



FRANZEN FALCON

OCTOBER 2011

“Through collaboration between school and community, we strive to foster an environment that promotes academic excellence and positive character, while accommodating the differences of our students in order to create lifelong learners.”

Dear Franzen Families:

We have had a great start to the new school year. Our school continues to be a community of learners and the staff and students both take great pride in what they accomplish each and every day to promote life-long learning. We are proud of our school and want our stakeholders to know what we believe strongly in and refer to as we make our educational decisions. We have much to be proud of at Franzen School. The following is a summary of some of the events for the upcoming month:

4th and 5th Grade Chorus - Our chorus is practicing each Wednesday after school. Our enrollment in this program is at 66 students. We appreciate all of the efforts Mrs. Kozakis and our students put into this program! Also, thank you to all parents who help provide transportation!

5th Grade Band Program - This program is in full swing with a huge number of students learning instruments. It is great to see the support and involvement being given in the area of Fine Arts.

All School Fieldtrip- All of our students attended the production of The Dream Thief on Thursday, October 6 at Lake Park High School. The entire student body enjoyed this production immensely as did the staff.

Absence/Change of Plans- If you send an email to your child's teacher regarding an absence or a change in your child's after school plans, please email the office as well (jrobertson@itasca.k12.il.us) The office needs to be aware of the reported absence or change in transportation.

Things to Come:

In addition, we have a few events taking place during this coming month.

Halloween Parade- Please see the information attached regarding the times of the Halloween parade and room parties. It is my belief that this is a student-centered activity and I want the focus on the students, thus you will not see staff in costumes. We look forward to seeing the students have fun, as well as to enjoy the parade and room celebrations!! Thanks to all parents who assist with coordinating and making the parties happen!

Franzen Talent Show- For those that have elected to participate in this optional, but popular event, the Franzen Talent Show will be held on Thursday, October 20 at 7:00 PM. Doors will open at 6:45 PM. Come prepared to see various student performances!

No School, Friday, October 21 - The students will not be in attendance on October 21, as our teachers will be in meetings and training all day. The focus will be further staff development on our new math series, enVision Math by Pearson.

Key Information:

Franzen Building Hours: The doors open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 3:30 P.M.

Forgotten Textbooks - Both the Itasca Library and the Wood Dale library have a set of each grade level textbooks for student use while at the library.

When changing dismissal arrangements for students - Please contact the office no later than 12:00 so that we can be sure your child's teacher gets the information. If you do know in the morning, please send a note with your child and also make them aware of the change.

As the weather begins to change, and cold weather approaches, I again need to request your patience due to the safety concerns related to student arrival times, drop off in the morning and student pick up in the afternoon. Although accidents can and do happen, here are some ways to keep our children safe:

Students should not arrive to school prior to 8:10 A.M. This is a safety issue for your children as adult supervision does not begin until 8:10. Safety is my top priority.

Morning Drop Off - Please wait in single file formation on the right on the far driveway in the parking lot across the street from the school, while waiting, for an open space at the curb in front of the handicapped spots. Outside supervisors will direct you as you move your car in front of the school to drop off your child.

Afternoon Pick Up - Busses must load and leave first, before student pick up by car can start. Cars need to line up in single file formation on the right in the parking lot across the street from the school, while waiting. Please follow the directions from the outside supervisor, before moving your car to pick up your child, at an open space at the curb in front of the building. Again, whenever possible, park your car in the lot, walk across the street to pick up your child. These same rules apply to after school clubs!

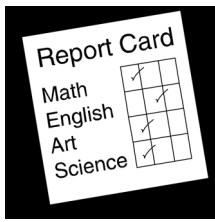
Remembering to do these few things will help keep our children safe and help avoid accidents as the weather gets colder.

Thank you again for a great start to the school year! Your support at home makes the world of difference for your child. We appreciate it greatly!

Sincerely,
Jeffrey J. Murphy
Principal



Please make sure your child has their lunch every day. We do not have the personnel, materials or time for making lunch for children that do not have one. If your child forgets their lunch, they can call you from the classroom or office to have you bring them one. When you bring your child their lunch, please make sure you put their name on it as we get many lunches and want to make sure your child gets their lunch.



