

Bobcat Bulletin

Volume V, Issue 3

October 2024

Mark Your Calendar!

6th, 7th, 8th Basketball

HOME - Oct. 28th 5:00 pm vs. Success

Away - Oct. 29th 6:00 pm vs. Green Forest R2

Away - Oct. 30th 6:00 pm vs. Phelps County R3

HOME - Nov. 1st 5:00 pm vs. North Wood R4

HOME - Nov. 5th 5:30 pm vs Raymondville

HOME - Nov. 7th 5:00 pm vs. Green Forest R2

Salem Girls Tournament - November 8th

Away - Nov. 11th 5:00 pm vs. Oak Hill R1

Away - November 12th 5:00 pm vs. Success

Away - Nov. 14th 5:00 pm vs. Raymondville

Away - Nov. 15th 5:00 pm vs. North Wood R4

HOME - Nov. 18th 5:00 pm vs. Oak Hill R1

HOME - Nov. 19th 5:30 pm vs. Phelps County R3

Away - BOYS ONLY - Nov. 21st 5:30 pm vs. Steelville

Green Forest R2 Girls Tournament - Dec 3-6

North Wood R4 Tournament - Dec 9, 10, 12

AR Literacy Night

Parents as Reading Partners

November 5th 3:45 to 5:15 pm

PTO Meeting

Tuesday, November 19th 5:00 pm

Order BOO-GRAMS Today!

By Julia Fishbauger, PTO Member



Fall is in full swing here in the Ozarks despite the lingering waves of summer heat that have not yet slipped away. The trees giving up their last-ditch efforts to hang on to their summer green are signaling the oncoming cold. Friday night lights have taken the place of lengthy sunlit summer evenings, and as the days get shorter and the mornings grow chillier, the feeling of change creeps into the air.

We sure hope you're all enjoying the school year, now in full swing. I've come to enjoy the predictability of the school

schedule, although the busyness of it all makes the time fly, all of you parents can attest to that. Before we know it, trick or treating will have come and gone, it'll be too cold for the pumpkin patch, and we'll be making Thanksgiving plans.

The PTO would like to thank all of you parents and kiddos who participated in Nerf Night! The evening was a great success, and I know that our kids had a blast. Thank you to all who made the night possible!

Please remember to participate in our annual

PTO Boo Grams! Take advantage of the opportunity to send a special Halloween treat to your friends and favorite faculty this month. You will see the Boo Gram order sheets coming home from school soon and be sure to have them turned in by October 24th to ensure we can get your treat where it needs to go!

Parents, please feel welcome to join our PTO meetings! The meeting for November will be held on the 19th at 6:00 pm.

RED RIBBON WEEK
"BE KIND TO YOUR MIND. LIVE DRUG FREE."
OCT. 28-NOV. 1

MONDAY-WEAR RED
RED RIBBON WEEK AWARENESS

TUESDAY-WEAR SUPERHERO GEAR
DRUG FREE IS MY SUPERPOWER

WEDNESDAY-CAMO DAY
MAKE DRUGS DISAPPEAR

THURSDAY-DRESS FOR YOUR FUTURE CAREER

I CAN BE WHAT I WANT TO BE
IF I'M DRUG FREE!

FRIDAY-WEAR SPORTS APPAREL
TEAM UP AGAINST DRUGS



VETERANS PLEASE JOIN US!

Monday, November 11, 2024

Please RSVP by calling 573-729-6080.

Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast - 8:15 am

Honoring Our Veterans Program - 9:15 am

Coach's Corner

By Coach Cole Elliott

The cold weather is quickly approaching, and with it comes a tradition almost as old as our school itself, Bobcat Basketball. The Bobcat junior high basketball season has long been a staple in our school culture, as well as our community. The Dent Phelps R3 community has always made the basketball season an event that our students will remember and cherish for the rest of their life.

We have a great group of student athletes this season on both our boy's and girl's teams. We are also beyond blessed to have a group of returning 8th grade athletes to provide invaluable leadership and experience to our program. Our student athletes have also shown tremendous dedication by not only giving their full effort in practice, but by also putting their academics first. The student athletes this year do however, face a unique and interesting challenge: playing for new coach-

es. I am proud to say that both teams have dealt with this challenge extremely well in the preseason.

Coach Thompson and I are extremely thankful to the school district, as well as to the parents of our athletes, to be given the opportunity to be a part of these teams. We both strive to prepare each and every student athlete to be their best self both on and off the court. While part of coaching is to continuously develop students into the best athlete they can be, we strive to teach them life lessons as well. Over the course of this basketball season, we want our students to learn that success is more than wins or points. While winning basketball games may be the students ultimate goal, our goal is to show these athletes what it truly means to be on a team through our own words and actions. The joy of coaching at this level comes from the personal growth of

each individual student, not the scoreboard. We absolutely cannot wait to coach this great group of students this season.

