

# Fall

November has arrived and it's an eventful month at Staley Elementary. We begin our month with Parent/Teacher Conferences, which will be held on November 1st, November 4th and November 5th. **It is important to note that dismissal will be at 12:40 on all three days.** Please note that school will be closed on Monday, November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day.

Thanksgiving break begins on Wednesday, November 27th. I hope you enjoy the time with your families and friends.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at school at any time.



## PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

On Friday, November 1st; Monday, November 4th; and Tuesday, November 5th, we will be holding our Parent/Teacher Conferences. The Parent/Teacher

Conference gives you an excellent opportunity to become better acquainted with the school and the teachers. It is important that you and the teacher share your child's

needs. These conferences are one of the most effective means of evaluating the pupil's progress.

## Homework Solutions

Whether your child is new to homework or has been doing it for years, your support can help her do her best. That's important, because homework reinforces what she's learning in school. Here's how to set her up for success.

**Find a good schedule:** Set aside a specific time for homework so it becomes a habit, perhaps right before or after dinner. Also, suggest that she figure out a plan that works best for her. She could start with the easiest assignment to gain momentum or get the hardest one out of the way first.

**Troubleshoot problems:** When your youngster gets stuck, offer to help—but avoid telling her the answers. If she's confused by the directions, try reading them together. Or if she's struggling with an addition problem, offer to walk her through a few sample problems in the back of her math book

**Eliminate distractions:** Make sure your child turns off electronics before she starts homework. Also, you might encourage everyone in the house to have "quiet time" while she does her assignments. Maybe you'll read or pay bills while younger siblings color, for instance.

### Coming Ahead

Veteran's Day	11/11
Thanksgiving Break	11/27-29

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

In order for our students to perform well in school and continue to learn, they must be in attendance. Under New York State Education Law 3205, parents are responsible for the regular attendance of their children for instruction. It is important for your child to attend school on a regular basis so he/she can benefit from the total educational program.

The Board of Education, in accordance with Section 104.1(c) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education has established a comprehensive attendance policy that can be viewed on the district website. This policy spells out the responsibilities of students, parents, teachers and administrators in regards to attendance.

Extensive absences will initiate a review by the building principal. This review could trigger intervention such as counseling, disciplinary action, or referral to community services.

Working together we can improve the attendance of our students. My goal is to create an opportunity for each child to grow and learn in a successful learning environment.

## Words in every subject

You know your child needs a strong vocabulary to do well in reading and writing. But did you know that vocabulary is important in math, science, and social studies, too? She can explore words in every subject with these three activities.

1. **Find words:** Whenever your youngster reads, suggest that she look for words related to school subjects. She might spot science words like metamorphosis in a comic book, sodium in a food advertisement, and precipitation in a weather report. Seeing how the words are used in real life will help her recognize and understand them in her textbooks.
2. **Use words:** Give your child reasons to say vocabulary words aloud—that will make it easier for her to identify them in textbooks. If she's studying state history, you could visit a state park and talk to a ranger. ("What tribes are native to this area?") Or she might practice economics terms while shopping. ("There must be a high demand for these sweaters. They need to increase their supply.")
3. **Play with words:** Games can make words a permanent part of your youngster's vocabulary. Take turns picking a letter (say, C) and a school subject (perhaps math), and set a timer for three minutes. Each player lists terms that begin with the letter and fit the category (centimeter, calculate). Compare your lists. The winner is the person with the most words that no one else has.

## STALEY CODE



This school year we will once again be working with our students on the Staley CODE. This stands for:

- \*Cooperation
- \*Ownership
- \*Dignity
- \*Excellence

We use this to have consistent expectations in all areas of the school. We will be working with our students to demonstrate what each component looks like in the classroom, in the halls, in the bathrooms, in the cafeteria, on the playground and on the bus.