



Liberty Newsletter

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

Principal's Message



May 2018

Liberty Elementary School

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Dear Liberty Families,

It is amazing that the month of May is here! We have a lot of important events happening at Liberty. Our third, fourth and fifth grade students will be taking the NYS Assessments in Math on May 1-2. Our dedicated teachers have worked hard with our students to help them be successful. Our students have been working very hard as well.

We celebrated our wonderful secretaries, Mrs. Rochford, Mrs. Niksa and Mrs. Bausinger on Thursday, April 26th. They were honored with gifts, poems and songs by our students at Morning Program.

Thank you to Ms. Tina Guarasci and her committee for all their hard work on the Talent Show. It was a fantastic evening enjoyed by many of our families.

Ms. Horan has planned a wonderful Field Day for our students and staff on Friday, May 4th (raindate: May 11th). It will be a wonderful day of fun!

We will be honoring our school nurse, Mrs. Kathleen Fredericks at Morning Program on May 11th for Nurses' Day. She is an important member of our Liberty Family!

Spring Concert season is upon us! On May 21 at 9:30am, our third graders will be performing at Liberty. Our fourth and fifth graders will be performing on June 6th at 7pm at the High school. Our first and second graders will be performing on June 14th at 9:30 at Liberty.

We are also looking forward to our school dance on Friday, May 18 from 7pm to 9pm. Please join us for a fun filled evening for our students and their families.

PLEASE NOTE: NO SCHOOL on Monday, May 28th-Memorial Day.

Best wishes for a Happy Mother's Day to all our Liberty Moms! We always appreciate your efforts to make Liberty a special place to be!

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ellen M. Rechenberger
Principal

Monthly Highlights

- May 1 School Bd. Mtg. - (HS 7:30pm)
- May 2 PTA Mtg. - 7pm
- May 15 Budget/Trustee Vote
School Bd. Mtg. - (H 7:30pm)
- May 21 Gr. 3 Concert - (9:30am)
- May 22 All schools will dismiss 10 mins. Early
- May 28 Memorial Day - School Closed

Daily Events

- May 1-2 Gr. 3-5-NYS Math Assess.
- May 4 Field Day
5th Gr. Dance- 7pm
- May 8 Staff Luncheon
- May 9-10 Mother's Day Plant Sale
- May 18 School Dance- 7pm
- May 23-25 Gr. 4-NYS Science Exams

From our School Social Worker:

The Family/School Relationship

Children grow and thrive when they are in dependable relationships that provide love, security and support. We want both you and your children to feel safe, accepted and valued at our school. We want you to feel a sense of belonging to our community.

Therefore, it is important you communicate openly with school staff and keep them informed of current events at home. It is equally essential that we regularly share with you the details of your child's daily life at school. We have the chance to create and establish relationships with each other every day by doing just that. Other ways you could build relationships with your school community include:

- Listen. Work with school staff and your child's teacher to build and maintain a trusting, open and honest relationship. Keep the lines of communication open and listen to each other's perspectives and expertise. Participate in your child's classroom activities. Go on a class field trip, share a special interest or talent, or help out in your child's class whenever you can.
- Offer to share what you do professionally and lend your "tools of the trade" with your child's class to explore. Even though you may think that your job is not very interesting, children will be fascinated. Whether you are an assistant, a nurse, a postal worker or a mechanic, children will be very interested in what you do and in the tools and equipment you use to do your job.
- Get to know your child's teachers as well as the other children and families around you. Network with other parents to form carpooling groups or to swap recipes. Share your childrearing experiences and advice with each other. Another parent may be able to empathize with you and offer support.

Becoming involved will benefit your child. We invite you to establish relationships and become an active member of your school community.

Enisa Nikocevic, LMSW, CASAC-T
School Social Worker

From the Psychologist :

Motivating Learning in Young Children

Young children learn from everything they do. They are naturally curious; they want to explore and discover. If their explorations bring pleasure or success, they will want to learn more. During these early years, children form attitudes about learning that will last a lifetime. Children who receive the right sort of support and encouragement during these years will be creative, adventurous learners throughout their lives. For parents of young children, the goal should be to appropriately support the development of motivation so that there is a proper foundation for optimal educational growth. Parents should be very cautious about the use of many extrinsic rewards, as this can severely interfere with the child's motivational development. Praise for an accomplishment is appropriate, but be sure that your child is doing a task because she is interested, not because she thinks it will bring praise from you. There are several strategies parents can use to help children remain more fully intrinsically motivated:

- Allow children ample time when working to allow for persistence. When children are deeply involved with an activity, make sure that they can finish without interruption. Resist the natural urge to "help," and let the child know if, for example, we have to go to the grocery store in a few minutes.
- Respond to children's needs in a consistent, predictable manner, but allow them to be as independent as possible.
- Provide many opportunities for children and adults to explore together and interact directly. It is important for both children and adults to be working together on an activity. This lets you observe, model, and encourage your child.
- Provide situations that give children an acceptable challenge. Activities that are slightly difficult for the child will be more motivating and provide for stronger feelings of success when accomplished. This may take some trial and error at first.
- Give children opportunities to evaluate their own accomplishments. Rather than stating that you think they have done a good job, ask them what they think of their work. You'll never go wrong by asking the question, "What do YOU think?"

Do not use excessive rewards. They tend to undermine children's ability to value themselves. Praise and rewards should be based upon children's effort and persistence, rather than on the actual accomplishment.

Pia Weston, Ed-M., NCSP

Notes from the Nurse:

Spring has finally arrived and with it comes **allergies**. Please fill out an Allergy or Asthma Action Plan for your child – these forms are available on the Liberty School website under Nurse's Notes. List the allergy, triggers and medications. Talk to your pediatrician about the best daily management for your child's symptoms.

Please remember that if your child needs to take any medication in school for any reason (including OTC medication for allergies), we must have a note from the doctor and the parent in order to administer it. Parents, please deliver the medication to school in its original container. If your child suffers from **asthma**, please be sure to send in his/her inhaler or nebulizer solution with a doctor's order. We want to be able to help your child in the event that an emergency arises.

Children who will be entering grades K, 1, 3 and 5 next September will need to submit a physical exam for the 2018-2019 school year. A physical exam dated on or after November 1, 2017 is considered valid for the upcoming school year.

If your daytime phone number or emergency contact person has changed, *please* be sure to give us an update.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Kathleen Fredericks
Liberty School Nurse



Kathleen Fredericks
845-353-7250