SCHOOL REPORT CARDS RELEASED

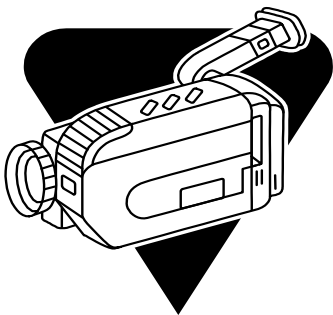
As of October 28, 2011 the School Report Cards will be released to the public. Rather than printing and mailing the School Report Cards home, District 10 has posted them on its award-winning website at www.itasca.k12.il.us. You can also pickup a copy at the school.

The School Report Cards show aggregate student performance on the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) that was taken at certain grade levels last spring. The School Report Card also shows demographic and financial information for District 10. You will see, upon review, the students in Itasca District 10 continue to score well above statewide averages.



Save us a phone call, please call the office when your child/ren are not going to attend school. You can call the administrative center between 4:30 pm and 7:50 am to report the absence at 773-1232 then press 5 followed Ext 1525 or you can call the school directly after 7:50 am at 773-0100. Please make sure you give your child's name, teacher's name and why they are not attending school. **You must call the office every day your child will be out.**

FRANZEN TALENT SHOW



- **The Franzen Talent Show begins at 7:00 pm.**
- **Doors will open at 6:45 pm.**
- **Please be aware NO Peacock or Lake Park students will be allowed to attend unless they are siblings of performers.**
- **A professional videographer will be recording the performance. Slips will go home prior to the event in case you would like to order a DVD as a keepsake.**



PICTURE RETAKES OCTOBER 27, 2011 AT 8:35 A.M.

If you need a retake, you must bring your original pictures back on that day. If you need pictures taken because your child was absent or forgot their money the first time, you need an envelope from the office to have their picture taken.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

October 31, 2011

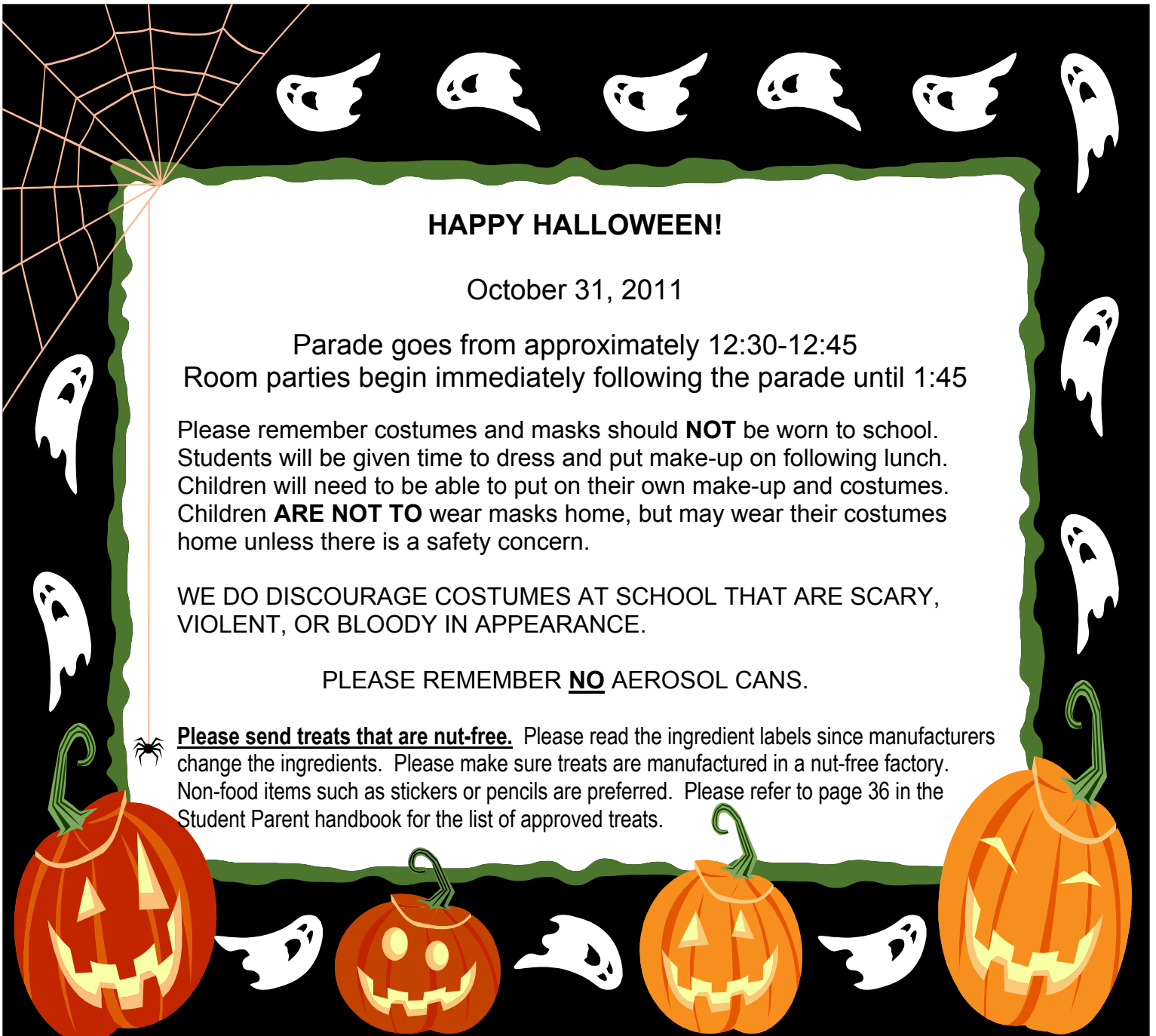
Parade goes from approximately 12:30-12:45
Room parties begin immediately following the parade until 1:45

