



October, 2011 Issue

Dear Parents:

October has arrived! The students are deeply rooted in their school routines including EVERYDAY MATH, FOSS Science and our new reading series, JOURNEYS. Kindergarten students will be planting a maple tree soon. After school activities are beginning. Check backpacks for the latest information. Looking forward to listening to our Student Council election speeches!

October is Fire Prevention Month. The Orland Fire Department will teach "Fire Safety" to our EC, Preschool and Kindergarten. The first grade will tour the Department's Fire Trailer. It is a good idea for families to discuss what should be done in case of an emergency at home.

Parents, please remember to pull up all the way on O'Brien Drive to enter our new turn in lane, and stay in your car. Children should enter/exit your car curbside. You are allowed to park in the new parking lot and then walk to the playground with your children in the morning or pick them up at door number 6 on O'Brien Drive. You must then escort them to the car. Children must be picked up on O'Brien Drive if they are car riders. Don't forget to "buckle up". Also, please remember to leave your pets at home when meeting your children. Safety is our number one concern at Fernway!!!!

Have you asked your children what they have been doing with the Promethean Boards? Every classroom has one. The students are becoming most proficient!

Mark your calendar. October 28th is our annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest. It is a great family project. Watch for details. November 16th is our first Parent Night. The whole family is invited. The staff will be demonstrating various uses of the Promethean Board for reading, math, social studies and science. You will be able to use the computer labs. More details next month.

Thanks to the PTO for all they have provided. Try to volunteer; the students love seeing their parents in the building. Remember to join PTO. The cost is \$3 per family.

Remember to read to and with your children. Provide a quiet place for them to complete their homework and always check their backpacks. Enjoy the autumn weather. Happy Halloween!

Carol Novak, Principal

FERNWAY PARK SCHOOL'S OFFICE HOURS

7:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Please note our School's Office Hours

PARTY UPDATE - Halloween and Winter Holiday. As in the past several years, we are having only two parties for the students: Halloween and Winter Holiday. We will be having only one collection to cover the cost of the two parties. We are asking for \$2.00 for each party for a total of \$4.00 per child, cash only. If you have not already done so please send the \$4.00 per child to your child's teacher. Mark the envelope with your child's name and room number and "Party Money".

PICTURE DAY was Monday, September 19th. If your child was absent on this day, we will be having a retake day on November 9th. Since the Photography Studio, Life Touch, holds the "composite" pictures until after retakes, all children are included in their class picture. We generally do not receive the "composites" until well after the first of the year.

REMINDER - PLEASE DON'T SEND STUDENTS EARLY TO SCHOOL. We will line up outside unless it is raining or very cold. (Wind Chill below 25 degrees). School starts at 7:55 A.M. and ends at 2:25P.M. Please, as the days get colder, allow your children to spend more time at home in the mornings. Tardy students are to be signed in by their parent. Students are tardy when they arrive after 8:00 A.M.

TELEPHONE CALLS (MESSAGES) TO STUDENTS - We will accept phone calls/messages for your child ONLY under extreme circumstances. This is very disruptive to the classroom and all arrangements should be made with your child before they leave home in the morning. In case of an emergency, please call the school soon enough with the message, as it will be placed in the appropriate teacher's mailbox, or teacher's voice mail to be delivered to your child. Teachers do check their mailboxes and voice mail for messages during their lunch break.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 140 BOARD MEETINGS. October 20, 2011, 7:00 P.M., is the next School Board Meeting. All School Board Meetings are held at the Kirby School District 140 Administration Center, 16931 S. Grissom Drive, Tinley Park. The public is invited to attend all these meetings. Notices are displayed in each school regarding these meetings.

PROJECT START - EARLY RELEASE DAY will be held on October 31, 2011. The hours for that day are -- Grades K – 5, 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Project Pro – 8:10-9:40 (a.m. class) and 10:40-12:10 (p.m. class).

