

Vine Street School

October, 2018



Important Dates & Reminders

October

15 PTO, 3:15

26 Fall Festival

NOTICE

During the first weeks of school, we posted crossing guards at Third and Vine or Harthorn and West Broadway. We did not have unaccompanied children crossing at these locations.

We will not continue to post crossing guards at either location. If your child's plans change, and he/she will cross at either location, please call the school.

Principal's Message

The Vine Street School staff identifies teaching children to read as both a privilege and priority. Watching a child become a reader is an amazing joy and one of the highlights of our profession. Our staff continually participates in professional development opportunities to ensure that they are using the best instructional strategies for each child. Parents often ask how they can help at home. The answer is simple—read with your child.

Over the years, there have been many studies to measure whether having parents read with their children helps a child become a better reader. The answer, time after time, is a resounding yes!

Often parents report that they read often to their children when the children were babies and toddlers. Once a child learned to read on his/her own, parents say they often stop reading together.

Please do not! Research continues to confirm that shared reading experiences are beneficial for children. Some of these advantages lead directly to improving skills related to reading including increased vocabulary, comprehension, listening and spelling skills. Other benefits are not as easy to measure, but are equally important. When you read with your child, you create a positive experience for your child. You are helping to ensure that your child enjoys reading—a habit that will reap benefits for a lifetime.

As the mother of three boys, I can tell you that some of my favorite memories are of reading with them. As they grew, we often discussed books together. This love of reading is a shared experience to this day. I still often read the same books as my adult sons, and then look forward to when we can discuss them together. It is a Silk family tradition!



Bangor School Department is Hiring!

Are you looking for employment? The Bangor School Department has openings in several departments including food service, custodians, substitute teachers, tutors and educational technicians. To apply online, visit our website at www.bangorschools.net, or call 992-4150. Join our team!



The Big Pumpkin-Erica Silverman
Pumpkin, Pumpkin-Jeanne Titherington
Too Many Pumpkins-Linda White
The Biggest Pumpkin Ever-Stephen Kroll

Academic Excellence for All

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How to Help Your Child Become a Better Reader

Reading with your child can be the highlight of your day. There are many resources online to help parents make the experience more beneficial for the child. These bullets are from a site called Reading Rockets. The site has a lot of information for parents and teachers. Check it out. In the meantime, here are some bullets from their *Empowering Parents Reading Rockets Parent Guide* on how to help children become better readers and writers.

- 📖 Talk, talk, talk! Your child will learn about spoken words just from listening to you.
- 📖 Read to your child. Share books you loved and try some new ones from the library. Reread favorites over and over again!
- 📖 Point out interesting words as you read. Help your child understand that the squiggles on the page have meaning.
- 📖 Talk about books. Retell exciting stories at the dinner table. Encourage your child to share his favorite parts.
- 📖 Connect what kids already know to what they hear or read. This helps your children understand more about the world around them.
- 📖 Write for a purpose. As you're writing your grocery list or a thank you note, share your work with your child. Don't be surprised if she asks to borrow the pencil!



Mark your calendars for October 26th. That is the night of the PTO's annual Fall Festival. We are looking forward to a fun evening of food and games. Thank you to everyone who signed up to help—we appreciate it—it takes a lot of people to plan and implement this event for students and their families. If you have not signed up to help, but would like to do so, please call the school.

The monthly meeting of the PTO will be on October 15 at 3:15. Please join us to learn more about our plans for the school year.

October Themes



PreK My Family

K Living Together: *This is Home, Life in a Pond & A Bed for Winter*; Narrative Writing; Numbers 0-10

1 Connecting to Our World, Time to Sleep & What Do You Do With a Tail Like This? Narrative Writing

2 Understanding Communities, Friends Around the World & The House on Maple Street; Narrative Writing;

3 Observing the World Around Us, The Case of the Gasping Garbage & Location, Location, Location; Narrative Writing

Sources:

<http://theconversation.com/research-shows-the-importance-of-parents-reading-with-children-even-after-children-can-read-82756>

http://www.readingrockets.org/sites/default/files/empparents_guide.pdf



READING CHALLENGE

STUDENT CHALLENGE:

I think poems are so interesting. My favorite poet is Shel Silverstein. My challenge for you is to read a book of poetry and I will give you a token for your necklace.

PRINCIPAL'S CHALLENGE:

October is the perfect month to focus on mysteries! Read a mystery and I will give you a charm. Read one of my favorite mysteries with Nancy Drew or the Hardy Boys and I will give you a special charm!

TEACHER'S CHALLENGE:

I challenge you to read a book by one of my favorite authors—either Robert Munsch or Seymour Simon. Read one of their books and I will give you a charm!

CUSTODIAN'S CHALLENGE:

Maine is a great place to live! One of the things I like here are the different kinds of animals. Read a book about any animal that lives in Maine, and I will give you a charm.

LIBRARIAN'S CHALLENGE:

The fall harvest is here. Everywhere I look I see pumpkins! Read a book about pumpkins and I will give you a charm. If you do not have a pumpkin book, come get one out of the library. We have a lot of them!



OCTOBER



To earn a charm complete this page for any challenge you completed. Put the title of the book in the blank. For PreK, K and grade 1 students, write a complete sentence telling why you did or did not like this book. Parents of PreK and K students may write their children's answers in for them. For students in grades 2-3, write the title of the book and the author in the blank. Students in grades 2-3 need to complete 1 short answer response. To earn a book, students must complete all 5 challenges OR read 1 chapter book.



I accepted Nella's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted Mrs. Silk's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted Mrs. Simko's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted Mr. Whitney's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted Mrs. Campbell's Challenge! I read _____



Students in grades 2-3 need to write a written response to one book from the challenges. Tell why you did or did not like it. Be sure to use all the skills you have learned in writing a constructed response—including using correct spelling and punctuation.

Example:

For the October challenge, I read the book *The Kingdom of Wrenly: The Lost Stone*. I enjoyed this book for many reasons. I like the main characters, Prince Lucas and his friend Clara. They are very kind and like to have adventures. I like the setting because the book takes place in a kingdom where there are trolls and fairies! I also like the map in the front of the book that shows where everything is in the kingdom. That made it easier for me to imagine it in my head. For these reasons, I think *The Kingdom of Wrenly: The Lost Stone* is a great book.
