dillon

REMINDERS OF SCHOOL PROCEDURES:

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call to report that information to Mrs. Higgins in the office. When the child returns to school send a note with the date and the child's teachers name and an explanation of why the child was absent.

SHOE TYING CHALLENGE

At Amanda, we have noticed *MANY* dragging shoelaces. This is extremely dangerous because students may trip and fall or shoes will come off. In Physical Education class, students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade will be practicing tying their shoes. Any child who can demonstrate shoe-tying ability will get to sign the "ALL TIED UP" chart. There are instructions printed for 2 different ways to tie shoelaces on the back of the fitness calendar. PLEASE help your child learn how to tie shoes correctly and tightly so they can be safe.

BOYS BASKETBALL TRYOUTS AND LEAGUE

The Middie Boys basketball program has made available 2 opportunities for elementary school boys. The Middies Travelers and the Skeeter Payne Basketball League. The Middies Travelers is a competitive program for advanced basketball players. One team from each grade level 3rd through 6th will be chosen. The tryouts will be held Wednesday, October 6th. Third and fourth grade boys will try out at Highview Elementary. Third grade will try out at 5:30pm and 4th will try out at 7:15pm. The cost is \$125 to be on the team which covers gym rental, tournament, league and referee fees, uniforms, 20 games, practices each week and a clinic at the beginning of the year.

If your child does not make the traveler team or doesn't want to play the higher-level basketball there will also be the Skeeter Payne Basketball League. Players in the Skeeter Payne league have the opportunity to learn the basics of basketball and put them into a game situation. All players in this league will get equal playing time. Sign ups for the Skeeter Payne Basketball league will be Saturday, November 6th from 10am to 1 pm at Wade E. Miller Gym (the varsity gym at Vail Middle School).

GIRLS BASKETBALL

All elementary school girls have two opportunities to play basketball this winter also. Girls in 3rd - 6th grade will be able to try out for a higher level traveling team. They play a 20 game schedule (10 home and 10 away games) and practice 3 days a week at Miller Ridge Elementary School. The cost is \$125. This includes uniform, training from former UC coach Laurie Pirtle, practice gyms, referees, and league fees. Tryouts are Oct. 19 - 21 at Middletown High School from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Skeeter Payne league - Any girl in 3rd - 6th that did not make the select team or are beginners are encouraged to play in the Skeeter Payne league. Cost is \$50.00 which includes a t-shirt. Teams will be divided up equally and play on Saturday mornings at Wildwood Elementary. Practices will start in November. You must register to play in this league. They will practice two days a week at Wildwood Elementary.

Girls in grades K-2 will be representing their own elementary school. Coach Dalton (the girls Varsity Basketball coach) is looking for a parent to coach at each elementary school. Practices will begin at the end of October at Mayfield Elementary. All games will begin November 13th at Mayfield. The cost is \$50.00. This fee includes a reversible uniform top. The deadline to register for this K-2 league is Oct. 22nd.