Dent-Phelps R-III School

Bobcat Bulletin

Volume VII, Issue 2 October 2026

Mark Your Calendar!



Veterans and Families

Please join us

Wednesday, November 11th at 1:30 pm

as we honor those who have served our country.

Our 2026 Veterans' Day Assembly will be held in the gym with a cookie and punch reception to follow in the cafeteria.



No School

November 20th - November 27th

Classes resume at 8:00 am

Monday, November 30th

Test Your Knowledge and Have Fun

By Mrs. Jennifer Rogers, 7th/8th Math and Quiz Bowl

Ready to Test Your Knowledge? Have fun with peers? Join Quiz Bowl!

Quiz Bowl is more than just knowing facts. It's about thinking quickly, making connections, listening carefully, and working together with your teammates. Questions can cover all kinds of subjects—from science and history to literature, geography, math, current events, pop culture, and much more. You never know what you might learn next or when that topic you know a lot about will score the winning points for our team!

Our school's Quiz Bowl teams have shown in the past that they can compete with the best. Last year, our 4th & 5th grade team took 2nd place in their competition, while our middle school team took 1st place in their competition! These students demonstrated teamwork, preparation, and a love of learning—and we had a lot of fun doing it. Now it's your turn to be part of the team.

You don't have to know every answer to join Quiz Bowl. In fact, you'll learn a lot along the way. Whether you're a history expert, a science enthusiast, a book lover, a math whiz, a current event or pop culture phenom, or someone who simply enjoys a good challenge, you have something to contribute.

Grades 4–8: If you're curious, competitive, or simply ready for a new challenge, come join us. Last year's teams proved what our students can accomplish. Who knows what we can achieve together this year? Come see what it's all about. Come be part of Quiz Bowl!

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2025-2026 Dent Phelps Quiz Bowl Teams




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Fall Traditions

By Julia Fishbaugher, PTO Member



October in the Ozarks is a beautiful time of year. The leaves change, the morning air gets frosty, and we leave the heat and dust of August and September behind to exchange for mist and chill and cozy long sleeves.

This change of season is always bittersweet because summer is the absolute best, and the change of weather and landscape confirms that the heat, humidity and sunshine have gone to rest, not to return until next year.

Every family has their own fall traditions that mark the season. Football games, both on the field and on the TV bring families, friends, and good food together. Fall festivals bring communities together to celebrate and show off best of their best. Trips to the pumpkin patch to play fun farm games and pick out favorite pumpkins bring kids and parents together. Picking out your design and carving pumpkins together is a favorite family tradition. Halloween brings us all together to trick or treat, to dress up in our pretty, or funny, or scary costumes and wander the streets bumping into family and friends.

Your Bobcat PTO sure hopes you have enjoyed the change of season we're in, and you have taken full advantage of all the fun October has to offer!

Building Healthy Habits Through Physical Education

By Miss Bella Jadwin, Physical Education Teacher

Physical education (P.E.) helps students develop healthy habits that can last a lifetime. From preschool through eighth grade, students learn teamwork, cooperation, and good sportsmanship while building confidence and discovering activities they enjoy.

For younger students, P.E. focuses on basic motor skills like running, jumping, balancing, throwing, and catching. Through fun games, students learn to follow directions, take turns, share equipment, and work with classmates. As students grow older, they participate in fitness activities and team sports that improve strength, endurance, flexibility, and coordination.

Students also learn that success is about more than winning. Effort, improvement, and respect for others are just as important. Sportsmanship is another important lesson in P.E.

Students practice honesty, patience, and respect while learning how to handle both wins and losses. These skills help them in school and everyday life.

Physical activity also supports students' overall well-being. Regular movement can improve mood, increase energy, and help students focus. Finding activities they enjoy encourages them to stay active outside of school, too.

Our goal in P.E. is to help every student feel included, try new things, and understanding the importance of staying active.



By building healthy habits early, students can develop a strong foundation for a healthier future.

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 your 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 with 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 walking. 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 child’s developing brain will thank you!

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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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