HALLOWEEN PARTIES will be held on Monday, October 31st with our annual Halloween Parade stepping off at 9:50 P.M. For safety purposes, masks and costume props that may be potentially dangerous are not allowed in school. All students may wear their costumes to school. Parents are cordially invited to view the parade as the children walk around the outside of the school, weather permitting. At the conclusion of the parade our parties will begin. Parents are NOT invited to attend the room parties.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Please do not come back to Fernway School after 3:30 P.M. to pick up left books, homework, etc. As the teachers leave their classrooms for the day, they must lock their rooms. The custodians will not let you in. This is due to insurance reasons and safety issues. If needed, you may come in the morning after 7:15 A.M. to pick up work.

TRAFFIC UPDATE - ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL - In the morning you may use O'Brien Drive to drop off your children. You may NOT leave your car unattended. Please remember that the front school parking lot is closed for drop off. Parents are not to mingle with the students as they stand in their lines. In the event of rain or inclement weather all students will come in the building. All grades will line up outside their classrooms. Please do not come in the building with your children if you're walking them to school. Drop them off at the door.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES - Bus riders exit out the front doors. All car riders exit on O'Brien Drive through Doors 6 and 7. Please remember not to double park on O'Brien Drive. Parents may park in the new lot, walk to the O'Brien Drive exit and meet their children. Children are not allowed to walk thru the parking lot without an adult. Be careful when walking through the parking lot.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK – As in the past, when you enter Fernway School, to go into a classroom, you will be asked to show your driver's license and fill out a security form. Once you have filled the form out and had a copy made of your driver's license, you will then be allowed to enter the building. This is a one time procedure done at the beginning of each school year.

HEALTH POLICES AND PROCEDURES - Any illness or injury occurring during school hours will be handled by Fernway's Registered Nurse. If your child is ill or has an injury that requires professional medical treatment, please do not have them attend school until they are well. In the event that a student incurs a head injury during school hours, all reasonable effort will be made to notify the child's parent/guardian.

FROM THE NURSE

Flu season is upon us. Please keep sick children home for flu-like symptoms or any fever of 100 degrees or higher. Children are to remain home and be fever-free, without medication and symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school.

Hand washing is the most important way to prevent the transmission of infection and illness. Always remind your child to wash their hands and keep their hands away from their face, nose, mouth and eyes.

Teach your child to cover their nose and mouth with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing, not their hands. **WE WANT HEALTHY, HAPPY STUDENTS!**

STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICERS – 2011-2012

We are proud to announce that Conor, Brandon, Anna and Khadijah are Fernway's Student Council Officers for 2011-2012.

TINLEY PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Effective January 1, 2010:

A person under the age of 19, who holds an instruction permit, or a graduated Driver's License, may not drive a vehicle on a roadway while using a wireless phone. This does not apply to persons under the age of 19 years, using a wireless telephone for emergency purposes.

A person, regardless of age, may not use a wireless telephone at any time while operating a motor vehicle on a roadway in a School Speed Zone, or on a highway in a Construction Zone or Maintenance Speed Zone.

A person may not operate a motor vehicle on a roadway while using an electronic communication device to compose, send, or read an electronic message or "text message".

The Tinley Park Police Department will be enforcing these new laws in the near future. The safety and well-being of all our students is of primary importance. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Tinley Park Police Department at 708-444-5326.

HELPFUL HINTS:

Learning is Your Child's Responsibility

- You Can't Be Too Involved!
- Let Your Child Experience The Consequences
- Let Your Child Do The Homework
- Let Your Child Find The Answers
- Make The Responsibility for Learning Clear

VISIT FERNWAY on -line at <http://ksd140.org/fernway/fernway.htm>

The web site has a calendar of school events, a message from our principal, PTO happenings, staff web pages, and much more. Also on Fernway's web page is the Accelerated Reader list of books.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER
OCTOBER, 2011**

October	6	Hot Dog Day Room Party Meeting 9:00 AM
	7	Taffy Apple Orders Due
	10	NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day
	12	PTO Meeting – 1:00 PM Ice Cream Day
	13	Special Lunch Heine's McCarthy Chicken