Our season will begin on October 28th against Success at 5:00 pm here at Dent Phelps. Mr. Thompson and I strongly encourage parents, teachers, and the entire community to come support our Bobcats and how much hard work they have, and will continue to put into their team, their school, and themselves.



Looking Forward to a Great Season with the Cheer Squad

By Miss Neely Leathers, Cheer Coach

I am so excited and honored to be the coach this year for the sixth, seventh and eighth grade cheer team. I cheered all throughout middle school and high school, but this is my first year coaching. So far it has been absolutely amazing! I went into it being super nervous and really worried, but the everyone has been so welcoming.

Everything has been wonderful. We

have 14 on the squad this year and we have all become like a family. They have work so hard and have been so motivated. They continue to make me proud every day.

We are currently working on a big routine to do at the end of November - a time big performance to finish off the season. This will include dancing and stunting. The cheerleaders have done

phenomenal when learning the dances and still continue to amaze me when they stunt.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the staff, parents and especially those on the cheer squad who have made this season absolutely amazing. Go Bobcats!

Parents as Reading Partners - AR Literacy Night

By Dr. Karla Tiefenthaler, Principal

Dear Parent/Guardians:

According to Pamela Foster (2022), author of *The Importance of a Parent/Guardian's Role in Their Child's Literacy*, "Parent support of a child's literacy carries the following advantages: Supporting cognitive development, improved language and vocabulary skills, increased concentration and focus, and improved creativity and imagination." I am excited to invite you to our upcoming **Accelerated Reader (AR) Literacy Night: "Parents as Reading Partners"** on **November 5th** at **3:45 PM** in the school library. This evening is designed to help you in your child's reading journey and provide you with practical strategies to encourage a love for reading at home. Together, we can create a strong reading foundation that will support your child's academic growth and success.

What to Expect:

1. Accelerated Reader Program Overview

We'll begin with a thorough explanation of how the Accelerated Reader (AR) Program works, including how reading levels and quizzes are structured, the importance of setting personalized reading goals, and monitoring progress.

2. Effective Reading Strategies for Parents

Parents will learn several proven strategies to support reading comprehension and enjoyment at home.

3. Interactive Reading Sessions

We will facilitate interactive reading activities to model these strategies in real-time. Parents will have the opportunity to practice shared reading with their child and use open-ended questions to enhance their child's understanding and engagement with the text.

4. Supporting Different Reading Levels

Every student reads at their own pace, and we will provide guidance on how to meet your child where they are. Whether your child needs more encouragement with simpler books or is ready for advanced reading materials, we'll share tips for fostering growth without frustration.

5. Arts and Crafts

Reading-themed crafts your child will love!

6. Snack Pack

Tasty snacks to take home!



Why Attend?

Our goal is to equip you with the tools to make reading a positive and rewarding experience at home. Your involvement as a reading partner can greatly enhance your child's literacy skills and foster a lifelong love of reading. Whether your child is an enthusiastic reader or needs more encouragement, these strategies will help you become a valuable part of their reading journey.

Please RSVP by **November 1st** so we can prepare the materials for this special night. I look forward to seeing you there for an evening of learning, fun, and family engagement!

Quiz Bowl needs More Members

By Quiz Bowl Coach - Mrs. Jennifer Headrick

We have been working on the slow process of building an interest in Quiz Bowl. For the last two years, we have had some students excited to be involved but have yet to have enough to make a team we can take to local competitions. These events are good opportunities to showcase your knowledge, meet other teams, and gain experience. Even if we don't win, each competition is a chance to learn and grow.

Preparation is key to the success of a team. Regular practice sessions with the team is key, as well as seeking out resources on a variety of topics. In practice, we simulate the competition environment as much as we can while still having fun. Participating in quiz bowl can enhance your critical thinking skills, expand your knowledge base, and make some new friends.

Will you join us?



Math Injury

By Ms. Jennifer Headrick,

How many times have I heard someone say, "I'm not good at math" or "I can't do math"? This is something I usually hear when meeting parents and students at the beginning of the school year. Have you considered why one might have those sentiments towards math? I think it's safe to assume that somewhere there was a math injury or math "trauma". This is when a negative experience or perceived failure in math often leads to a mental shutdown or almost fear of math.

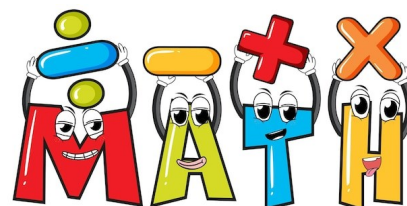
Teachers can help heal this by reframing mistakes as exploration. Not having the correct answer does not mean that all

thinking is wrong. When we ask students to explain their thinking, correct or not, it gives us insight in what is known and what might be learned next. This also allows students the opportunity to see where they may have made an error and give them the chance to correct it themselves. We as teachers need to maintain a poker face in these times so that we don't re-inforce the thinking that only correct answers count.

Parents can help heal this by refraining from common sentiments about math or projecting one's own personal math injury onto students. Our kids realize more than we think they do

sometimes. If a parent has a negative relationship with math, he or she will be more likely to pass that on to his/her student. It may also have a negative impact on a student's belief in his/her own ability in math.

