



The Redwood Rocket

Redwood's Family Newsletter
Bruce Arcurio - Lead Learner/Principal
Ana Marti - Assistant Principal

November 2016

A Note from Mr. Arcurio

Dear Families,

This month our **ROCKET** character trait is **Responsibility**. Our students are learning what it means to be a responsible member of the Redwood Community. This includes taking care of ourselves and others, caring for our school and community, and ultimately taking care of our greater world. As always your help is appreciated in teaching these lessons to the children. Any ways that you can help your children understand the importance of being responsible around the house will help. Maybe they can be

Important Dates

Nov 8	Schools Closed - Election Day
Nov 9	Schools Closed for students - Teacher Inservice
Nov 10	Schools Closed for NJ Teacher Convention
Nov 11	Schools Closed for Veterans Day
Nov 14-18	American Education Week
Nov 16	American Education Week Visitation Day (see below)
Nov 23	Early Dismissal (1:15pm)
Nov 24-25	Thanksgiving Break - Schools Closed
Dec 23	Lost and Found will be donated



responsible for cleaning a room or feeding a pet or loading the dishwasher. The key is to talk about how those things help them develop their own sense of responsibility. As always thank you for all that you do to support your children and Redwood School.

Each morning over the loudspeaker we read a character related quote for students to discuss in their classrooms. Below are examples of some of the types of quotes that students are talking about.

“Being Responsible is being accountable for your actions.”
”I must do something’ always solves more problems than ‘Something must be done.’ ”

“Though I am not always responsible for what happens to me, I am responsible for how I handle what happens to me.”
“Never point a finger where you never lent a hand.”
“With great power comes great responsibility.”

The statements provide a jumping off point for our work on character education each day. As we take time to give thanks for the things we have this month, it is important to remember all of the responsibilities that come along with those things.

Better Together,

Bruce. Arcurio

Lead Learner/Principal



American Education Week

American Education Week is a time to celebrate all of the wonderful things happening in schools. I am proud of the work that the children and staff are doing everyday. We would like to extend an invitation to all parents/guardians who would like to visit their child's classroom. Please follow the procedure below:

1. Sign in the security desk or main office as soon as you arrive and wear a visitor badge.
2. Adult visitors only please.
3. Classroom visit of 30 minutes as follows:

Grades K-5 on Wednesday, November 16 *between 9:30a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and 1:45p.m. and 2:45p.m.*

(During these times you may visit the homeroom classes and the special areas - ie: art, vocal and instrumental music, physical education, library/media, and Spanish)

Parents may proceed directly to the classroom where you will find seats available at the rear of the room. We ask for your cooperation in not engaging in any conversation which distracts from the learning situation. You are permitted to visit your child's classes only. Your cooperation with the above guidelines is greatly appreciated.

Q & A with Mr. A

Over the course of the month I am asked various questions by students and parents and thought it might be a good idea to provide a question and answer section in the Redwood Rocket section to highlight some questions that may pertain to a larger audience.

Q: May I pack candy in my child's lunch?

A: Yes. Our classroom snack policy requires a healthy snack; however, it is the prerogative of the parent to decide what to pack in a child's lunch. If a child has a large amount of candy in their lunch and is eating that instead of the meal that was packed our staff may contact the parent to notify them. Additionally, if the consumption of sugar seems to adversely affect a child's behavior in the afternoon we may contact you, as well.



...into character and make good choices everyday!

Q: May my child have a cell phone in school?

A: Cell phones must be stored in backpacks and turned off during school hours. Parents provide students with cell phones for many reasons based upon activities and safety outside the school day; however, during the school day students may not have their cell phones out, this includes lunch, recess, and the bus.

Q: What happens if my child does not have a coat for recess?

A: Our practice is to have all students who are able go outside for recess. As the weather

becomes colder we expect that children bring clothing appropriate for outdoor recess. If a child forgets their coat somehow, we will not make them go outside; however, if it becomes a pattern and a child regularly does not bring a coat we will try to contact the parent via phone, email or assignment book to request that a coat is sent in for outdoor recess. Please note that these 20 minutes of physical activity are important for the children to help focus them for their afternoon and to provide additional movement in their day.

Q: The Lost and Found is very overloaded. What happens to the items in the Lost and Found?

A: The clothing items in our Lost and Found will be donated at Winter Break (December 23, 2016) and we will start January with an empty bin.

ROCKET into character and make good choices everyday!