



— SOUTHWEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL —

COYOTE CLASSIFIED



OCTOBER 2021

OCTOBER CALENDAR

10/5 4th Grade Volleyball practice 2:15-4:15

10/5 Fall Pictures for Kindergarten-4th Grade

10/7 4th Grade Volleyball practice 2:15-4:15

10/7 4th Grade Volleyball Culminating Activity 4-4:45

10/7 Fall Pictures for Pre-K

10/11-15 Fall Break No School

10/27 Board Meeting at the Fields building at 6:30

10/28 Reading Night 5-6:30pm

11/9 Early Dismissal for Parent Teacher Conferences

11/10 Early Dismissal for Parent Teacher Conferences

11/11 Veterans Day-No School

11/12 No School

Thank you for attending our Family Council. I think it is safe to say that fun was had by all. We had a great turn out and we hope to have more families involved next time.

Please note that our parent/teacher conferences are scheduled a bit differently this year. They will be in November. We will be sending home papers mid October so you can schedule a conference time with your child's teacher. We look forward to meeting with each of you!

Fall Pictures will be October 5th for Kindergarten through 4th Grade students. October 7th is picture day for Pre-K students.

October 29th will be our PBIS Fall Festival. We will be celebrating our student success in all aspects of school.

We will be doing safety drills during the month of October. We will practice a fire drill, hard/soft lock down drills, and bus evacuation drills. Students will be taught what to do in case of an emergency.

Thank you for your contribution to our education:

United Church of Tilton

"Hometown Stars" McDonalds



"BE at the BUS"



We want to remind everyone of bus safety procedures for your children and our students!

Pre-K Students: An authorized Parent/Guardian of Pre-K student must be seen by the bus driver before the student will be allowed off the bus.

Kindergarten Students: An adult must be seen by the bus driver before a Kindergarten student will be allowed off the bus.

Only the student is allowed on the bus - It is illegal for family members or others to board a school bus.

Obey the stop arms – it is the law and it is to keep everyone safe!

A Note from the Nurse

If your child has any special health needs or problems, this should be communicated to me. This information is kept confidential, and it can be very important to a successful experience in school. Examples of such needs are:

- 1. Food Allergy**
- 2. Bee sting allergy**
- 3. Allergy to any other substance**
- 4. Difficulty with vision, hearing or speech**
- 5. Need for medication during the school day**

Need for special aids such as crutches, walkers or wheelchairs, either on a temporary or permanent basis.

If your student has any of the following symptoms, please keep your child at home and call the school right away for further instructions:

Sore throat, Moderate to Severe Headache, cough, fever, vomiting, or diarrhea.

