

Dear Lafayette Families –

We find ourselves starting the second of three short weeks. I trust that everyone enjoyed the extra long weekend and took advantage of the gorgeous fall weather. Although the weeks of October are short, we are not short on learning or activities! All of our classrooms are running full steam ahead, soon beginning their second instructional units. This means that classrooms are closing out their initial units and opening up new topics, new skills, and new projects. Be on the lookout for more information coming from your child's teacher.

This week 2<sup>nd</sup> grade continues their bike rides as part of their PE Cornerstone unit. Ms. McClure and Ms. Howes are leading the way in teaching our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders about cycling, safety, and how to check your bike gear. Thanks to both of them for pioneering this unit with our students. Thank you also to all of our volunteers who have ridden along! Cross country continues to run strong, with a meet this Wednesday. Math team has also started on Friday mornings.

Next Monday, (10/19) is Parent/Teacher conferences. Please be sure to sign up for a time slot if you haven't done so already. Don't forget that students have the day off on the 19<sup>th</sup>! The following Monday (10/26) will be picture day. This is our makeup date from when we were previously rained out. That will also be the week of the Halloween parade and parties. This year, we will start the Halloween parade at 9:30 am on Friday, 10/30. Although we will have a new route (to be published soon!), the excitement, fun, and costumes will be the same! Please plan to send your student to school in costume (that doesn't include fake weapons of any kind). After we finish with the parade, students will return to their classrooms for class parties. The parties will most likely start around 10:45. There will be a 12:15 dismissal that day (Records day) to round out our Halloween festivities.

Other October events include our first Coffee Talk on Friday, 10/23. We will discuss the overall curriculum and focus for grade levels. To end our week, don't forget to come out to the park on Saturday, 10/24 for the Fall Festival. This is a great event every year. This year, apples and pumpkins are available for sale, as well as presale. Look for a flyer that came home last week. For Lafayette, Election Day will come a little early this year – Student Council Elections will be held on Tuesday, 10/27. Information was handed out last week to students. If your student has questions, s/he should see Ms. Jensen. After elections, we will have new Student Council members and officers to serve for the remainder of the school year.

Finally, as we turn the corner into Fall weather, please don't forget to bring extra time and patience to drop off and pick up. Thus far, things have gone amazingly well. We anticipate that things may start to take a little more time as we bundle kids up in coats, hats and mittens. Please also be extra diligent while driving on 33<sup>rd</sup> street. Avoid 33<sup>rd</sup> and Oliver – it is an extremely busy intersection. It is not a drop off or pick up area. When parents stop, it blocks traffic and creates an unsafe area in the crosswalks. Please, never back up into a cross walk or do a U-turn in an intersection when kids are present. These are not expected traffic patterns and kids (and adults!) are not aware they are happening, thus creating very dangerous situations. Thank you to all of you who have been extremely patient and flexible. Overall, our drop off lane is serving about 75 – 100 cars a day! A huge shout out to

Jen Lanoff, Eileen Dombo, our 5<sup>th</sup> grade safety patrol, and all the other drop off lane regulars. We couldn't do it without you!  
Have a great 4 day week and enjoy another 3 day weekend.

Dr. B