

# School Newsletter

September 2019

## Dear Parents & Grandparents,

Congratulations, Parents! You've made it through the first month of school!

Preschool Parents, you did a wonderful job following Mrs. Keanu's advice. You brought your children to school early, giving them time to adjust to their new schedules and new environments, and then confidently handed them over to their teachers. With your reassurance, your children have felt secure and have come to school ready to make new friends and try new experiences. We have also seen many parents guiding their child to take greater steps towards independence, encouraging them to walk to their class on their own, either from the top of the ramp, the bottom of the ramp, or even from the brown gate. In fact, there are many children who have just recently begun to get dropped off curb-side! Every individual step is a step towards confidence and independence!

Kindergarten and Elementary Parents, you also are to be commended for your efforts to support your children in becoming more self-sufficient and dependable. At Parent Night, we talked about "getting out of their way," allowing them to attempt new skills on their own, and work hard to strengthen their skills. Many of you readily supported this idea and are giving your children the opportunity to become more self-motivated, to grow in faithfulness and perseverance, and to take ownership of their own successes.

As we all exhale and breathe a little easier, though, we must remember it is not time to ease off on the habits and routines that led to these accomplishments. To insure consistency in our children's development, we, too, must remain consistent, continuing to reinforce the behaviors that have been established.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."  
Galatians 6:9

When we experience progress, it can be easy to "over-celebrate" and become tempted to slack a little. It's like dieting- when we experience a little success, we often reward ourselves with the very treats that we just worked so hard to overcome! Then we have to



## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

9/19, Thursday - **NO SCHOOL**, Parent-Teacher Conferences

9/20, Friday - **NO SCHOOL**, Parent-Teacher Conferences

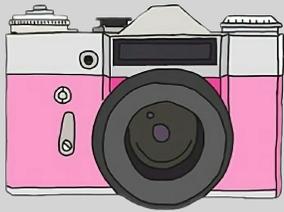
9/25 to 9/27 - Friendship Camp for Grades 3-6

10/1, Tuesday - Picture Taking for Preschool

10/2, Wednesday - Picture Taking for Kindergarten and Grades 1-6

10/7 to 10/11, **NO SCHOOL**, Fall Break

10/25, Friday - **HARVEST FESTIVAL**



## School Picture Taking

House of Photography will be at our school

on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 1st and 2nd to take pictures of our students and teachers. Preschool students will be taking photos on Tuesday, October 1st. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 will be taking photos on Wednesday, October 2nd. Students should wear their appropriate school uniform, please refer to the School Picture Taking handout you should be receiving later this month.

### Picture Taking Make-Up Day

Picture make-up day will be held on Thursday, November 7th. If your child was absent on the original picture taking day and did not turn in a picture taking form, please come to the office. If after receiving your child's portrait you would like to retake their photo on November 7th, please have your child bring back the original packet of photos with a note explaining why you did not like the photos. Take out and keep the class photo before returning the packet.

work even harder to get back on track! Remember, the treats are not the reward; the reward is the growth in personal strength. Similarly, the rewards for the children are their own personal growth and independence. We cannot fall back into habits that could jeopardize that growth. Our consistency will lead to the children's success.

"Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people."  
Colossians 3:23

As parents, we know it is very hard to watch your child struggle- we all just want to help our children as much as possible. Sometimes the best way to help, however, is to let them do it on their own. We need to "get out of their way," so that their successes are truly their own. Together, we can work to strengthen your child's character and help them become real reflections of Jesus, our Good Shepherd.

Through reflecting the character of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, our students will be confident, self-directed learners whose character is in Harmony with God, Harmony with Self, Harmony with Others, and Harmony with Creation.

**BOOK  
FAIR**  
COMING SOON!

The Children's House  
Scholastic Books Fair  
October 2-4

2:30 - 4:30 PM

**\*\*Credit Card Sales Only\*\***

Volunteers Needed - Please  
stop by or call the school  
office to volunteer.



## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, September 19th and Friday, September 20th. **There is no school for students on both Thursday, September 19th and Friday, September 20th.** An email was sent at the end of August with instructions and information on how to log on and sign up for a Parent/Teacher conference time. Sign-ups will close on Friday, September 13th at 7:00pm. If you have problems with signing up or need to reschedule your conference time, please contact your child's teacher or the school office. If you are not able to attend either conference day, please contact your child's teacher to schedule a conference time on another day.