If your student or a member of your household is waiting on the results of a covid test, please do not send your student to school until the results are back and are negative.

~~~~~Pre-K~~~~~

The preschool classrooms continue to get new students enrolled weekly and the teachers are working to reinforce the rules and routines. As the Beginning of the Year curriculum study will end soon, the classrooms will begin new studies based on the interests of the children in each room. Be sure that you are checking your child's backpack each day for artwork or notes from the teacher. Tablets are slowly being sent home to support children's learning, especially in the event that they need to complete remote assignments. At home, you can help reduce the spread of germs by making sure that your child has a well fitted mask and practice keeping it over their nose. Screenings are filling up fast so if you know of a child who is between the ages of 3 and 5 and would like to enroll in our program, please call 444-3525 to get signed up to be screened.

KINDERGARTEN

WE ARE ALMOST DONE WITH OUR 1ST QUARTER OF KINDERGARTEN. WE HAVE INTRODUCED MANY SKILLS: COUNTING TO 100 BY 1'S, IDENTIFYING SHAPES, IDENTIFYING RHYMING WORDS, WRITING OUR OWN NAME, AND IDENTIFYING LETTERS AND THEIR SOUNDS. PLEASE CONTINUE WORKING ON THESE SKILLS AT HOME IF THEY ARE STRUGGLING TO MASTER THEM. YOU CAN FIND A COLORFUL RESOURCE PAPER IN THE BACK OF YOUR CHILD'S FOLDER. WE HAVE A FEW STUDENTS THAT CAN TIE THEIR SHOES. THERE IS STILL TIME TO TEACH YOUR CHILD HOW TO TIE THEIR SHOES. WE WILL COMPLETE OUR CONTEST AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT READING NIGHT ON THE 28TH. PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S FOLDER DAILY FOR HOMEWORK THAT NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO SCHOOL. WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT.

FIRST GRADE

AS WE MOVE INTO OCTOBER, WE WILL BEGIN OUR FIRST FICTION UNIT ON FABLES AND FAIRY TALES! WE ARE ALL EXCITED TO HEAR SOME OLD, FAMILIAR STORIES AS WELL AS MANY NEW. THROUGH THESE STORIES WE WILL TALK ABOUT CHARACTERS AND SETTING. IN MATH, WE ARE WORKING ON ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION WITH TEN FRAMES AND NUMBER LINES, DOUBLES FACTS, AND PROBLEM SOLVING. THROUGH OUR SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL CURRICULUM, SECOND STEP, WE HAVE BEEN PRACTICING HOW TO BE AN ACTIVE LISTENER (EYES WATCHING, EARS LISTENING, BRAIN THINKING ABOUT WHAT THE SPEAKER IS SAYING) AND HOW TO USE SELF-TALK TO GET OURSELVES BACK ON TRACK.

Second Grade

“Things are still going great in 2nd grade. We are still spending a lot of time on routines and procedures. We have worked through Benchmark reading Unit 1 and will be starting Unit 2. We have enjoyed learning about government and our next unit will discuss characters facing challenges. In math, we are practicing our math facts and are starting Topic 3: Adding within 100. We are looking forward to fall break. Please continue to read and practice skills at home.”

Third Grade

We are off to a great start in 3rd grade! We will continue learning about multiplication/division and the strategies that go along with it. Please continue to practice these math facts with your students at home. Flashcards are a great resource for students to gain fluency. In reading, we will be moving on to Unit 2: Ways Characters Shape Stories. The essential question for this unit is “How do our actions influence our lives?” In this unit, students will read and compare stories, poems, and myths to analyze characters and understand how their actions shape events. Please be sure to check your calendars this month. We will have fall pictures, fall break, and reading night this month. Keep up the great work 3rd grade!!

Fourth Grade

We are finally getting into a groove and the students seem to be enjoying being back in the classroom. We have been working hard on place value and reviewing the multiplication facts. Students need to practice their multiplication facts at home. In reading, we have been reading and learning about our government and the different branches. The skill we have been focusing on is determining the main idea and key details of a passage. Students need to also practice reading at home.



Erin's Law...

Our Southwest Social Workers, Mrs. Brewer and Miss Crooks will be teaching Erin's Law. Erin's Law requires public schools in Illinois to implement a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program that teaches students age-appropriate techniques to recognize child sexual abuse and how to tell a trusted adult. Miss Crooks, will be covering Erin's Law with the Pre-school students the month of October during her regular scheduled Friendship classes. Mrs. Brewer will teach K-4th grade students Erin's Law the week of October 18th. Please contact either Mrs. Brewer or Miss Crooks for any further questions.

Data Driven

With Fall just around the corner there are so many fun activities you can do at home to incorporate Math into your fall fun.

If you carve a pumpkin use it to do a lesson on measuring for older students, have them measure around the pumpkin, the height of the pumpkin, and have them do some estimation of how much the pumpkin weighs.

For younger kids during pumpkin carving, you can have them tell you about the shape of the pumpkin, the color of the pumpkin, and have them help you count the seeds that you take out of the pumpkin.

Baking fun, have the kids help you bake some of your favorite fall treats, this is a great way to help students learn measurement and working with fractions...not to mention reading as they read the recipe ingredients and directions.

These are some quick tips to get you started on fun education fall activities to do with your kids.

AVID

This month we are focusing on the W in WICOR. The W stands for "Writing to Learn." At school students may be doing different writing activities in their classrooms. Some of these activities include: two and three column notes, quick writes, one pagers, word banks, sentence frames, learning logs, journal writing, and KWL (know, want to know, learn) charts. At home you can assist us with teaching WICOR by talking about the importance of writing.

A Note from Mrs. Brewer...

Communicating with your kids

Listening and talking is the key to a healthy connection between you and your children. But parenting is hard work and maintaining a good connection with kids can be challenging, especially since parents are dealing with many other pressures. Maybe you could try:

Is your child giving you one-word answers or not opening up to you?

Take notice of when your child is more talkative and use that time! Maybe during car rides, before dinner, or while in the car.

Try sharing a thought first and then using an open-ended question to get the conversation flowing. For example, "What do you think about that?"

Realize your children may test you by telling you a small part of what is bothering them. Listen carefully to what they say, encourage them to talk and they may share the rest of the story.

Does your child seem to ignore your directions or have trouble listening to you?

Try to soften a strong reaction, a child may tune you out if you start off angry or defensive. Practice taking a deep breath before responding. Wait until they are focused on you (not looking at a screen or talking to someone else) to give a clear direction.

Try giving an explanation following your direction; "I need you to clean your things off the table because dinner will be ready in 10 minutes and we need somewhere to eat."

Try rephrasing your direction in a positive manner. For example, instead of "Don't hit your brother!" say, "Play gently with your brother please.". This helps the child know their expectations and stays away from words that may reinforce bad behavior.