Please remember costumes and masks should **NOT** be worn to school. Students will be given time to dress and put make-up on following lunch. Children will need to be able to put on their own make-up and costumes. Children **ARE NOT TO** wear masks home, but may wear their costumes home unless there is a safety concern.

WE DO DISCOURAGE COSTUMES AT SCHOOL THAT ARE SCARY, VIOLENT, OR BLOODY IN APPEARANCE.

PLEASE REMEMBER **NO** AEROSOL CANS.

Please send treats that are nut-free. Please read the ingredient labels since manufacturers change the ingredients. Please make sure treats are manufactured in a nut-free factory. Non-food items such as stickers or pencils are preferred. Please refer to page 36 in the Student Parent handbook for the list of approved treats.





TRICK OR TREAT HOURS ON
OCTOBER 31, 2011
IN ITASCA ARE
3:00 p. m. until 7:00 p. m.



The following students will be saying the Pledge for the next month:

Week of 10/10/11

Week of 10/17/11

Week of 10/24/11

Week of 10/31/11

Week of 11/7/11

Mrs. Hanczar's Class

Mrs. Hanczar's Class

Mrs. Busse's Class

Mrs. Busse's Class and Mrs. Flanigan's Class

Mrs. Flanigan's Class

NEWS FROM OUR CLASSROOMS

THIRD GRADE

This has been another busy and exciting month in third grade! The entire school went to Lake Park High School on Thursday, October 6th. The students enjoyed watching the live performance. In the classroom, students have been participating in activities to learn about the Earth, Sun, and Moon. Students are writing and publishing October stories. In the computer lab, the students are continuing to learn proper typing skills. We are still learning and practicing cursive handwriting. Your child will be writing in cursive within only a few short months. In reading class, the students are reading and discussing various fiction and non-fiction stories. Please continue to have your child read for at least 15 minutes each day at home. In math class, students have been solving higher-level addition and subtraction problems. Continue to practice math facts each day at home. Many students' scores are improving. This shows how hard parents and students are working at home.

FOURTH GRADE

We are quickly approaching the end of the first quarter! We have been very busy this first quarter. We have just begun our first unit in our Reading basal. Each of the stories has a theme of "You Can Do It". In Math, we are working on addition and subtraction of whole numbers. By the end of first quarter students have to have addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts mastered for the first quarter report card. Keep working on those at home so they are known at a quick rate. Fourth

grade integrated our Health unit during Special Friend's Day. Students and their special friends used colored marshmallows to make a mouth showing the 4 types of teeth. We all had the opportunity to enjoy our first field trip this year when we went to Spring Brook Nature Center. We learned a lot about how to observe different things when we are in nature. The students also learned how to classify leaves. In Science we are starting an animal unit, while in Social Studies we are learning about Abraham Lincoln. Thank you parents for supporting your child's academics at home!

