

October



- 9 - No school for students/Staff workshop
- 12 - Conferences, 4-9 p.m.
Book Fair, 4-9 p.m.
- 13 - Conferences, 4-9 p.m.
Book Fair, 4-9 p.m.
- 14 - Innisbrook fund raiser ends
- 15 & 16 – No school/Ed. MN Professional conference days
- 19 - Conferences, 4-6 p.m.
- 21 - School Store
- 22 - PTO Board meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 28 - ½ day kindergarten Fall parties
- 29 - No ½ day kindergarten
- 30 - Full-day kindergarten Fall party
No ½ day kindergarten

November



- 4 - School Store
- 5 - Variety Show
- 11 - Student picture re-takes
- 17 - PTO general meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 - School Store
Innisbrook fund raiser pick-up,
3:20-7 p.m. (cafeteria)
- 26 - No School Thanksgiving holiday
- 27 - No School Thanksgiving holiday

This document is available in alternate formats upon a 72-hour request. Please contact Dean Olson at 763-391-7191/7250 (TTY) to make your request. Examples of alternate formats may include: large print, Braille, audio cassette, etc.]

WWW.Wendy's Words of Welcome

From: Wendy Biallas-Odell, Principal



By Alex Roth

This school year is off to a great start! We have 950 students in the building and it feels like we never had a summer break!

We conducted "drill week" the week of September 22nd – September 25th. We practiced evacuations (fire drills), a severe weather (tornado) drill and lockdown drills. The students did an excellent job of carefully following the procedures and understanding the need for practice. We feel prepared for any of these emergencies at Fernbrook. We did not practice however, an actual evacuation to our alternative site. If, for any reason, we needed to evacuate to another location, Maple Grove Senior High School is our alternative evacuation site. Parents would be able to meet us at MGSB and pick up their child(ren).

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held October 12th and October 13th from 4-9 p.m. and October 19th from 4-6 p.m. Individual grade levels will also hold additional times for parents that are not able to attend those evenings. Parents report that their parent/teacher conference is one of the most valuable events they attend all year. It is a wonderful opportunity to discuss with the teacher your child's progress and to set goals for the upcoming school year. Conference request forms were sent home last week, so if you have not signed up for a conference, please contact your child's teacher to reserve a time. Here are just a few tips to keep in mind as you prepare for your child's conference:

- Talk to your child before the conference. Ask them if they have any questions for you to ask.
- Think of things the teacher needs to know about your child and then share them!
- Write down your questions. Once the conversation gets started it's easy to forget.
- Create an action plan. Ask the teacher if you can do anything at home to reinforce what's happening in the classroom.

On September 24th Fernbrook had our first PTO meeting of the year. It was great to see so many parents and many new Kindergarten parents! I spoke about our school goals and then Mr. Oelke and Mrs. Fouquette spoke about our Fernbrook focus on anti-bullying. October is Anti-bullying Month so we will focus our efforts on helping students stand up to a bully and help others when they are bullied.

We had our first Fernbrook Site Council meeting on October 5th. We have set aside a time frame during each meeting for any comments from parents or staff members who would like to speak to the council. If you would like time at our meeting, please contact me so I can add the topic to our agenda. Our special project this year will be wellness and healthy snacks. Look for more information throughout the year.

Please remember if you have any questions, compliments or concerns to call me or stop in. My door is always open!! Have a GREAT October.

NOTES FROM NURSE JO...

Don't catch the flu, don't spread the flu



You and your family can help reduce the spread of flu by doing four important things:

1. Cover your cough
2. Wash your hands frequently
3. Stay home for at least 24 hrs. after your fever has ended without the use of medicine
4. Get a flu shot

At this time, the State Department of Health is recommending that Minnesota schools remain open during flu outbreaks. You can help with our prevention efforts by donating hand sanitizer (e.g. Purell), sanitizing wipes (e.g. Clorox wipes), and boxes of tissues. Please send the donated supplies to school with your student.

Learn more by visiting www.flu.gov, or our district web site at www.district279.org.

Our district health service department is in regular contact with local and state health agencies and is monitoring the situation carefully. We will continue to follow the recommendations of the Minnesota Dept. of Health.

Free Child and Teen Checkups

Preventive health care includes living a healthy lifestyle and having physical examinations, laboratory tests, and immunizations.

The Child and Teen Checkups program in Hennepin County is a health benefit for all children, teens, and young adults under age 21 who are covered by Medical Assistance or Minnesota Care. The no-cost exams are provided at the children's own medical and dental clinics.

