

Paw Prints

October 2010

CHARACTER EDUCATION



Again this year Spirit Lake students will be focusing on our seven Character Traits that are the goals for becoming a Self Manager. The seven Character Traits: **respect, fair, caring, responsible, citizenship, trustworthy/honest and industrious** make up what are known as the pillars of character.

With the exceptions of the months of September and December, we will have a monthly character trait focus and teachers may assign students writing assignments, create art

projects, use video, read books, and include in their everyday curriculum experiences relating to the monthly character trait.

During October, **Respect** will be our character trait focus. A respectful person is considerate and treats others the way they would like to be treated. We ask that parents discuss this character trait with their child. The discussion might involve how you and the family practice that trait and how you can make changes to become more respectful.



NO SCHOOL
Friday, October 8th

Reading Daily Pays Off

One of the best ways to help your child succeed in school is to read together every day. You don't even have to read the same thing. Just designate as little as 10 minutes a day as "Family Reading Time". It can make an enormous difference in your child's learning.



NO SCHOOL
OCTOBER 8th



Students will not be in session Friday, October 8th. Teachers across the District will be working together on various curriculum improvement projects.



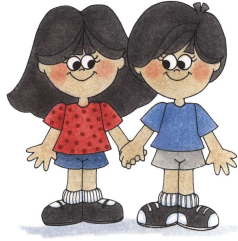
SPIRIT LAKE **ELEMENTARY**

32605 N Fifth, PO Box 189
SPIRIT LAKE, ID 83869
Phone: 208-623-2501



Skate Night!
Thursday, October 14th
5:30 - 8:00
Skate Plaza

Smile



Picture Day

Thursday, October 14

School Champion Award

Numerica Credit Union, Silverwood Theme Park, KXLY and Texas Roadhouse are excited to offer the School Champion Award once again to North Idaho School Districts. This is a way for students to nominate teachers, bus drivers, cooks, secretaries, principals and anyone who works in their school! We choose a monthly School Champion for some very heartfelt essays and award the winners towards the beginning of each month. Nomination forms are in the office.

Early Dismissal

School will be dismissed at 1:30 on October 27th. Teachers will be doing collaboration on instruction, curriculum and how best to help students.



Becoming a Love & Logic Parent

When: October 16th & 23rd
Time: 1:00 - 5:00
Where: Church of the Nazarene
4000 N. 4th St.
Coeur d'Alene
Cost: \$25 - includes parent notebook

Childcare (and snacks) provided for ages 2 and up.

**Register by calling ICARE at 676-1515*

Nurturing Fathers (Dads only) Parenting Class - 13 weeks

When: Wednesday eves beginning Oct. 6th
Time: 6:15 - 8:15 pm
Where: Community United Methodist Church
1470 W. Hanley Ave.
Coeur d'Alene
Cost: \$65

**Register by calling ICARE at 676-1515*

Building Readers

Provide a Wide Variety of Books

Listen and respond to your child's reading choices. Let her select from a wide variety of books.

Keep familiar, easy-to-read books on hand, along with exciting, more challenging choices. Encourage your child to take risks with difficult words.

When children revisit familiar books, good things happen. Rereading books builds confidence and creates a bridge to the next skill level.

Include friends as reading buddies for your child. Let them read aloud together.

Don't forget writing activities! When children write, it helps them decode what

Parenting in the 21st Century

For families who have children with special needs.

When: 2nd and 4th Monday of the month
Time: 5:30 - 6:30 pm
Where: United Way Conference Room
501 Lakeside (and 5th)
Coeur d'Alene
Cost: no cost

For information call 682-6204

Red Ribbon Rally

Every year during October, communities throughout the nation participate in Red Ribbon Week. One purpose of the National Red Ribbon Celebration is to raise awareness about the issues related to drug use in a way everyone can understand.

The school is planning an activity with emphasis on students saying NO to drugs and YES to healthy choices.

On Friday, October 28 at 1:30 , all students will walk to the city park. Timberlake H.S. student leaders, city dignitaries and local law enforcement will meet us at the park and help with this activity. The students will then march down main street and back to school.

Parents are invited to attend and show their support of their child to stay DRUG-FREE.



BUS SAFETY WEEK



The week of October 18th - 22nd is National School Bus Safety Week. Our bus drivers have a tremendous responsibility. Please reinforce the bus rules and procedures with your child. Express your appreciation to your child's bus driver who is dedicated to getting them to and from school safely each day.

The school will have emergency drills from time to time. These will deal with fire, earthquake and dangerous intruders.

In case of an emergency, we ask that you not call the school but listen to the TV or radio

stations for information. The phone lines become overloaded and need to be used for dealing with the emergency. Our goal is to be prepared the best way possible to ensure the students' safety.

Emergency Drills



Book Fair

November 8th - 12th.....



Spirit Lake Elementary will host a Scholastic Book Fair on November 8th to the 12th, to purchase books for children, classroom libraries, and the Media Center. Families, teachers, and the community are invited to attend the Book Fair, featuring a fun theme: Here is to our heroes, reading saves the day!

Winter preparation



If your family needs assistance in providing winter coats or boots for your children please talk with your teacher or the school counselor. We will work together to connect you with local resources.



School Accountability Report Card

If you are interested in knowing more about Spirit Lake Elementary, you may access the accountability report card on the Lakeland District website at www.lakeland272.org or pick up a copy at the school's office.



PTO NEWS

Next meeting:
Tuesday, October 12
6:30 P.M.

Counselor

Our Self Manager program begins this month. As many of you already know, this is our character education program that teaches and encourages personal responsibility. Specifically, the program focuses on seven character traits: respect (focus for October), fair, responsibility, honesty, citizenship, and being indus-

trious. I believe every student can become a self manager and, if your child chooses to become one, the staff at Spirit Lake will work with each student to help him/her achieve this goal. We would like to encourage you to help reinforce these character traits at home.



SLE Attendance Guidelines

At Spirit Lake Elementary we believe regular and punctual patterns of attendance are important for each elementary student. Days lost from school cannot be made up, even if the class work and homework are done. There is no substitute for uninterrupted personal contact between teacher and student.

We understand some absences may be unavoidable. If your child will be tardy or absent, please inform the school office by 9:00 a.m. by calling 623-2501.

For attendance recording purposes and for perfect attendance awards including the 6th grade bike incentive, students who arrive after 10:30 a.m. or who leave prior to 1:30 p.m. will be counted as absent for a half day. Under State guidelines students must be present for 4 hours of instruction to be recorded as a full day of attendance.

Perfect attendance awards require the student to have no absences as well as no more than 2 tardies. Three tardies will be counted as a day absent for perfect attendance.

If your child has an appointment or must be out of town, please phone the office prior to departure so we can assist. If you have a question about instructional minutes required to count as a full day, call the office.

Heating food for cold lunch students

Our lunch room does not have a microwave for heating student's lunches. We only provide hot water for those items that need it. Thank you for your understanding.