

Principal's News

Please join me in thanking Ms. Tracey LoPiccolo for arranging our annual carnival. Also, thanks to all the other PTA members, parent and student volunteers, and Academic Alliance for helping with the organization and booths. In walking around, I saw many students and families having fun and enjoying a variety of foods.

I would also like to thank Mrs. Jules Hastings for arranging our Heroes' Day. The students enjoy hearing about the various jobs people do that serve our community and country.

We are into the holiday season and I wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving. It is a time to show each other cooperation as we get together with family and/or friends to celebrate this tradition. Please remember that we will not have school Wednesday, November 25th through Friday, November 27th.

I know that I have mentioned in other newsletters about making sure that safety during drop off and pick up times is a priority at Walteria. Please follow the valet line if you use it to drop off and or pick up your child/children. Follow it down to the gate where adults are assisting students out of or into vehicles. Dropping off or picking up students at points not monitored by the valet personnel creates a dangerous situation, as vehicles pull out of the line too soon and there have been near misses. Secondly, please do not have your child/children put their backpacks in the trunk or hatch of your vehicle. If a rear end collision occurs, it could result in a child being struck or pinned between two vehicles. Finally, please treat each other with respect and refrain from using inappropriate language or tone of voice when being asked to follow the valet procedures. Children will mimic our behavior, thus it is important that we are positive role models for them.

Supervision of students on campus begins at 8:35 a.m. Unless your child/children arrive early for a pre-arranged school activity that begins prior to that time, please be mindful of this time. Again, it creates an unsafe situation when students are on campus long before 8:35 a.m. and are not supervised. On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, school for grades 1-5 ends at 3:12 p.m. and at 2:27 p.m. on Wednesdays. For Preppy and Kindergarten students, the end time Monday through Friday is 1:59 p.m. We do not have supervision available beyond those times and too many students are being picked up late. This puts an undue burden on the office staff, as every student who isn't picked up on time is sent to the office and phone calls must be made to have them picked up.

We have minimum days in which students in grades 1-5 are dismissed at 2:12 p.m. During the week of December 14-18, 2009, school will be dismissed at 2:12 p.m. to accommodate parent/teacher conferences. Please note this on your calendar and make arrangements for your child's/children's pick up from school to be at 2:12 p.m. We do not have supervision available beyond 2:12 p.m.