Mark Your Calendars!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs October 26th</td>
<td>4:00—7:30 pm</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00—7:30 pm</td>
<td>Book Fair—Media Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, October 27th</td>
<td></td>
<td>NO SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00—4:00 pm</td>
<td>Parent Teacher conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00—4:00 pm</td>
<td>Book Fair—Media Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, November 2nd</td>
<td>4:00—7:30 pm</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00—7:30 pm</td>
<td>Book Fair—Media Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, November 10th</td>
<td>9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Veterans Day Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 Productive Questions to Ask at Teacher Conferences

Fall conferences are around the corner. As a parent, I get excited about that 15-minute slot allotted to have a one-on-one with my child’s teacher. I look forward to hearing about the progress, struggles, and strengths more in-depth than what I see in homework worksheets.

Starting the conference with specific questions gives you the opportunity to focus on what is important regarding your child. Areas of study covered or assessment scores can be done quickly and even in other communications. Addressing the following questions will give both you and teacher a better understanding of the child throughout the year. Here are five questions you can ask to help you get the most from those minutes with the teacher.

1. What do you see as an area of strength for my child?
   This question focuses the discussion on your child specifically while still giving the teacher the opportunity to evaluate all subjects. Sometimes parents find this answer surprising as kids can show different abilities in the classroom than at home. Fostering a love of learning can help bring these strengths out in the home as well as at school.

2. What is one area to focus on improving for my child?
   Sometimes it is difficult to think about all areas of learning at once. Focusing on one area at a time helps define the priorities within the classroom. It also gives something concrete to work on at home.

3. How does my child contribute to the class atmosphere?
   This may seem like an unusual question, but it can provide a lot of information. Different personalities shine in different ways independently, but as you blend twenty of those unique personalities together new things can be revealed.
   This will give you an idea of how much your child contributes to class discussions or how s/he may be a great helper for another student. Maybe you’ll discover that your child is great at following directions and modeling good behavior for other students or even that s/he provides a funny idea to give everyone a laugh.

4. Who does my child work well with?
   Giving the teacher the opportunity to look at the social element of learning is just as important as the academics. This can be a good barometer of how a child is doing socially as well as giving parents insight.

5. Do you have any concerns about my child?
   Sometimes we are so busy getting through the list of assessments, reading levels, and academic achievement that we can miss the bigger picture. Giving teachers and parents both the pause to consider any areas of concern emotionally, socially, or developmentally addresses the whole child in his or her learning environment.

Music Notes from Mrs. Norman
4th & 5th Grade—Recorders
There are several new recorders still available for students in 4th and 5th grade to purchase. The cost is $3. Please remind your child(ren) that they need to bring their recorder to every music class as we are practicing for our Thursday, Dec. 7th riser grade level performance in the gym.

Space Pirates—The Musical
Our SPACE PIRATES theater musical registration window opens on Monday, November 13th through Monday, November 27th.
To register online with the theater company please go to: www.ashlandproductions.org. Please remember that the rehearsals take place before school in the Oakdale music room beginning on Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 7:30 a.m. Our new director is Kyle Schwartz and of course Mrs. Norman.

Veterans Day Program
Friday, November 10th, 9:15 a.m.
Please join us for our annual Veterans Day Program and if you have family member(s) or a neighbor(s) that is a veteran, please bring them along! The program will begin at 9:15 a.m. in the gym. After the program, there will be a reception for our veterans and their families.

Our Oakdale students who are members of Boy Scout or Girl Scout troops should plan to wear their uniform!

We would love to add some new pictures to our Veterans Day slide presentation! If you have a picture of a family member who has either served in the military or who is currently serving our country that you are willing to share, please send it with a note explaining their Oakdale Elementary connection. You can email the picture and explanation to pgrau@isd622.org or send it in an envelope marked for Veterans Day slide show. If you send the picture in an envelope make sure the student's name is included so it can be returned to you. Thank you!

Order Your Oakdale Spiritwear!
The Oakdale Tigers webstore is NOW OPEN!
Shop Now At: oakdaletigers.brandingwearhouse.com
Click on ‘Products’ in the menu bar and start shopping!
The online store will close November 12th. Anything ordered by November 12th will arrive at school November 27th. Shop for the holidays!!
The online store will reopen after the initial order is processed.

Free Educational Workshop
“Understanding Trauma”
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) have a lasting impact on our children. Children who have experienced traumatic events need to feel safe and loved. However, when parents and educators do not have an understanding of the effects of trauma, they may misinterpret the child’s behavior and end up feeling resentful or frustrated. This workshop will build your knowledge around ACES, trauma-informed care, brain development in children who experience trauma, and much more.
Our own Jennie Kula, LICSW, & Olivia Verick, LSC, District 622 will be presenting this fantastic workshop!!
November 13th, 2017
6:30 – 8:00 pm
District 622 Education Center,
2520 E. 12th Ave, North St Paul
This session is open to anyone! No preregistration necessary for the workshop. Childcare is available for free, but you must preregister with Diane at 651-748-6765

Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities can help make your Thanksgiving even more joyous this year! If you would like to receive a FREE Thanksgiving Food Bag, be sure to register.

Registration Details:
Thurs, Oct 26th, 9 am—6:30 pm
Tues, Oct 31st, 1:00—6:30pm
Thurs, Nov 2nd, 9:00—6:30 pm
Sat. Nov 4th, 10:00—2:00 pm
Union Gospel Mission
435 University Ave. E. - St. Paul
Or Saturday, October 28th, 10:00—2:00 pm
At 376 Western Ave. N., St Paul

Please Note:
• Drivers License or State Issued Photo ID and current piece of mail are required to register
• One basket per address
• Registration must be done in person.
• We regret we are unable to accommodate phone registrations or registrations for another person.
• Food bag pickup will be November 20-21.

PTA Corner
Fall Fundraiser
Product pick-up, Tuesday, November 7th 3:30—6:00 in the school cafeteria.

PTA Meeting
Mark your calendars for the next PTA meeting Thursday, November 16th. Superintendent Osorio will be joining us to discuss middle school transition options. We will also begin to discuss updates to our playground, planned for summer 2018!

Upcoming Fundraising Events
11/16 - Papa Murphy’s Raising Dough Day
Like us on Facebook: Oakdale elementary PTA ISD622