The Hennepin County Child and Teen Checkups program can assist with finding medical and dental clinics; make clinic appointments; and arrange transportation or interpreter services. The program wants to help families break down any barriers that prevent children from receiving the health care they deserve.

If your child is uninsured, contact the Child and Teen Checkups program in Hennepin County at 612-348-5131 to get connected to community health services. Español: 612-348-9994 or 612-348-6383; Hmoob: 612-348-5606 or 612-348-0174.

If your child is privately insured, consult your health plan about preventive health care benefits

FERNBROOK PHONE SYSTEM



The main office school number (763-420-8888) is connected to an automated answering system. Please listen carefully and proceed as directed. Your options will be as follows:

Press 1 To report a student absent from or late to school

Press 0 To reach the school office

*ATTENDANCE REPORTING

STUDENT ABSENCES: *Any students who is late to or absent from school for any reason must be called in by a parent/guardian.* It's best to call before 9:15 a.m. by the day of the occurrence.

When reporting **STUDENT ABSENT/LATE** please leave the following information:

- Your name and relationship to student
- Student's name and grade
- Teacher's name
- Reason for being absent/late (specify if flu like symptoms)

You may direct dial the following:

NURSE..... 763-391-8419
VOICEMAIL FOR STAFF 763-391-7200
FAX MACHINE 763-391-8420
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR..... 763-391-8423
KIDSTOP PROGRAM 763-391-8415

HOTLINE 4 HOMEWORK...

A FREE telephone helpline which links students and parents with teachers who provide assistance with homework problems in any subject.

**Call 612-529-9622
Between 4:30-8:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday**



Homework tips:

- Write the assignments down as they are given by your teacher.
- Take home all books and supplies needed to do your work.
- Find a quiet place at home to work.
- Schedule fun activities (play, TV) after homework is done.
- Have your friends call you before or after your study time.

Take pride in your work—do your homework carefully and neat!

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR'S CORNER

PITCH IN – A Little Bit Goes a Long Way
You make the call
Volunteer today!



Welcome to another fun-filled year of volunteering.

Volunteer Orientation for first time volunteers will be held on Thursday, October 8th in room #13.

Thank you to all of you that helped out with the vision and hearing testing!

SCHOOL STORE and STUDENT SCHOOL NEWSPAPER are still in need of volunteers. The **School Store** is held the 1st and 3rd Wed. of every month during recess. This would be a time commitment from 11:00 – 1:15 on those days. Pam Glad is the School Store chairperson.

For the **Student School Newspaper** the time commitment is three Wednesdays per month during fifth and sixth grade recess (12:50-1:40). At the end of the month, one volunteer also compiles the articles into the Fernbrook Fly newsletter format, which requires an additional four or five hours, either on a school or home PC. Last year we switched off each month, so the time commitment wasn't too bad. As volunteers we help our young journalists develop story ideas, instruct them on correct grammar and article construction, and edit their completed articles for publication. It's helpful to have a working knowledge of Microsoft Word, including word art/clip art. If you have the time please consider helping out with either of these. If you have any questions about them, call Carol Joelson at 763-391-8423.

Many of your volunteer registration forms have been received. If you haven't sent yours in, it's not too late. We need lots of help with classroom activities, projects, events, and fundraising programs (PTO). Please sign up to help – even if it is for a few hours - everyone makes a difference. If anyone wants to come in for busy bees there is always something buzzing in my room.

A special thanks to our wonderful WEDNESDAY ENVELOPE TEAM! They continue to do a superior job getting all of the school materials into the envelopes each week. Please take the time to read what your student brings home.

Please get involved, stay involved and ENJOY!

Mark your calendars for the Fernbrook Staff Variety Show. It will be held on Thursday, November 5th.

Carol Joelson, Volunteer Coordinator
763-391-8423
joelsonc@district279.org
Monday-Thursday, 9:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the ESC Board room
located at 11200 – 93rd Avenue N
Maple Grove MN 55369

Oct. 20	Regular meeting	8:00 p.m.
Nov. 4	Regular meeting	8:00 p.m.



OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS SAFE & DRUG FREE SCHOOLS PROGRAM 2010 MINNESOTA STUDENT SURVEY

The MN Department of Health, MN Department of Public Safety and the MN Department of Human Services in partnership with the MN Department of Education will be administering the eighth Minnesota Student Survey in the **early spring of 2010**. Osseo Area Schools has been participating in this survey since 1992.

The survey is anonymous, confidential, and voluntary. **The survey will be given at some point between February and April, 2010.** Parents of 6th, 9th, and 12th grade student will receive another notice by mail in late winter and will be given more specific information about the survey, including when it will be given in our schools. Parents will also be allowed to review the survey and be given the opportunity to elect not to allow their child to participate in the survey.