- 19 Ice Cream Day
Market Day Pickup – 2:45-3:45 PM**
- 20 School Board Meeting – 7 PM
Taffy Apple Pickup**
- 21 Pre-School Screening
Fernway Falcon Raffle Due**
- 28 Pumpkin Decorating Contest
Pizza Day
End of First Quarter**
- 31 Halloween Parade – 9:50 AM
Party Immediately Following 10-11
START Day - Dismissal at 12:30 PM**



Fernway P.T.O Flash

October 2011

It's 8:40 AM and I just got back from dropping off a forgotten library book at school. I have a child sitting next to me trying to add her own words to my laptop computer (as I type) while she is happily munching on Cheetos (breakfast of champions!). I have a mountain of laundry waiting for me in the basement and dishes piling up in the sink. Believe it or not, I wouldn't have it any other way. Life gets crazy sometimes but it's my life. Sometimes I think life can be a little repetitive; you probably know the routine. Wake the kids up for school, make lunches, drop the kids off at school, drop off forgotten lunches at school, clean the house, and pick up kids, homework... (I think you get it.)

No matter how mundane things can get, there is always something that makes crawling out of bed a winning proposition. The other day, my daughter wrote me a letter. It read "**my mom is prftic I love you**". Need I say more? When I feel like everything I'm doing is wrong, I try to remember that letter. Even if my house is a mess and I forget to put a lunch in a backpack, my children still think I am the best. (Okay, most of the time.)

Our children are only going to be little for a short time. Those dishes will be there tomorrow and the next day, and the next.....

Michelle Bolek, Fernway PTO President



Important Upcoming Events

October 6	Hot Dog Day Room Party Meeting 9 am
October 7	Taffy Apple Orders Due
October 10	Columbus Day No School
October 12	PTO meeting 1:00 pm
October 13	Special Lunch Heine's McCarthy Chicken
October 19	Market Day
October 20	Taffy Apple Pick up
October 21	Fernway Falcon Raffle Due Preschool Screening
October 28	Pizza Day End of First Quarter
October 31	Halloween Parade 9:50 am Halloween Parties 10-11 am Start Day

PTO Purchase Update

The Fernway PTO would like to thank everyone who contributed to our fundraisers. This helped the PTO to provide the following items for our school and students:

Allotted \$100 per classroom and student support area for new classroom materials

Allotted \$300 each for Music, Art, Physical Education, and Recess Games for new materials

Purchased assignment notebooks for all students in third, fourth, and fifth grades

Purchased school calendar magnets for all PTO members

Purchased P.O.P.S. prizes for the new school year

Purchased dry erase marker sets for all classrooms in third, fourth, and fifth grades

Sponsored Fernway PTO's Open House

Allotted \$25 per classroom and student support area for new consumable purchases

Taffy Apple Day

Indulge yourself with a Sweet Fall Treat. Taffy apples are not only the perfect party treats, they are also great to give out to your trick-or-treaters. Individually wrapped apples will be available in Peanut, Plain, and Halloween Sprinkles and delivered fresh from the Affy Tapple factory to Fernway School. Fernway's taffy apple pick up has been scheduled for October 20th. Order forms have been sent home and need to be returned no later than October 7th.

Gordon Food Service

Thank you to those that requested cards for the first time. If you are still interested, GFS has a promotion going where you can register for a card at the GFS registers until the end of December. Make sure that you register your card for Fernway so our school gets the credit. Watch your mail for the blue coupon envelopes. They have \$5 off of \$50 coupons regularly.

Fernway Falcon Scholarship Raffle

The Fernway PTO will be holding a raffle to benefit the Fernway Falcon Scholarship Fund in October. Each year, an Andrew High School college-bound senior who attended Fernway School for six years is chosen through the high school's selection committee and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from our PTO. A flyer will be sent home during the week of October 1st along with the raffle tickets and the list of prizes. The tickets will be sold -- 2 for \$1.00, with a limit of \$5.00 per student. The top prize will be a "Lunch in a Limo" with Mrs. Novak. The last day to turn in your raffle tickets and money to your child's classroom teacher will be Friday, October 21st. Winners will be announced on Wednesday, October 26th. If you have any questions, please call Michelle Bolek at 364-0575.

