

Parkside Primary School

Home of the Eagles!

Important Dates

November 2020

- 11/3 - NO SCHOOL (Election Day)
- 11/11 - NO SCHOOL (Veterans Day)
- 11/25-11/27 - Thanksgiving Break

Principal's Note

Parkside Families,

It has been so nice to have the majority of our students back to a full time (almost) in-person schedule! Those families who are currently on the remote learning model, please know that we can't wait for the day your children are able to join us here at Parkside, as well! If you need anything, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Sincerely,

Mr. Aaron B. Kilpatrick, Principal

akilpatrick@bethalto.org

377-4100 ext. 16150

Attendance/Quarantine

Students who are experiencing symptoms, or have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, or has related symptoms, are not to attend school.

Please call our office at 377-4100 to speak to our nurse about your child's symptoms, or exposure, for guidance on how long they must be out of school, and their return date. There will be no academic penalty for students who must miss school because of Covid related symptoms or quarantine due to possible exposure.

Cold Weather

As the weather continues to cool off, it is important to send your child with the appropriate attire for outside recess. **Even in the winter months, we will continue to have outside recess, whenever possible.** Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately, and has a coat, hat, and gloves.

Transportation

As a reminder, **bus riders are only allowed one afternoon drop-off location.** This drop-off location must be where the student goes every day. Multiple afternoon stops are no longer allowed. This is a district policy, not a Parkside policy. We appreciate your cooperation.

Any changes to a student's method of afternoon transportation must be report/requested through our office. **Please do not email your child's teacher or send a note with your child, call our office at 377-4100.**

School Messenger

Official communication from Mr. K will come via School Messenger, and may be in the form of a voice call, an email, a text message, or in some cases, all three. **To make sure you don't miss any important information, please make sure you have a valid phone number and email on file.** If your phone number or email address change, be sure to make us aware, so we can have the most current information in Power School. Most calls will come after regular school hours, however, sometimes it is necessary to send a call during school hours. If not answered, the message will go to your voicemail. **If you receive a call from 377-4100, but are not able to answer, please check your voicemail before calling our office.**

Character Education

The Character Education word for October is: **Citizenship**

Citizenship means being a member of, and supporting one's community and country.

Characteristics of a good citizen include:

- Respecting authority and obeying laws
- Being active in the community
- Protecting the environment
- Doing whatever one can to make our school, community, and country better

Have conversations with your child about being a good citizen. Talk about things they can do to help make things better in their home, school, and/or community. Ask them to tell you about the book, "The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade." What did Sally do to make her school a better place?

Character Case

Each month, our students work together to earn a positive behavior reward. Covid-19 guidelines have drastically changed what these rewards look like, but we are still finding ways to reward our students for working together towards a common goal. To monitor our progress, we fill our "Character Case" with balloons. Students can earn balloons for many reasons, but typically they are for exhibiting the character word of the month, or doing things the "Eagle Way." When the balloons reach the required level, everyone earns the reward. So far, we've had popsicles and pumpkin bowling. Especially during November, when we learn about citizenship, please talk with your child about doing their part to contribute to the reward.

Parkside Mission Statement

At the end of every morning meeting, we recite our Parkside Mission Statement:

Parkside is a place where everyone works, learns, and succeeds together!

Although very simple, this statement is the foundation for everything we do at Parkside. We encourage you to talk with your child about our mission statement, and what it means to them.

Mindfulness

Mindfulness is the ability to be fully present, aware of where we are and what we're doing, and not overly reactive or overwhelmed about what's going on around us. At Parkside, we are teaching our students some of the basic concepts of mindfulness. During our morning meeting, we "get ready for our day" by sitting comfortably, closing our eyes, clearing our minds, and focusing on our breathing. Students are encouraged to use this technique whenever they feel anxious or overwhelmed. Please ask your child about this important part of our day!

PARKSIDE IS A PLACE WHERE **EVERYONE WORKS, LEARNS, AND SUCCEEDS TOGETHER!**