

November 9, 2018

Dear Parents,

At our Spirit Day next week, we will be focusing on gratitude. Students will be reflecting on what they are thankful for, such as family, friends, school, and fun. We will enjoy songs, poems, and skits performed by students. The best way you can support our efforts to promote an “attitude of gratitude” is to read and discuss stories with gratitude in their theme. Here is a link to a terrific list of children’s books on the topic:
<https://www.readbrightly.com/books-that-show-kids-what-it-means-to-be-thankful/>

The children have been learning many lessons in Social Studies the past few weeks, including lessons about the election process and Veterans’ Day. Our focus has been on being a good citizen and showing gratitude for those who serve our country. Please take some time this weekend to talk with your child about some of these concepts. They are at the age when they are becoming interested in the “bigger world” around them and how it works.

The results of our election are in: 104 for pogo sticks and 94 for a bowling set. The winning items will arrive in the next week or so and will augment our already robust recess program. (I also ordered the bowling set, as it was a close vote and I honestly failed to count the absentee ballots!)

Be on the lookout for next week’s school-wide homework assignment---your *Family Focus Homework Log*. You will receive a chart of ideas for activities you can enjoy with your children—such as reading, writing, cooking, and playing games together. We hope you enjoy “homework” as a family next week!

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our GPFA meeting this week. We had a good discussion about school safety and the partnership we have with the Suffolk County Police Department. Officer Fiorillo will continue to be a presence in our school.

Thank you to our GPFA and all of our parents for supporting Parents’ Night Out. What a wonderful night it was! Our GPFA works tirelessly to support our school and we are very grateful.

Have a great three-day weekend!

Lynn Herschlein