Magazine Drive Fundraiser

Thank you to all of our families who participated in our annual Magazine Fundraiser. The proceeds of this fundraiser help to purchase new materials for the Learning Center and to update the classroom libraries. The top sellers have won a Lunch in a Limo with Mrs. Novak. The date will be announced soon. The top sellers are: Amaya Weslowski, 1-3, 23 orders, Harley Vilimek 1-3, 20 orders, Josh Tanquilut 1-1, 11 orders, Madeline Mertdogan 5-2, 10 orders, and Amanda Heatter 5-4, 9 orders. Congratulations to Mrs. Hastings class (1-3). They are the winning classrooms with 51 total orders!!! They will be enjoying a classroom treat soon.

Congratulations to our top sellers!



Have A Howling Good Time!

Thanks to all of the parents who signed up to work the room parties. Please do not forget to call all persons listed on the party sheet. All the parents on the list volunteered to help, and they all should be included in the coordinating of the room party. Halloween parties will take place following the annual costume parade. All parents are welcome to view the parade; however, due to the limited classroom space, we ask that only those who signed up for the party to proceed to the classrooms. Please do not bring siblings as it takes away your time with the class. Nametags will be distributed at the volunteer meeting. Any parent without that nametag will not be permitted to enter the building for the party. If you have not turned in room party money, you may still do so. **As per District, "food" treats will no longer be allowed at room parties.** If you have any questions regarding room parties, please contact Melissa Marion at 351-1857 or Mary Kasper at 349-9216.

Ghouls and Goblins Parade

The annual Halloween Parade of our little ghosts and goblins will take place on October 31st. All parents are invited to attend this event. Weather permitting, the children will walk around the perimeter of the school. If there is rain that day, the children will walk through the halls of the school and the parents may watch in the commons.



Calling All Pumpkin Carvers!

Every year, Fernway's families get more and more creative. Watch your child's backpack for more information on Fernway's annual Pumpkin Carving Contest.

Did You Remember to Join the PTO?

The contest for highest PTO membership in a classroom is rapidly coming to a close. At this time we do not have any classroom with 100% participation - although many classrooms are running very close!! Please remember that your membership may very well make the difference for your child's class!!

The top classrooms will each receive a \$25.00 gift card to purchase recess games for their use.

Your membership dues enable us to reach our goal of providing the best possible school year for your children. Remember, being a member does not obligate you to volunteer, although, we appreciate any help you may want to give. The last day to qualify for the contest membership will be September 31st.

On behalf of the Fernway PTO, I would like to thank all the parents that continue to support our organization. If you have any additional questions regarding membership, please call Maureen Scumaci at 708-873-0849.

Cartridges For Kids



Send us your tired, old cell phones, your used up ink cartridges, and your no longer working iPods, cameras and game systems and we will process them into CASH!!

That's right! Cartridges For Kids gives our school money for items that normally would end up in our landfills. So Go GREEN and send your recyclables to the Fernway PTO kitchen and I'll ship them off. Visit their web site at www.cartridgesforkids.co, to see which items they accept. Any questions call me, Jan Lynch, at 460-3331. Thanks!



October Market Day

Thanks to everyone who supported our September Market Day sale. We hope you will enjoy all the delicious foods Market Day offers. Our October sale kicks off the Frequent Buyer Rewards program. For each \$40.00 or more order placed from October through January, you will receive a jumbo size insulated tote, perfect for picking up your Market Day order and much more! Also new in October is the "Buy more, get more" promotion. You will receive a free trial pack of French bread sticks and garlic parmesan seasoning with any \$40.00 purchase. Also, with any \$90.00 online purchase you will receive a free 60 count order of cheese ravioli by using the promo code: OCTBONUS. Also, new customers may use the promo code: NEWFIVE when placing your first order to receive \$5.00 off. Placing orders online is the best way to save! There are many promo codes offered weekly to save you money along with clearance items not available on the order form. By ordering online, you have the option to pay at the sale or by credit card. Another promotion Market Day is offering is the Connect2Win contest. You may enter on line at marketday.com/connect for a chance to win great prizes by Apple®. Our October sales date is 19th from 2:45-3:45. Please support our Market Day sales; the profits benefit each child and classroom. If you have any questions regarding Market Day, please contact Tracie Vilimek at 403-9513 or Camille Vopelak at 460-1218.

