



Liberty Newsletter

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

Principal's Message



September 2018

Liberty Elementary School

142 Lake Rd.
Valley Cottage, NY 10989

Phone: 845-353-7240
Fax: 845-353-7243

Monthly Highlights

- Sept. 3 Labor Day
- Sept. 4 Supt. Conf. Day
- Sept. 5 1st Day of School
- Sept. 12 PTA Mtg. -7pm
- Sept. 27 Back to School Night—7pm

Dear Liberty Families,

We have had a great beginning to the 2018-2019 school year. Thank you for helping make it a smooth start. We are enjoying your children so much!

I would like to share with you a few reminders about arrival and dismissal. Our instructional day begins at 8:50. If your child arrives after 8:50, they should stop at the office for a late pass. We begin dismissal at 3:15. Walkers are dismissed first and then we dismiss our bus riders as the buses arrive. The students are escorted to their buses by a staff member. At 3:25, our car riders are escorted out to sidewalk by the large traffic circle. Please follow the directions of Mr. Brian Gallagher, our Security Guard. You can pull up to the curb, your child will be brought to your car by a staff member. It is not necessary to park as we need to serve as many cars as possible in a short period of time. Thank you for helping keep your children safe at all times.

+++++++If you have a change of dismissal plans for your child, please send a note to your child's teacher. Please do not leave these kinds of messages on voicemail or email. The office will accept messages in case of sudden emergencies.

It is very important if you change your address or phone numbers to alert the school office. In the event of illness or an early dismissal, we must be able to contact you. We appreciate your cooperation with this.

We also ask parents or guardians to call our school nurse, Mrs. Kathleen Fredericks if your child is absent. Her direct phone number is 353-7250.

We look forward to seeing you at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 27th from 7:00-8:30pm. We are looking forward to a wonderful year!!!

Sincerely yours,

Ellen M. Rechenberger
Principal

Daily Events

- Sept. 10-11 Rosh Hashanah—
School Closed
- Sept. 14 Movie Night—
6:30pm
- Sept. 19 Yom Kippur—
School Closed
- Sept. 22 Back to School
Social—11am-
2pm
- Sept. 26-28 Scholastic
Book Fair



From our School Social Worker:

Welcome to the new school year! I am looking forward to seeing everyone and meeting new faces. If you ever have any concerns or questions about your child's social-emotional well-being please feel free to contact me.

Below are a few tips to help your child succeed at school:

Research shows that students tend to earn higher grades, have better attendance, are more motivated and less likely to drop out when their families are involved in their education.

Here are four tips for what families can do outside the classroom to help their child succeed:

- Establish a realistic schedule for your family: Most of us work best when we have a routine and that holds true for children. Start by prioritizing what really matters and what is less important.
- Develop a "partnership" with your child's teacher.
- Have positive conversations with your children about their performance: No one has a greater influence on the beliefs, attitudes, and accomplishments of your child than you!
- Respond to your child's concerns: Seek additional information without jumping to conclusions and validate your child's concerns.

Through active engagement in our children's school experiences, as a role model and a participant, we can help ensure there is joy in their learning and pride in their accomplishments.

Best wishes for a wonderful school year ahead!

Enisa Nikocecic, LMSW
845-353-7252
Email: enikocecic@nyackschools.org

From the Psychologist :

What do School Psychologists do?

School psychologists help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. They collaborate with educators, parents, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community for all students.

School Psychologists Work With Students to:

- Provide counseling, instruction, and mentoring for those struggling with social, emotional, and behavioral problems
 - Increase achievement by assessing barriers to learning and determining the best instructional strategies to improve learning
 - Promote wellness and resilience by reinforcing communication and social skills, problem solving, anger management, self-regulation, self-determination, and optimism
- Enhance understanding and acceptance of diverse cultures and backgrounds

School Psychologists Work With Students and Their Families to:

- Identify and address learning and behavior problems that interfere with school success
 - Evaluate eligibility for special education services (within a multidisciplinary team)
 - Support students' social, emotional, and behavioral health
- Enhance home-school collaboration

School Psychologists Work With Teachers to:

- Design and implement academic and behavioral interventions
 - Create positive classroom environments
- Motivate all students to engage in learning

School Psychologists Work With Administrators to:

- Implement school-wide prevention programs that help maintain positive school climates conducive to learning
 - Promote school policies and practices that ensure the safety of all students by reducing school violence, bullying, and harassment
- Respond to crises by providing leadership, direct services, and coordination with needed community services

Pia Weston, Ed-M., NCSP

Notes from the Nurse:

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and safe summer.

Please let me know if there have been any changes in your child's health status; including new allergies.

A reminder to all parent/guardians: If your child will be absent from school for **any reason**, please call the Nurse's Office (353-7250) and leave a message. Messages can be left around the clock. Your message should include your child's name, the teacher's name, the date and reason for the absence. This telephone communication is also a safety check.

Please be advised that all NEW students, as well as students in grades K, 1, 3, & 5 are required to submit a current physical exam this year. An exam is considered current if it was performed on or after 11/1/17. Thank you to those of you who have already sent them in.

If your child needs to take **any** medication in school for any reason (including over the counter remedies), it is a NYS requirement to submit an **order from the doctor** before any medication can be administered in the school setting.

Please remember to keep your contact information on the district site up to date so that we can get in touch with you in case of an emergency.

Please also remember that lice are always in season. Take steps to minimize the risk of contracting them by being proactive. Perform routine lice checks at home. Students should be reminded to never share their combs, brushes, hats, caps etc. Also, wearing hair off the shoulders is an effective way to prevent lice.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call or stop by the Health Office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Kathleen Fredericks, RN
Liberty School Nurse



Kathleen Fredericks
845-353-7250