

ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY

Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER UPDATE



The school year is in full swing and fall is here! The month of October will bring many exciting things, including our much-anticipated Halloween Parade. Classroom parties will continue to be closed to families and guests, but we invite you to attend the parade. Our Halloween Parade will be held on Friday, October 28. More information will be sent home in your child's red folder later this month.

October also brings our first set of Parent Teacher Conferences. You can find additional information about conferences, including how to schedule, on page 3 of this newsletter. Please note that the end of the first quarter is October 14th. Please communicate with your child's teacher if you have any concerns.

Our Spartans Live R.E.D program is in full swing. Students learned about respect, empathy, and determination throughout the month of September. We also recognized last year's Super Spartans by unveiling their plaques on our Live R.E.D. wall outside of the school office. These students will be presented with a Super Spartan shirt during lunch in recognition of their commitment to respect, empathy, and determination in making positive choices at school, and for their community service.

During the month of October, we will also launch our anti-bullying campaign. Students will learn about what bullying is and how they can help prevent it by being an upstander. You can find additional information about our anti-bullying efforts in this newsletter on page 2.

We are also updating our procedures related to student injury. This is an ongoing process; however, you can learn more about guidelines on page 4, Student Safety.

In closing, I want to remind you that communication is important. Our goal is to work with you to ensure your child has a positive educational experience where they can feel safe and continue to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. If you have questions or concerns, please communicate with your child's teacher. We are all on the same team and we want to see your child succeed! I can be reached via email at arouse@alexanderschools.org or by calling the school office.

-Mrs. Rouse, Principal

SUPER SPARTAN AND SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS

Alexander Elementary Students in grades K-5 are once again being challenged to complete TWO Service Learning Projects throughout the school year. Any child who receives nominations for EACH of the 3 words (Respect, Empathy, and Determination) AND completes TWO service learning projects will receive a SUPER SPARTAN AWARD during our end of the year honors assembly. Students are encouraged to complete these projects on their own, but they may also complete them in small groups or as a class. Some examples of possible service learning projects include:

- Raking leaves for someone without pay.
- Visiting a nursing home or hospital.
- Volunteering at area food shelters or animal shelters.
- Babysitting for free. Volunteering at a community event.



Once a child completes a project, he or she must also fill out a one-page form telling what they did, who it helped, and what they learned by completing the project. This form must be signed and dated by the person who received the student's services and turned into the school office.

**AT ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WE ARE
ONE DREAM, ONE TEAM.**

A community of professionals dedicated to working
together to educate the **WHOLE** child.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 5- Specials Rotation
#5

October 14- end of the 1st
quarter; 2 hour early dismissal

October 17- Specials Rotation
#1

October 19- Unity Day/ Wear
Orange!

October 20- NO SCHOOL;
Parent Teacher Conferences
(evening)

October 21- NO SCHOOL;
Parent Teacher Conferences
(morning)

October 25- Picture Make-Up
Day

October 28- Halloween
Parade and Celebration

October 31- Specials Rotation
#2

Save the Date

HALLOWEEN PARADE

**THE ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY ANNUAL
COSTUME PARADE WILL BE HELD ON
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH. WE INVITE YOU TO
COME AND ENJOY THIS LONG-STANDING
TRADITION! THE OUTDOOR PARADE WILL
BE HELD UNLESS THERE IS EXTREME
INCLEMENT WEATHER, SO PLEASE HAVE
STUDENTS DRESS ACCORDINGLY. IN
ADDITION, WE WILL NOT BE HAVING ANY
VISITORS INSIDE THE SCHOOL BUILDING
FOR CLASSROOM PARTIES THIS YEAR DUE
TO SAFETY PROTOCOLS.**

*More information about the
parade route and time will be
sent home soon!*



OCTOBER IS BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. Our school defines bullying as “repeated, intentional, and aggressive behavior targeted towards a student or students by another student or students where there is a clear imbalance of power.” Alexander Elementary School continues to use this month to promote anti-bullying lessons and messaging to our students from kindergarten to fifth grade. We teach what bullying is/isn’t so it can be easily identified, how to stand up to bullying in a safe way, and how to be kind and accepting of all of the students in our school. In the past we have had students pledge to prevent bullying by signing school-wide contracts or helping to create large banners that we present in our halls. October 19, 2022 is Unity Day. We encourage all students and staff in the elementary school to wear orange on this day as a way to show our united support and to send a message that we will continue to work towards preventing bullying and promoting kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences

Alexander Elementary believes in creating a strong relationship with our families. One piece of this process is allowing parents and teachers to meet and discuss student progress and the student's individual needs.

