Dear Dawe School Families and Friends,

I hope that you are all doing well! It has been very busy here at the Joseph R. Dawe, Jr. Elementary School! The teachers and students have been participating in fun activities and there is a strong sense of excitement surrounding the learning taking place inside each classroom.

I wanted to use this Principal Newsletter as a way to pass along some important updates and information regarding various events occurring here at the school in the very near future!

**Caught with Character School-Wide Initiative**

The excitement and buzz surrounding our Caught with Character program here at the Dawe Elementary School is certainly going strong! It was such a great moment seeing the students who were acknowledged for their responsible behavior during the month of October receiving their certificates in front of the whole school and getting their pictures taken to be hung in the lobby. The 20 minute Caught with Character assembly we held last month included a digital read aloud of the story, “But it’s not my fault!” and the dispersal of Responsibility certificates. This month the Character Trait students and teachers will be/have been focusing on is **Respect**. Teachers have been purposefully including the terms *respect, honor, courtesy,* and *self-control* in their everyday communication with their students and have even included it in their daily classroom routines and lessons. This month, teachers will be sending me “Moments of Respect” via email to include in my morning/afternoon announcements. I am so proud to say that my email inbox is usually inundated with these “moments” – WAY TO GO DRAGONS!

**Next 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!
Halloween Costume Parade

Our annual Halloween Costume Parade was another great success! I really enjoyed participating in my second one here at the Dawe! The students’ costumes were so creative and it was fun watching the excitement that the parade caused throughout the whole school building! Now it is time for me to start thinking about what I will be next year since being a lumberjack is now checked off the list!

5th Grade Soapbox Racecar Engineering Challenge

On Friday, November 2nd, our 5th Grade Dawe Dragons participated in the final part of their Soapbox Racecar Engineering Challenge. The challenge that they had to take on in partner groups was to create a Soapbox Racecar out of various materials from our Makerspace Laboratory (i.e. cardboard, pipe cleaners, wheels, duct-tape, Popsicle sticks, and tongue depressors) so that it would roll the furthest distance down a fixed ramp. Mr. Relihan, our Computer and Engineering Teacher, gave the 5th graders several weeks to design, “test-drive”, and build their racecars. The engineering that went into this building process was very impressive and led to the strengthening and further development of a wide variety of 21st Century Skills! The winners of the challenge were Kareem Faris and Gavin Phillips! Way to go 5th grade Dawe Dragons!
Anne Frank Assembly

Last Friday, our Dawe Dragons were lucky enough to have a chance to experience an educational assembly on Anne Frank. The assembly was led by an actress by the name of Sheryl Faye – she impersonated Anne Frank throughout the entire performance and made sure to present the historic figure’s past in a developmentally appropriate manner. The assembly sparked great conversations when our Dawe Dragons returned back to their classrooms and it was a great learning experience that led to the stronger appreciation for respecting one another and appreciating our differences. Thank you to our Dawe School PTO for organizing this event and thank you to our entire school community for your fundraising efforts that helped to allow for this assembly to take place!

Clothes for Colder Weather:

Just a quick reminder, now that the temperature we are experiencing during the morning/afternoon recess times is sometimes in the low 50’s and will only be dropping 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.

REMINDERS:

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **Popcorn Fridays and School Store:** The school store will be open in the school lobby every Friday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. There is a wide variety of items for sale! Additionally, popcorn will be sold every Friday for 50 cents a bag! Thank you to our PTO!
Upcoming Important Events:

- November 6th – No School – Election Day
- November 12th – No School – Veterans Day
- November 13th – School Council at 3:00
- November 15th – PTO Meeting at 6:30
- November 21st – Early Release @ 11:45 for Thanksgiving
- November 22nd – November 23rd – No School
- November 30th – Barnes & Noble Night
- December 3rd – Holiday School Store
- December 6th – Parent Teacher Conferences
- December 10th – 5th Grade Medication Safety Presentation
- December 13th – PTO Meeting at 6:30
- December 24th – January 1st – Winter Break

Have a fantastic rest of your week! 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.*