



Columbus Elementary STARS



Dear Parents,

We are very excited to launch our Columbus STARS initiative this year. The STARS initiative specifically emphasizes behaviors that are **Responsible, Respectful, and Safe** in the school environment. Students will continue to earn warm fuzzies when they demonstrate STAR behavior throughout the school building.

Mrs. Connie Cotrone, our School Counselor, and Mrs. Ilana Cohen, our School Psychologist, have been working with students on ways to be **Responsible, Respectful and Safe** in the cafeteria, hallways, bathrooms, and on the playground. Expectations for these behaviors have been clearly defined through modeling, posting visuals in the hallways, round robin assemblies and videos, which will be streamed into classes.

When students demonstrate STAR behaviors in the classroom, cafeteria, hallway and/or playground they may be recognized by receiving a warm fuzzy in their class jars. Warm fuzzies will be tallied at the end of each month and the classes who have earned the most in each grade level will have a special celebration for their accomplishments.

The purpose of the STAR initiative is to encourage children to behave in ways that help them become positive contributors to our school community. By rewarding their efforts, we hope to shape their behaviors by emphasizing the importance of contributing to a **Responsible, Respectful, and Safe** building-wide culture.

In October, we are launching the Columbus STARS initiative on our buses. Bus drills are occurring throughout September and will reinforce **Responsible, Respectful and Safe** behavior while riding to and from school daily. A monthly bus winner will be chosen and specific “students of the month” will be selected per grade level as well.

We have also posted information on our website regarding our **COLORED IN CHARACTER** school spirit days. Each month a special day and color will be devoted to celebrating the monthly character theme. We hope your children can join us by dressing in the respective color to signify that we are all united in understanding the importance of demonstrating high moral character at all times. The monthly theme for September is **RESPECT**.

We are asking you to partner with us to help support these efforts by discussing the importance of **Responsible, Respectful and Safe** behaviors at home. Using a common language at home and school will help reinforce positive behaviors in various settings. Thank you very much for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Michael Cunzio
Principal

Theresa Outhouse
Assistant Principal