FIFTH GRADE

The fifth graders are nearing the end of the first quarter and are working hard in all of their classes. We are almost 2 months into the school year, and the students have adjusted very well to the 5th grade expectations and curriculum.

In Science we are studying the parts of a flower and how plant reproduction takes place. The students enjoyed dissecting their flowers and seeing the parts they learned about in class. The 5th graders got to see some interesting ways in which a seed can get spread around. Later this month, we will begin our first unit in Health. We will be learning about our different body systems, and how they work together. All the fifth graders are going to be headed to Robert Crown to learn more about how life begins.

In Math, we are working on our unit on the multiplication of whole numbers. Up next is division, so practice those facts. In Social Studies, the students just completed their unit on geography and maps, and are starting to learn about Native American cultures and the Western Hemisphere. The projects the kids will be starting have them making posters and preparing to teach their classmates about specific regions and tribes. Theme two of our Reading basal is well under way. This theme focuses on teamwork. As always, we continue to hone our English skills in Language Arts, Writing, and Spelling.

The fifth grade had a wonderful turn out for our Special Friends Day last month. We want to thank our friends and family for being a part of the event. Last week we were able to attend the play, "***The Dream Thief***" at Lake Park High School. It was great to see the high school students show the younger kids how their hard work had helped them create an amazing performance.

News From the Art Room

We have a very busy month ahead of us in Art! The third graders have finished creating their "Crazy Hair Day" portraits by learning about all of the different lines that we can find in our faces to help us draw ourselves, and then adding several unique details and textures to make our hair outstanding. We have also begun discussing the way leaves change colors in the fall and have learned about the difference between the warm and cool colors. We have created several leaf rubbings and will use the crayon/resist technique to paint our "Fall Leaves" with the appropriate warm colors, while painting the background with cool colors. Finally, we will be learning about silhouettes and the watercolor wash technique to create some very colorful "Silhouetted Landscapes".

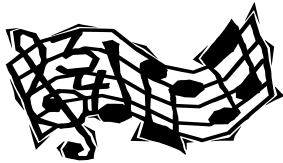
The fourth graders have finished their "Silhouette Self Portraits" by filling the space inside their profile with all kinds of imagery that represents who they are! They are currently working on a simple sculpture that we call "Hand-O-Lanterns" by modeling clay to represent small, hand-held jack-o-lanterns! By adding in texture and unique facial features, each of these miniature pumpkins will be the perfect decoration for the season! Once they are painted, we will be applying a glossy varnish to each to create a permanent and realistic sheen. Finally, we will learn about the history of the ancient Japanese art form, Origami, and will begin sculpting using only paper to create either incredibly fierce, or friendly, "Japanese Monsters".

Lastly, the fifth graders have completed their “Kaleidoscope Name Designs” and the results couldn’t be more unique! By using something as basic as their own name, our students have surpassed expectations! We are currently using a technique that artists refer to as “linear perspective” to show how things become smaller as they get further away. By using this technique we are learning how to create a professional, mathematically correct drawing that is realistically proportioned. Once we have finished our drawings, and have added in plenty of unique details, we will be using watercolors to add the finishing touch to our steamships setting sail. Everyone will be sure to take notice of these beautiful paintings, as they proudly proclaim... “Ships Ahoy!”

Student art work will be displayed throughout the school as well as the community, including locations such as the District Office and Starbucks! Please stop by these locations to see all of our wonderful art work! The artwork shown is selected randomly and is changed every few weeks or so. I am very proud to be able showcase the students’ artwork within the community!

Parents, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email; I appreciate all parents’ input!

Eric Whitney
Art Teacher
Benson/Franzen
630-773-1232 ext. 4018
ewhitney@itasca.k12.il.us



Notes from the Music Room

3rd GRADE MUSIC:

Third Grade Students have been practicing rhythms with quarter notes, eighth notes, half notes, rests, and sixteenth notes. Students have also been studying five notes of the major scale: do, re, mi, so, and la. These notes make up the pentatonic scale. Pentatonic means five notes, just like a pentagon has five sides. Ask your student to sing a song from music class for you! Here are some songs you can request:

- *Rig-A-Jig-Jig*
- *John Kanakanaka*
- *Frere Jacques*
- *Tideo*

4th GRADE MUSIC:

Recorders! Recorders! Recorders! Fourth grade students are bursting with excitement as they explore playing the recorder. If you’re worried that your student sounds a little like a dog whistle – don’t worry! They will get better and better! If your student is practicing at home and they are producing a squeaking sound, ask them about the three things they can fix so that they don’t squeak:

- Are your fingers covering the holes all the way?
- Are you using slow, warm air? (Don’t over blow!)
- Are you sitting up straight, making a 45 degree angle between the recorder and your body?

