October 13, 2017

BOWEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We're on Target For Success!

Blair Feldkamp, Principal
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A Note from the Principal…….

The weather will be turning colder and the daylight is fading faster every day. With the time change around the corner, our children will be forced to come indoors sooner and daily routines for families will have to be adjusted. I would like to offer a couple suggestions for our Bowen families for those longer evenings indoors.

First, set a specific time everyday for your child to complete their homework. If a routine is established for homework to be done at the same time and the same place every day, the homework itself will be more consistent. It will go beyond just doing the homework; it will likely be done with more focus and effort.

Second, encourage your child to read and more importantly, take the time to read with them. It can be a very rewarding experience to sit on the couch or lie on the floor and have your child read to you. Take turns reading. Ask questions before you turn the page to have them predict what will happen next. Laugh with them at funny parts of a book and be sad when they are sad. Encourage them to look at the pictures and ask them what part of the story that picture is about. Ask them to describe a character before they see any pictures and share with them what you think that character looks like. Praise them when they sound out the "big" words and then ask them what they think that word means…..

Trust me, shared reading and talking about a book can be a very relaxing and enjoyable activity for both the child and the parent.

I encourage you to contact your child's teacher for a suggested reading list and other activities that can be done together with reading. Bowen Elementary is always available to our families as a resource when it comes to something as important as developing our emerging readers. Please don't hesitate to come in and talk with us.

Thank you.

Mr. Feldkamp

10/18 Title I Parent Reading Night 6-7:30pm

10/19 PTO Meeting 6:30pm

10/24 Picture Retakes

10/30 Parent /Teacher Conferences. 4-9 pm
Full Day of School

10/31 Halloween Parties 10:45 Half day for students
11:57 Dismissal

11/1 Parent/Teacher Conferences 1-9

11/2&11 Half Days of School 11:57 Dismissal

11/22 Half day of school for students 11:57 Dismissal

11/23&24 Thanksgiving Break No School

PTO NEWS

Welcome Bowen Parents to the Bowen PTO (Parent Teacher Organization)! We had a GREAT first meeting and we are excited for you to join us at our second meeting October 19 at 6:30pm. Come to hear how you can participate with us at Bowen. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come!! Questions contact Melissa Moran 616-929-2955 moran9801@gmail.com

Kentwood Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, height, weight, or marital status in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: ASST. SUPERINTENDENT FOR STUDENT SERVICES, 5820 Eastern Avenue SE, Kentwood, Michigan 49508, 616/455-4400.

Remember that all children go outside to play for recess twice a day, unless it is raining. Fall weather can be very unpredictable, so please dress your child appropriately. Also, please label all items with your child's name so that it can be easily identified.

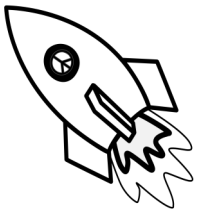
Our policy is that if a child is well enough to attend school then they are well enough to go outside. However, if for health reasons a child must remain indoors a written doctor's statement is needed for each day a student is to stay inside.

If you have any questions, please call Bowen's office.

BOWEN FACEBOOK PAGE

Be sure to "like" us on Facebook for current updates. Our page is: Bowen Elementary School of Kentwood Public Schools. Watch for information on all activities and events during the school year.

We've reached our first Reading Challenge!! We've flown by Mercury and are on our way to Venus. So far we've read over 1500 hours!! Great job, Bowen Arrows!
Find the class spaceships when you're here for Conferences and parties.



Our classes are turning in a lot of minutes. Here's the latest update:
25 Hours – Irvin, VanderPloeg, Allen/Serrell
50 Hours – Kregel, Dykstra
100 Hours – Swoboda, Treber, Kennedy, Shaw
200 Hours – Barnes, Bleau, Everhart, Silver

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR will be here soon!
Monday, Oct 30 – Friday, Nov. 3 – in the Collaborative Learning Center
Stop by when you're here for Conferences and Fall Parties. The Book Fair will be open every day that week.
Feel free to shop online also. The Online Book Fair includes a much larger variety than can be brought to the building. It will open soon.
Shop both to support Bowen! We use our book profits to purchase more books for our students.
http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/bowenelemsch2

Counselor's Corner

Good Study Habits for Elementary Students

You and your child should **check the backpack daily**. This is one of the most important things you can do as a parent. If the child has a planner, look at it.
Decide a **good time** for your child to study. Some youngsters need a break after school, others do better by getting right to homework.
Decide on a **good place** to study. Turn off the TV !
Make sure that your child is **focused** on the work.
Break the homework down, taking **breaks** if needed.

Starting good study habits now will help the child's whole school career!

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