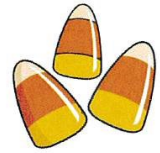
We all want our students to be as successful as possible, in all areas. In math, we can accomplish this by limiting how much math-bashing we do! Math really does have a bad rap ... Let's work together to change that!





Nurse Alicia's Nook

October Newsletter



Happy October! With October comes lots of fall treats and every kiddo's favorite day... Halloween! This month we are going to focus on dental health so that you and your child can enjoy some sweets worry-free. Smile Mobile has been visiting with us the past couple of weeks to ensure our students have healthy smiles! Thank you Four Rivers Smile Mobile!

Why it Matters

According to the CDC, about 20% of school-age children have an untreated cavity. Cavities can be painful and result in difficulty eating, playing and talking. Cavities can also lead to infections which can be extremely painful and more complex to treat.

What are cavities?

All mouths contain bacteria living on and around the teeth. When your child consumes food and drink containing sugar, the bacteria produce plaque, the white film that coats teeth. This plaque causes decay of the tooth, known as a cavity.



Teeth-brushing Basics

- Have your child brush at least twice a day (morning and night). If possible, encourage them to brush after meals or consuming sugary treats.
- Choose a toothbrush that fits easily in your child's mouth and can reach spaces between the teeth and the cheek.
- Choose a fluoridated toothpaste for your child (if over age 2). Watch your child to make sure that they spit it out when they are done.
- Teach your child to brush all of the surfaces of each tooth using small circles. Don't forget to have them brush their tongue as well!
- Brush your teeth alongside your child. This models healthy behavior and allows them to get a sense of how long the process should take.



What You Can Do

- If possible, take your child to the dentist every 6 months, as well as any time they complain of tooth pain.
- Dental care can be expensive. If you are concerned about this, check with your local dental schools to see if they are offering free clinics.
- Talk to Nurse Alicia or your child's medical provider, or dentist for assistance obtaining toothbrushes and toothpaste if needed.
- Have your child watch YouTube videos or read books teaching about dental health.



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

October 2024

MONTHLY FOCUS:

TRUSTWORTHINESS

- This month our classroom lessons will focus on having trustworthy behavior.
- Career Day on Wheels is coming up on October 18. Our focus will be on careers involving transportation and their role in our community.

HAPPY KIDS TIP:

Here are some Halloween Safety Tips:

- Accompany children under 12
- Wear glowsticks or bring flashlights
- Hold hands when crossing the street
- Avoid masks--they can lead to falls

LET'S CONNECT!

Mrs. Kim Pogue



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Daily Dialogue: Support Reading Comprehension through Talking to your Children

By Mrs. Jessica Kiser, KB Teacher

After a full day of school, one of the first things many families ask their children is: "How was your day?" And, depending on how old your children are, the answers can range from a full blown story, complete with complex details and exact quotes, to maybe one word (if you're lucky). While it can sometimes seem like pulling teeth to engage your child in a conversation, these daily dialogues can have an incredible impact on how well your child actually understands the content they are reading in the classroom.

Speaking intentionally with your child not only strengthens the connection you have with them, but it can also greatly expand their vocabulary. Vocabulary knowledge is the single most important factor in reading comprehension once children know how the sounds of alphabet letters are represented by letters and letter combinations (Moats & Tolmann, 2019). Considering

this, the question then becomes how to authentically apply this to boost their child's vocabulary development. Here are some helpful tips to support you along the way:

- * Use larger, more unusual words when speaking! For example, instead of saying, "that sounds fun," try saying, "what you described sounds super enjoyable, totally thrilling, awfully amusing, etc." While it may seem like it wouldn't matter, spicing up your speaking by using more exciting synonyms for simple words can expose your child to more nuanced vocabulary.

- Describe what you're doing! If you're walking into the kitchen to grab a snack, actually describe your movement aloud and have your child try to copy your movement. For example, sauntering into the kitchen has a much different feel than simply walk-

ing. Introducing various shades of meaning to verbs helps your child expand their understanding.



Research tells us that a child is able to recognize a word in print more quickly if they've heard it before, as well as connect it to its meaning more readily (Moats & Tolmann, 2019). So, sprinkle more marvelous terms into your speech to dazzle your child and accelerate their vocabulary acquisition! Your teachers will thank you.



Careers On Wheels A Successful Day!!!



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*"Value, Empower, and Educate
Everyone, Everyday"*

*We're on the web!
www.dentphelps.k12.mo.us*

We Want Your Input...

We'd like to hear from you regarding our programs, schedules, yearly calendar, activities, etc. We value your opinion and want to make the best decisions possible in meeting the needs of our staff, students, and community.

Please email your comments and/or suggestions to:

admin@dentphelps.k12.mo.us

If you don't have access to a computer, feel free to drop us a note or give us a call.

If you would like to be placed on our newsletter mailing list, please call the office at 729-4680.

The Administration

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