Students can bring their recorder home to practice, but they need to bring it back to school on days they have music. If they do not, points are deducted from their participation grade for that day. Please help your child remember to bring his recorder to school on music days! Fourth grade is also learning about teamwork in ensemble performance. Ask your child to sing *Old House Tear it Down* or *Great Big House In New Orleans!*

5th GRADE MUSIC:

What makes some contestants on American Idol sound good and some of them sound bad (and some of them sound *really* bad)? Fifth grade students have been exploring vocal technique (how to sing well), and experiencing what makes a good singing voice. They are singing songs and counting rhythms with “long-short” in preparation for labeling dotted-eighth-sixteenth note rhythms. Students are also exploring canons – a song that can be sung with a “leader” and a “follower.” The leader starts singing the song and the follower sings the same song starting after a given interval of time. Ask your students how to draw a canon!

FRANZEN CHORUS

The Franzen Chorus is off to a fantastic start! The Franzen Chorus is 55 members strong, and the joy of music fills the gym every Wednesday after school during practices. Students are preparing for the District 10 Choral Concert at Peacock Middle School on Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m. Please check the district web-site for the year-long chorus calendar.

ATTEND A PERFORMANCE!

How can you nurture your child’s interest in music? Here are a couple of places to start:

- Sing and move with your child. It doesn’t matter if you think you sing well or not – studies show that parents who sing have children who sing. Turn on that car radio, or pick out some of your favorites on itunes and share the music you love with your child. (One of my favorite memories from my own childhood is singing “Barbara Ann” – and a myriad of other tunes from the 60’s – with my dad in the car.) Moving to music (or dancing!) reinforces your child’s sense of beat, creates self-confidence and can just be a lot of fun (and good exercise!)
- Take your child to a classical concert. The Elgin Symphony offers a Family Fun series with concerts designed just for kids! The first one takes place on Sat., Oct. 29, “Halloween Spooktacular.” The orchestra will be dressed in costumes and you child can come in his as well! Go to www.elginsymphony.org for more details.
- Explore music online or write music online. Try any of the following on a rainy day:
 - www.dsokids.com
 - www.classicsforkids.com
 - www.sfskids.org
 - www.creatingmusic.com

CHARACTER COUNTS!

The following students received a Franzen Falcon in the months of August and September for the pillar of Responsibility.

GRADE 3

AUGUST

Brooke	Avgerinos
Cole	Brinkley
Elisa	Cardone
Jolie	Rubio

SEPTEMBER

Anthony	Appari	Kelli	Kryczka
Brooke	Averginos	Isabella	Maniez
Sonny	Battaglia	Daisy	Montiel
Jack	Behling	Lazar	Mrkajic
Tina	Bowman	Erika	Norberg
Julia	Burke	Emily	Pinkston
Nathan	Carlson	Joey	Randazzo
Marissa	Cohen	Mattias	Ryder
Ryan	Cox	Anum	Sadrudin
Francesco	Fricano	Matthew	Serrano
Geovanni	Garcia	Joey	Szatko
Sauruv	Garg	Michael	Wojcik
Bella	Graziano	Maddie	Wolfe
Michael	Guastaferrri		

GRADE 4

AUGUST

Anthony	Biangio	Ani	Koppaka
Mathew	Colavitti	Vincent	Kruger
Aidan	Denman	Eric	Minor
Bri	Drogolewicz	Declan	O'Brien
David	Ilea	Nico	Panawa
Justin	Kaczmarczyk	Edward	Pinkston

SEPTEMBER

Julia	Adamowicz	Ani	Koppaka
Nic	Aehlert	Erin	Mack
Esteban	Alegria	Amairani	Manzano
Simran	Bhagat	Olivia	Marcinkus
Mitch	Boryszewski	Eric	Minor
David	Cedillo	Leah	Monty
Paulina	Czupryna	Alexis	Noviskis
Michael	Eischen	Declan	O'Brien
Skylar	Hernandez	Isabella	Ottenhoff
Brianna	Hianik	Maddie	Petit
Sebastian	Jung	Melia	Thakker

