



OCTOBER, 2018

Fall is such a wonderful time of year- students are settling into the routines of the new school year, making new friends, and learning new things; and we get to enjoy the beautiful “sweater weather,” the splendor of colorful falling leaves, pumpkins, and football.

All of “my” students display excitement and enthusiasm for learning. Everyone is working hard. I just love seeing their eager little faces and genuine smiles daily!

It was wonderful seeing those of you who were able to join us for Back to School Night. Hopefully, you received quite a bit of information regarding the expectations for your child/ren this year at Radix. With such a remarkable parent turn-out for Back-To-School it’s understandable why we have so many children who demonstrate good character, and who are committed to being good students. Thank you for showing your support!

Although being a parent volunteer is one way to be involved in your child’s education, research tells us that supporting your child’s education at home is even more important. Here are some conversation starters to let your child know you care about and are invested in his/her education:

- **“Let’s see what you brought home today.”** Look at everything brought home, use as a way to review, or to keep abreast of important notices sent home by the teacher.
- **“Show me what you have for homework.”** Provide a distraction-free space for your child to work. Have her explain what she has to do, and be sure to look it over when complete. Resist the urge to fix it!
- **“Describe a book you enjoyed today.”** Students are provided time daily to read. Encourage reading during free time or at bedtime, and share the reading experience- you read aloud, and let her read aloud.
- **“Tell me what you learned that you’d like to know more about.”** Use your child’s interests as a jumping off point for activities and exploration at home. If your child likes geometry, hunt for shapes in your environment. If she likes learning about animal adaptations, go to the zoo or do some research.
- **“What was the most creative thing you did today?”** This will let your child know that you expect her to be creative, taking risks, perhaps, outside of the box.
- **“How were you kind or helpful today?”** By asking this question, you set an expectation for your child to be courteous and respectful.

The Radix Community, with support from our other elementary school friends, came together and donated over \$1,400.00 to CHOP, to support children battling cancer. We have two students currently attending Radix who are battling that disease. A team of

Radix staff and families participated in the walk sponsored by Lead the Way on Sunday morning, Sept. 30th at Owens Park.

What's Noteworthy in October?

Next week we will be starting our WIN program, a period dedicated to direct reading instruction for students at their level. In addition, we will continue to use standards based grading to indicate what students know and are able to do relative to their grade level expectations. We will be conducting parent/teacher conferences during the week of October 22-26. Information regarding the conference schedule and how to sign up to meet with your child's teacher is forthcoming.

We have a full calendar of events (see our website) for the upcoming month. October 1-5 is the **WEEK OF RESPECT**. Each day students will be reminded during our morning announcements to show respect and good character. On **Friday, October 5th**- we are asking each child to wear his/her favorite purple clothing. Staff are going to be making a donation for people fighting pancreatic cancer, a very worthwhile cause.

Parents can help their children understand respectful behavior by modeling it. For example, consider something on which you and your child may disagree (ie: amount of time playing video games). Engage your child in a respectful discussion telling him that his brain and body are growing and that he needs to run and play to stay healthy. Then have him design an appropriate response, such as, "I want to be healthy, but I love video games." Help you child learn to respect different points of view, and give him other examples of how to show respect to neighbors and the community.

Then that night (**Oct. 5th**), our PTA is hosting an outdoor movie night at 7:00 for our Radix families.

The first Family Restaurant Night is Wednesday, October 10th at McDonalds. Please join us for this fundraiser that gives us the opportunity to share time together as a community, and to raise some money to support our students.

Our anti-bullying campaign will be kicked off with a fun, yet meaningful assembly on October 24th to promote our NO BULLYING school community!

Our **fall book fair** will take place the **week of October 15th**. Parent volunteers are critical to having a successful fair. Please contact the PTA if you are able to offer some time, even for just an hour, that week.

On **Saturday, October 20th**, I'm hosting a PACE (**PA**rents **C**aring about **E**ducation) Meeting at **9:00 a.m.** in the Radix Media Center. Please join me to discuss any concerns, ideas, etc. you may have for the Radix community. I welcome all parents/guardians and truly value your partnership. You bring the coffee, I'll bring the donuts!

On Friday evening, **October 26th**, the Radix community will celebrate Halloween. Join us for this fun night from 7-9:00 p.m. And the annual Halloween parade will take place

(weather permitting) on Wednesday, **October 31st**, which is an early dismissal day for students. Kindergarten and PreK will now follow the new early dismissal schedule (a.m. will attend for their regular session and the p.m. session will attend from 10:50-11:20. Our Halloween parade will run from 10:00-11:15.

As you may know, we have a very ambitious and generous PTA. Much gratitude is extended to our officers and members, especially those who were able to participate in our first meeting.



Notes from the Nurse: Influenza (flu) season is just around the corner. Flu is a contagious respiratory virus that is spread by coughing, sneezing, and close contact. It is normally seen between the months of October and May.

The CDC recommends annual flu vaccinations for everyone 6 months and older. And, the State of New Jersey requires all children enrolled in Preschool to receive the flu vaccine as a requirement to remain in school.

The Gloucester County Health Department offers free flu shot clinics. For more information go to www.gloucestercountynj.gov.

Lastly, as a reminder, students should remain **symptom free, without the aid of medication, for a full 24 hours** before returning to school.

I think you will agree with me that we have a remarkable school community. I appreciate all members of our “family” for contributing to the positive, nurturing, and academic environment of Radix Elementary School.

Yours In Education,

Dr. DelConte
Principal