Our first parent teacher conferences of the year are approaching, so be sure to mark the date now! These conferences will be held **the evening of October 20th from 5:00-8:15 pm.** In addition, all teachers will be available the **morning of October 21st from 8:00-11:15** am for additional conferences.

Phone calls to schedule conferences will be accepted beginning on Monday, October 10th. Please contact the school office at 740-698-8831 to schedule your appointment.

Triple P Parenting Seminars

Positive Parenting Program is a program that gives parents tools to build strong and healthy relationships with their kids. We'll give you tools and strategies to help manage and change your child's unwanted behavior. We will focus on how to raise confident kids, manage fighting and aggression, deal with disobedience, and how to get your child to listen.

Our October meeting will be on "The Power of Positive Parenting." This will be held during our evening conferences. There will be two sessions, 5:00- 6:00 and 6:30- 7:30.

Childcare Help for Conferences

We are offering a FREE activity center for all students in **grades PreK-5th** during conferences, both days. This will be provided by our School Outreach Worker, Kent Felts, and other volunteers. It will be held in the Elementary Gym. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to have your child(ren) be engaged in something fun while you take time to meet with the school staff.

Save the Date

Movie Night!

SUPER PETS (PG)

Friday, November 4th

6:00-8:00 PM

(Doors open at 5:30 PM)

Alexander Elementary
Cafeteria

Everything is FREE!

Sponsored by Alexander PTO and the School Outreach Program through Athens County Children Services.



LOOKING FOR WAYS TO GET INVOLVED?

Our school's **Parent Teacher Organization** is always looking to expand with new members. Even if you cannot commit to attending every meeting every month, but would just like to help out in some way, please contact one of the PTO members. The organization meets once a month. This group works to provide a variety of fun events and activities for our staff, students, and families. In addition, they provide funds for a variety of classroom projects and educational experiences. To learn more about PTO visit the school website, scroll to the **QUICK LINKS** at the bottom on the page, and click on PTO.

STUDENT SAFETY



We are working to update our policies and procedures for when a student is injured at school. We felt that this was an appropriate time to clarify some things, so that you know what to expect if your child is injured during the regular school day. Unfortunately, small injuries like cuts and scrapes can be common in any school setting. Although we reinforce school safety by encouraging our students to make safe decisions, modeling those expectations, and by working hard to put routines and procedures in place to keep our building safe, accidents do happen, especially at recess.

We would like to stress that our school clinic is not a traditional medical facility. The clinic staff cannot diagnose or prescribe treatment. When a student visits the clinic for an injury that is not considered minor, such as that sustained from a substantial fall or an injury to the head, the clinic will notify home so that the parent or guardian is aware and can then make the decision on whether or not to follow up with their family pediatrician if necessary.

The clinic recommends that any injury to the head, or any injury that cannot be easily treated in the classroom, should result in a referral from the teacher to the clinic. Minor injuries, such as small cuts, scrapes or nosebleeds that can be cleaned and/ or stopped by the student independently will be treated in the classroom at the teacher's discretion. We will continue to revisit and update our procedures as needed. If you have questions or concerns, we encourage you to contact your child's teacher.

BOX TOP FOR KIDS



Families, for many years we have collected "Box Tops for Education", but in the last few years the process has changed. Instead of clipping the box tops this process is now done through an app on a smart device. This actually makes the process an even easier way to support the school. Helping the school only takes 3 easy steps.

1. Download the app "Box Tops for Education" on your smart device.
2. Set up an account and select "Alexander Elementary School" in Albany, OH as your school.
3. When you have finished shopping, use the camera on your device to take pictures of the receipt. The app will automatically scan your receipt for qualifying purchases and put money into the account.

The money collected goes to the Alexander Elementary School PTO and is used to fund our Teacher Grant Program, which teachers can use to request items to improve their classroom. Ultimately this is a simple way for you to help the school and the proceeds will benefit our students. Thank you for helping us!

IMPORTANT DROP OFF AND PICK-UP LINE REMINDER:



This is a friendly reminder to those who drop off or pick up a child from school. Please make sure you observe all rules for drop off and pick up procedures. It is important that you remain in the line of cars. Please do not bypass the line to move towards the front. Not only is this unfair to those who have been waiting, this is also a major safety concern. We offer two elementary pick-up lines in order to keep traffic moving. All individuals picking up a student are expected to use one of these two lines, unless you have an extenuating circumstance, such as a student with a mobility issue, and have made the proper arrangements with school staff. Any exceptions must be approved by the school principals.