GRADE 5

AUGUST

Tyler	Appino	Alberto	Herrera
Cameron	Bressert	Kyle	Johnson
Jordan	Connelly	Henry	Kristoffersen
Emma	DeValk	Brooke	Larson
Janelle	Drogolewicz	Julianna	Scocuzza
Alexa	Frале	Payton	Skalski
Missy	Galichio	Maddie	Vandergriff

SEPTEMBER

David	Auriemme	Alyssa	Nowotarski
Matthew	Carstens	Gio	Perez

Jesslyn	Cohen	Carter	Powell
Adam	Dabdoub	Franco	Presta
Max	Ellenbecker	Tyler	Samaras
Missy	Galichio	Carolyn	Sandaydiego
Analissa	Hernandez	Juliana	Scocuzza
Alberto	Herrera	Isabella	Sgarbossa
Lindsay	Hiestand	Rachel	Tobler
Justin	Ibarra	Samantha	Vandergriff
Henry	Kristoffersen	Jack	Webb
Matt	Kryczka	Olivia	Williams
Matthew	Newsome	Marco	Yanez

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PLEASE READ:

1. **Please make sure your child brings their lunch every day.** We cannot provide your child a lunch if they forget it. We do not have the personnel, materials or time for making your child a lunch. If you need to drop off your child's lunch, please put their name on it. We get many lunches and want to make sure your child gets their lunch.
2. When dropping off your child's instrument, please bring it directly to the front hallway under the bulletin board.
3. It is the **PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY** to call the office when your child is going to be absent or late. You can call the absent line from 4:30 p.m. until 7:50 a.m. at 630-773-1232 press 5, extension 1525. After 7:50 call the school office and give the information to the secretary. If you leave a message or talk to the secretary, please give your child's name, reason for absence, teacher, and if you would like to pick up homework. Requests for homework must be made by 9:00 a.m. so the teacher can get it ready. If you ask for homework, please come and pick it up. It can be picked up after 2:30 and before 3:30. Homework requests in advance will not be honored. You must call the office every day your child will be out. If you send an e-mail to your child's teacher regarding an absence or change in their after school plans, please e-mail the office as well. Please e-mail robertson@itasca.k12.il.us.
4. If you are picking your child/children up early from school, please write a note. This way the teacher can have them ready along with their homework and you will not have to wait.
5. If you need to make a bus change or sign up as a new rider, please note it will take **minimum of 5 school days** to make the change. Please plan accordingly. You will have to fill out a transportation form before any changes can be made. PARENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL FIRST **BEFORE MAKING ANY DAY CARE ARRANGEMENTS.** A TRANSPORTATION CHANGE FORM **MUST** BE FILLED OUT BEFORE ANY CHANGES ARE MADE.
6. Franzen School closes at 3:30. The doors are locked at 3:30 and the office is closed. The Itasca Library and Wood Dale Library have copies of all Franzen's textbooks.
7. Please send an extra set of clothes to school with your child. They will be going out during the winter and if they do get wet they can change their clothes without having to disturb you at work or home.
8. If you have a new cell phone, work or emergency numbers, please send a note to the office so we can updated our records. **We need current and working phone numbers for all students in case of an emergency.**
9. Parents please note the following regarding after school plans:

- a. If your child rides the bus some days and walks other days unless we get a note from you or a phone call from you, your child will do what they are scheduled to do on those days. No changes will be made to their normal routine unless we hear from you.
- b. If your child is normally a walker and they are going home with another student, you will need to write a note telling us that they are going home with another student. We need notes from both parents even if your child walks home.
- c. Children who do not normally ride the bus cannot ride the bus to go to a friend's house. You will have to pick them up and drive them to the friend's house.
- d. **Please call to make any after school changes BEFORE 12:00.** The office gets very busy at dismissal time and there is only 1 secretary in the building at that time.

10. **Treats for Special Occasions - Please send treats that are nut-free.** Please read the ingredient labels since manufacturers change the ingredients. Please make sure treats are manufactured in a nut-free factory. Non-food items such as stickers or pencils are preferred. Please see page 36 in the Student/Parent Handbook for a list of approved birthday treats/snacks.