Love That Ice Cream!!!

Yippee!! Ice cream day started on Wednesday September 21st. Students that ordered ice cream were excited to have us back. We have made a few changes to our ice cream menu to meet nutritional guidelines this year. If you have any questions regarding ice cream day, please call Jenny at 226-5849, or Michelle at 364-0575.

Entertainment Books

Our Entertainment Coupon Book fundraiser is now over. Thanks to everyone who purchased a book. Profits received help the PTO pay for special assemblies for your child.

Congratulations to our top seller, Dominic Spacucello in room 1-4 for selling 11 books! He will receive a \$50.00 gift card from Target. Our Odyssey Fun World \$25.00 gift card winners are:

Spiro Visvardis (4-3), Madeline Mertoogan (5-2), Harley Vilimek (1-3), Bozana Blagojevich (1-1) and Joseph Vaitkus (5-3). Mrs. Novak drew these names at our September PTO meeting. These prizes and prizes for individual selling levels will be sent home soon. If you have not yet returned your book, please do so now. If you have any questions, please contact Tracie Vilimek at 403-9513.

Assignment Notebooks

Third grade now knows what it is like to have an official Fernway assignment notebook. They received their first one along with the fourth and fifth grade students. The PTO purchases 2 a year for each student in these grades with your \$3 yearly membership. It is not too late if you have not yet joined.



Fernway Spirit Wear has Flare!

Thanks to all those who purchased spirit wear at this year's kindergarten round-up, open house, and/or during the fall sale. It was nice to see so many adults buying shirts and sweatshirts for themselves. The hot items this year were definitely the sweatshirts. Let's just hope that's all we'll need for a while (and not the winter coats!).

In case you missed the fall sale, look for flyers to come home at the end of this month. The holiday sale will run through the first week of November with delivery before the break. Fernway spirit wear makes a great gift. If you have any questions or would like further information, feel free to call Jennifer Macie (708-633-1056) or Dawn Bailye (708-633-9156). Thanks again for your support.

A Night At Chuck E Cheese Can Raise Funds for Our School

"Where a kid, parent or teacher can be a kid." Fernway families can have this opportunity and support our school on Tuesday, November 8th, 2011 from 3:00pm to 9:00pm. Children will each receive a sticker to redeem for free tokens at the event. Please order and purchase tickets at the front registers and mention you are there with Fernway and we will get 15% of the profits. What a way to have fun with your children, meet other parents and support your child's school.

Marcus

Watch for order forms to come home in November. Remember to pass these savings on to family and friends over the Thanksgiving holiday. If you have any questions feel free to contact Mary Kasper at 708-341-2548.

Box Tops for Education

Welcome back everyone, hope everyone's year is doing well so far. Please remember to make sure that your child's name is on the bag with their teacher's name and room number so your child will get the credit. Your child's room will also receive credit for their room, too. Ruby Tuesday, TGI Fridays, Mimi's Café, and Orland Bowl are the children's incentives right now. Please start sending in your box tops as soon as possible, and every week they are being collected. Thank you for collecting box tops for education!

Alex Gajda, Box Top Coordinator



It's Soup Weather

Fernway School receives books and software for our Learning Center when you submit labels from Campbell's and Swanson soup and broth products, as well as Franco-American canned pastas. UPC codes from Pepperidge Farm and Campbell's Bakes products may also be submitted. The front panel from Prego sauces and Franco-American gravies should be submitted. Students may turn these labels in to the Learning Center collection container every time they visit with their classroom to check out library books.

