

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all who attended Wednesday's GPFA meeting. I hope you will attend as many meetings as you can this year! At each meeting, the teachers and I will be presenting on topics that will help you support your child's academic and social-emotional development. Next month, Officer Fiorillo will be joining us for a discussion on school safety.

At Wednesday's meeting, our school psychologist, **Mrs. Schmid**, special education and AIS teachers, Mrs. Wolf and Ms. Shalley, reading teacher, **Ms. Bayer**, and Speech-Language teacher, **Ms. McDevitt**, shared a little bit about their programs. We emphasized the fact that we work as a team to ensure that every child gets the support they need before they encounter frustration or lose interest in learning. Most children need a boost in some area at some point in the school year, whether it be in the area of reading readiness, social skills, or math concepts. We assess children often and offer support as it is needed. You will be informed if your child will receive support on a regular basis beyond what his/her teacher provides in the classroom.

Here are a few tips that will help your child thrive as a young learner this year:

1. **Read to your child every day.** Reading aloud to children helps children more than any other activity that parents can do.
2. **Let your child be bored!** Children need "downtime" and time to figure out how to amuse themselves. It will support creativity and their ability to delay gratification, an important life skill.
3. **Children need a lot of time and patience to develop skills.** Let your child try to do things independently. Talk your child through a task or model how to do it rather than swooping in and doing it for him/her.

Here is some important information:

BUS SAFETY

The children learned about bus safety this week when "Safety Sally" visited in her classroom bus. Please ask your child what s/he learned about bus safety and reinforce the idea that seatbelts must be worn at all times and quiet voices help the driver be able to concentrate on driving!

PARENT LUNCH RECESS VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Next Thursday at 9:30 is a second opportunity for Lunch-Recess Volunteer Training for parents interested in spending time at school during lunch and recess. There will only be one more opportunity to be trained this fall- November 27th at 9:30.

OUTDOOR RECESS

As the weather begins to change, please be sure to send your child to school every day with a jacket or sweatshirt. Please write his/her name inside the jacket.

We appreciate your active involvement in your child's education. Our partnership is what makes our school as wonderful as it is.

FIRST GRADE PHOTO

It is a Goosehill tradition to take a photo of the entire first grade for the yearbook. The photo will be taken on Monday morning at 8:50. As always, please be sure your child is on time for school.

Enjoy the beautiful fall weekend,

Lynn Herschlein