If you have any questions about the upcoming survey, please contact Lorry Day, the District Prevention Specialist at 763-391-7128 or dayl@district279.org.

FERNBROOK FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES



Fernbrook Families Helping Families is a Fernbrook group which raises funds to support families in need, both financially and non-financially.

If you have any concerns regarding your family or another family in need, please call Miss Swanson, or Mrs. Fouquette at Fernbrook (763-420-8888).

FALL BUS EVACUATION DAY

Tuesday, Oct. 6 and Wednesday, Oct. 7 are scheduled bus evacuation days for elementary schools in the Osseo District. Special education buses will also be provided. All students will participate in the bus evacuations. By this time, all students should have been instructed in proper bus evacuation.



GIFTED EDUCATION NEWS



Pam Klein, GE teacher
kleinp@district279.org

Needs Based Classes (NBC) Information

Week(s) of:

- Oct. 5-9 NBC #1, session 1 (Friday workshop day)
- Oct. 12-16 NBC #1, session 2 (MEA weekend)
- Oct. 19-23 NBC #1, session 3
- Oct. 26-30 NBC #1, session 4
- Nov. 2-6 NBC #1, session 5

Collaboration in the Classroom (CBS) Information

Grades kindergarten and 1:
Collaborative enrichment:
During these sessions, the
GE teacher goes in to each
classroom to teach an
enrichment lesson. The focus in kindergarten is on thinking
skills and in Grade 1 the focus is on word use.

Grades 2 – 6: Cluster collaboration: During this session, the
GE teacher goes in to each cluster classroom to survey
students to guide the students in learning about themselves.

NBC #1:

Grades 2-6: Affective: During this class, students will learn
about the brain, test taking strategies, creativity and
psychology.

Changes in GE services:

Many changes have occurred for the 2009-2010 school year.
Here are a few of the changes:

- NBC pull-out classes have replaced ExCEL classes
- CML is not a part of the GE curriculum and services, it
will occur in the classroom
- More services in the regular classroom provided by
the gifted education teacher
- GE services now include Kindergarten and 1st grade

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the
Informational Parent Meeting at Fernbrook on September 17th.
I look forward to seeing you at fall conferences.

GE Identification Information:

Sixth Grade—Junior High Classes:

* The first trimester grades earned by sixth graders are a
critical factor in determining placement in seventh grade
classes. *Math acceleration from sixth grade to junior high
also includes the RIT testing results from the NWEA/MAP
assessment.

**For more information about GE Services, please access
our web site:**

[http://www.district279.org/services/TalentedGifted/
GeneralInformation/](http://www.district279.org/services/TalentedGifted/GeneralInformation/)

Acronyms and abbreviations:

GE= Gifted Education

NBC= Needs Based Classes

CBS= Cluster Based Service

TUMBLE BOOK LIBRARY

Mrs. Haugo

TumbleBookLibrary is an online collection of animated; talking
picture books which teach young children the joys of reading
in a format they'll love.

Fernbrook students/families read OVER 1,000 stories during
June, July and August using our TumbleBooks subscription!

All of our students can access the stories and activities from
home using the following information:

Website: www.TumbleBookLibrary.com

Username: fernbrook

Password: login

Happy Tumbling!

OASIS 2009-2010

Osseo Area Source of Information and Support

Information and Support Group for Parents of Children with ADHD,
ADD, LD, EBD, ODD, OCD, anxiety, autism, depression, and other
learning and behavior differences.

**Weaver Lake Elementary School-Media Center
15900 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove
(763) 420-3337**

Tuesdays 7:00 -9:00 p.m.

(except for our first meeting which is on Thurs. 10/8)

*Meet at 6:30 p.m. prior to our meeting, for a time of support and
sharing with other parents. Share your concerns, or just listen. Get
the support of others who have struggled and found solutions. This
part of Caroor meeting is facilitated by Sue Sullivan, experienced
teacher and parent.*

October 8 – Transforming the Challenging Child: The Nurtured Heart Approach

-Back again this year,
Tina Feigal will help explain why typical
parenting and teaching techniques might
not work with some children. Learn
strategies for students 2-18 that
emphasize their physiological response to
emotional input, which can then help
adults, avoid triggering opposition. These methods are
especially helpful for children with ADHD, ODD, and autism.
Specific approaches for auditory or sensory integration issues,
anxiety, and perfectionism will also be included. **Tina Feigal,**
MSED, parent coach, trainer and owner of Circle for
Challenging Children. She is KARE 11 TV's "Super Nanny".

