Dear Dawe School Families and Friends,

I hope that you are all doing well! I cannot believe we have already been in school for roughly three months! Our Dawe Dragons have certainly accomplished a whole lot in a short amount of time!

I wanted to use this Principal Newsletter as a way to pass along some important updates, reminders, and information regarding various events that have already taken place and others that are occurring here at the Dawe School in the very near future!

**Caught with Character School-Wide Initiative:**

**This Month’s Character Trait is Cooperation.** Please be sure to include this in your everyday conversations with your children at home during the month of December!

**Next Month’s Character Trait is Self-Control.** As we get closer to the month of January, please begin discussing what the trait “Self-Control” means with your children at home. Self-Control is an important foundational trait that directly correlates to a student’s success both in and out of school.

**Monthly STEM Engineering Challenges:**

The Dawe School’s STEM team is comprised of multiple teachers that represent every grade level and it is led by Ms. DeVore and Ms. Milne. This team meets once a month to discuss and brainstorm ideas on how to improve STEM instruction at the classroom level and then how to offer more STEM/engineering opportunities on a schoolwide level. As a part of their push to offer more “hands-on” engineering experiences for our Dawe Dragons, the team developed an engineering challenge for each month of the school year that every child will have the chance to participate in. During the month of November the challenge was building the tallest tower using plastic cups. These STEM/engineering activities and challenges offer our students the chance to strengthen their 21st Century Skills as they work collaboratively with their peers to tackle challenges that are applicable to real world scenarios. Here at the Dawe, we love STEM and engineering!
LEGO Came to the Dawe:

The Dawe School was lucky enough to have visitors come all the way from Denmark as representatives of the LEGO Company. During their visit, the LEGO Company brought a multitude of technology and engineering activities and materials that our third and fourth grade students got to experiment with. Due to willingness to “host” LEGO, the Dawe School was lucky enough to be able to keep many LEGO products at our school site that all Dawe Dragons will be able to cooperatively work with. Additionally, a photograph taken by LEGO of one of our very own Dawe Dragons was chosen to be used on their website for marketing purposes! The Dawe School is officially famous on an international level!

5th Grade Went to See “Wonder”:

The fifth graders across the district have recently completed reading the book Wonder by R.J. Palacio. These literacy units were written to develop the classroom community through literature and build student awareness of their own social-emotional development. To broaden and develop this community even further, the fifth grade classes from across the district had the wonderful opportunity to attend a showing of the movie, Wonder, at Randolph’s Showcase Cinema this week. We hope that this field trip was the beginning of new connections and friendships that will continue to develop in middle school. A big “Thank You” goes out to the Dawe School PTO for funding this great experience! For more specific information regarding the movie, please go to www.wonder.movie.com.

R.A.P. (Realize Anything’s Possible) Assembly on Wednesday, December 6th:

We were so lucky and fortunate to be able to schedule an in-school assembly on Wednesday, December 6th. This assembly will be for students only and will be held in our school cafeteria. Another big “Thank You” goes out to the PTO for funding this assembly for our Dawe Dragons and to all of you for the generous donations you made during this year’s Fun Run. The assembly will be an interactive hip-hop concert that is 45 minutes long and focuses on the topics of: literacy, respecting one another’s differences, persevering through obstacles, having an optimistic attitude, reaching goals through self-discipline, and discovering potential. We are so lucky to have found an assembly that directly relates to our Caught with Character schoolwide initiative! Below, please find two links that help to explain what the assembly is about in greater detail.


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QwD1hen4Dw
REMINDEERS:
1. **New “One-Way Signage”:** Be sure to follow the roadway direction of the new one-way signage that has been installed at the school site during all hours of the day and every day of the week. The installation of this one-way signage was explained in the letter I sent home Monday, November 20\(^{th}\). By following these new signs we are creating a safer school environment for all of our Dawe Dragons. I appreciate your cooperation with this new traffic pattern protocol.

2. **School Hours:** Students are marked tardy if they are not in the front doors of the school when the 8:30 bell rings. Students arriving after the 8:30 bell must be signed in at the office by an adult.

3. **Winter Clothing for Outdoor Recess:** Just as a quick reminder, now that the temperature we are experiencing during morning/afternoon recess is sometimes in the low 30’s and will only be getting lower as winter approaches, please make every effort to send your child to school with a jacket so that they are warm while playing outside. If you have any trouble at all obtaining a jacket for your child, please reach out to me via a phone call or email.

4. **Parking Lot Etiquette:** As you enter and exit the school parking lot, please drive at a slow rate of speed and be attentive to the crosswalk to ensure the safety of our students. Additionally, please be aware of and do not utilize the designated parking spaces that are intended for the school vans. Furthermore, do not attempt to pass the school buses when they are parked and have their STOP signs out.

5. **School Snacks:** Please be sure to provide your child with a snack to be eaten during snack time each day. Due to allergy and school wellness policies, we are not able to provide students with snacks and we do not allow them to share with one another.

**Upcoming Important Events:**
- December 1\(^{st}\) - Barnes and Noble Fundraiser @ 6:30 p.m. at the Walpole mall
- December 4\(^{th}\) – Safety Patrol Officer Training
- December 4th - 8th - Holiday School Store
- December 6th @ 10:00 a.m. - R.A.P. Whole School Assembly in Cafeteria
- December 6\(^{th}\) – Term I Ends
- December 7\(^{th}\) – Early Release/Parent-Teacher Conferences
- December 20\(^{th}\) – Term I Report Cards Issued
- December 21\(^{st}\) – PTO Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- December 22\(^{nd}\) - Holiday Concert @ 9:00 a.m. for parents, families and guardians
- December 25\(^{th}\) - Winter Break Begins
- January 2\(^{nd}\) - School Re-opens after Winter Break
- January 9\(^{th}\) - School Council @ 3:00 p.m.
- January 15\(^{th}\) - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School
- January 18\(^{th}\) – PTO Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Have a fantastic weekend! All of us here at the Dawe truly appreciate all of your support from home! A strong partnership between the school and home makes every student’s educational experience that much more meaningful and successful!

Sincerely,

Mr. Cancellieri
Principal

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.*