



Primarily Speaking Lima Primary School Hand in hand we make a difference!

Jeanine Lupisella
Principal
e-mail: jeanine_lupisella@hflcsd.org

Fax: 624-7155
Phone: 624-7140

Smarty's Garden of Good Character

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A B C D E Schedule

11/24 -11/25 = A, B
12/1 - 12/5 = C, D, E, A, B
12/ 8 – 12/12 = C, D, E, A, B
12/15-12/19 = C, D, E, A, B
12/22—12/23 = C, D



Dates to Remember

Parent Conferences	11/25 11/26
Thanksgiving Recess	11/26 11/28
Lima PTA Meeting	12/1
Parent University CANCELLED	12/2
Lima SIT 12-3	12/3



Meet Smarty's Garden Friends. At our assembly on November 7, our students had the opportunity to review Smarty's pillars of good character through a new lens. He and his friends made a live visit to help us begin to see what good character looks like in action. We will continue to develop positive behavior throughout the year with guest appearances of one or more of our new friends. When your child is caught behaving like Be Fair Broccoli, Citizen Corn, or another friend, without being asked, he/she will be given recognition. A postcard will be completed and handed in to the office. Mrs. Lupisella will announce this accomplishment to the whole school, then send the card home to you. Your child will have their picture posted along with their character in our school garden hung in the front hallway. Our garden will be blooming with more of Smarty's friends.

We appreciate efforts you make to reinforce positive behavior at home. Our goal is for the children to understand and apply these concepts everywhere they go— at school, on the bus, at home and in the community.

Grandparents Day

Our Grandparents Day was a huge success on Friday. A huge thank you goes out to Julie Farnam, Betsy Kretchmer and Rita deKramer for organizing the day and over 400 registrations. Thank you to Patti McGuire, Kim Lester, Julie Farnam, Mary Zona, Jill Wanzenreid, and Heather Baum for manning our sign in tables and our lunch service. Once again our PTA supported an exciting event.

I certainly hope our special friends enjoyed visiting Lima Primary as much as we liked having them visit. If you have any thoughts and ideas for next year, please let us know!

Your First Progress Report

Last week you received your child's first progress report for the school year. Our grading system consists of a scale of 1-4. Please do not equate these numbers to the traditional A-D grading scale. A 3 indicates that your child is meeting the grade level expectations for this time of year; a 4 communicates that he/she is ex-

ceeding them; and a 1 or 2 indicates that he/she needs more targeted support to meet our expectations.

Please keep in mind that learning is developmental, meaning that every child learns at his/her own rate. You will have the opportunity to celebrate your child's strengths at your

parent teacher conference along with viewing work samples and assessment results. Please be prepared to ask questions and give the teacher feedback on how your child views school from home. Your input is critical. Working hand in hand with one another will increase success for your child, enriching the school environment as well.

Notes from the Wellness and Safety Teams

Keep your child home from school when he/she has a:

- Persistent fever of 100.4 or more
- Fever requires medication
- Too sleepy or ill from nighttime sickness
- Significant cough
- Sores around the nose or mouth
- Significant rash
- Red, runny eyes
- Large amount of discolored nasal discharge w/ a headache
- Severe ear pain
- Severe headache
- Any condition you believe to be contagious

Exercise is key to academic excellence

"It turns out that physical activity can improve not just kids' health, but also their grades. A study released by the American College of Sports Medicine found that 20 minutes of vigorous activity at least three days every week was needed for children to excel academically."

An excerpt from an article by Jorge Cruise.

Encourage your children to engage in active outdoor play, dance, sports, biking, hiking, swimming - whatever gets them moving. You may notice an improvement in self-esteem, confidence and academic performance.

Look for ways to make favorite dishes healthier.

The recipes that you may prepare regularly, and that your family enjoys, with just a few changes can be healthier and just as satisfying. For new ideas about how to add more fruits and vegetables to your daily diet check out the recipe database from the FruitsandVeggiesMatter.gov. This database enables you to find tasty fruit and vegetable recipes that fit your needs. Here are examples of easy-to-prepare, low-fat and low-sugar treats that are 100 calories or less:

- A medium-size apple
- A medium-size banana
- 1 cup blueberries
- 1 cup grapes
- 1 cup carrots, broccoli, bell peppers

Safety at School and Home

Safety is key at Lima Primary. This past month teachers have spent time discussing bus, chemical and fire safety with the students. Thank you for reinforcing these same precautions at home. Additionally, please help us at school by doing the following:

- **Dress for the cooler weather. We try to go outside EVERY day we can.**

Our transportation department shares the following tips:

- Complete three part forms if a temporary bus change needs to be made. Please include all pertinent information. Forms are available in all offices and from the bus driver.
- While waiting for the bus, remind your child to **stay back from the road at least 15 feet.** Locate a permanent marker to remind them of this spot.
- **Do not send** children with **packages or projects** too large for them to manage on the bus.
- Place tissues in backpacks during the cold and flu season so children do not need to leave their seats.
- **Keep name labels small** so strangers cannot read them.
- If someone other than the normal person is picking your child up at the bus stop, **consider e-mailing a picture of them to the transportation department.**



The Gift of Literacy

**When I was little I received the best gift from my parents and sisters.
An expensive, lavish, memorable gift even though money was scarce
For it cost time, took interest,
And was filled with love.**

What was it you ask?

**Stories read aloud from the time I was oh so little to news articles as a teenager
Trips to the Library even if we had to walk and we were lucky enough to drive, stacks of books were brought home to read together,
or enjoy alone in a quiet place
or discuss at the dinner table
They were shared.
A variety of paper was plentiful
for notes, shopping lists, handmade cards, and letters to grandma, or clues for our favorite game of "Ghosts in the Graveyard"**

**When I was little I received the best gift from my parents and sisters.
An expensive, lavish, memorable gift.
Literacy lasts a lifetime!**