Pop Tabs for Ronald

This is the 4th year Fernway students are collecting pop tabs (from soup cans, beverages, etc) and then they are taken to the Ronald McDonald House located in Oak Lawn. There are no awards or contests with this. We are just saving these to help others in need.

Non-Sufficient Funds Checks (NSF) Reminder

Just a reminder- it has become necessary for the Fernway PTO to charge a \$4.50 fee for any non-sufficient funds checks that are returned to the PTO by your bank. You will be notified by the school's office once this fee has been assessed.

Our Volunteers are Back to School, Too!!!

We want to thank all the moms and dads who take time out of their busy schedules to help at our monthly functions. Many of the same people dedicate their time every month. We couldn't do it without your help.

The PTO is looking for more help with our Hot Lunches! If you haven't signed up to volunteer but would like to, please call the office to get the phone number of the correct committee person. We appreciate any help you can give us.

Open House Setup

Cindy Murray, Maureen Scumaci, Jennifer Macie, Mary Kasper, Dawn Bailye Jennifer Jesionowski, Michelle Bolek, Kitty DeVries, Tracie Vilimek

Open House

Cindy Murray, Anne Kashanitz, Pam Zufan, Lori Clay, Dawn Bailye, Jennifer Macie, Kelly Vassalla, Janell Saunders, Mary Kasper, Maureen Scumaci, Alex Gajda, Jen Iannantone, Kitty DeVries, Beth DeYoung, Dawn Nagle, Laura Lisak, Tina Papoulias, Andrea Jacobs-Melville, Therese Cafagna, Tracie Vilimek, Hamda Yasin, Jan Lynch, Camille Vopelak, Helen Zentefis, Sue Kramek, Karen Vranicar, Molly McGuire-Duran, Michelle Bolek

Kindergarten Round up

Dawn Bailye, Jennifer Macie, Roman Macie, Mary Kasper, Cindy Murray, Michelle Bolek, Maureen Scumaci, Olivia Kasper

Hot Dog Day

George Winistorfor, Oula Dweik, Kim Marino, Pamela Zufan, Jennifer Macie, Mary Kasper, Staci DeKerf, Nabeela Sweis, Dawn Nagel, Melissa Marion, Veronica DeLaMora, Karen Vranicar, Manal Zegar, Marcia Rivera, Megan Zumpano, Amber Otway, Jen Iannantone, Alex Gajda, Kitty DeVries, and Jenny Jesionowski Thank you for volunteering your time; it's greatly appreciated!

Pop

Welcome back everyone and thank you to Molly McGuire-Duran, Tino Duran, Jen Poupa, and Jamie Mihalovich for being here for the first lunch of the year

Attention All Volunteers

Just a few reminders:

If you are unable to help out on your scheduled day, please contact the committee chairperson and let them know so that they may be able to find a replacement.

For the safety of our children, parents are asked NOT to visit their child's classroom during Hot Lunches or any other PTO events. If you need to speak to your child, you may contact them through the office.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



P.T.O. SIGN-UP **Parent/Teacher** **Organization**

WHAT DOES THE PTO DO?

Contribute financially to:

- **Supplies for Learning Center
- **Assignment notebooks
- **Books for the classrooms
- **Assemblies throughout the year
 - **End of the Year Pizza Party
- **Recess equipment
- **Educational materials throughout the school
 - **Partial contribution to classroom holiday parties
 - **Reimbursement to teachers who purchase items for their classrooms
- **Prizes to top 3 classrooms that win our PTO Membership Drive
- **Donation to Andrew scholarship
- **Money toward field trips for all grade levels
 - **5th Grade Field trip; t-shirts, transportation and pays a portion of the food
- **POP's awards

AND SO MUCH MORE!!!!

AND WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!!

When you join the PTO, your \$3.00 helps pay for all of this! In addition, you will receive a handy refrigerator magnet showing all the school days, holidays, vacations, hot lunches, market days, and early dismissals!!

If you haven't already, please make sure you sign up for the PTO. It's easy - simply send \$3.00 in an envelope **CLEARLY MARKED: PTO MEMBERSHIP** with the full names and class number of all your children. We'll take care of the rest.

