



Open Classroom Community News



Co-oper Challenge:

Teach by example and attitude. As parents we've heard it a thousand times or more... "our actions (examples) speak louder than our words." You may have also heard that the attitude of a parent sets the tone or the attitude in the home. Both of these truisms translate nicely to the classroom. As co-ops our examples and attitudes will be seen, felt, and emulated by the students in our classes. We expect kids to be engaged and excited about being in school. How do you show you are excited to be there and engaged in learning as well? Here are a few tips for modeling the behavior we hope to see in kid learners. We challenge you to consider these and any others you feel are important as you co-op during the next few weeks. Ask yourself, "are my behavior and attitude worthy of imitation?"

- Participate happily in whatever activity in which the kids are supposed to be participating. That means; when it's circle time - co-ops are sitting in circle, when it's recess time - co-ops

are at recess playing, when it's silent reading time - co-ops are silently reading, when it's group instruction time - co-ops are listening attentively, when it's PE time - co-ops are getting some exercise too. You get the idea... if the kids have been instructed to participate in a certain way, that is what we should be doing as well (unless of course the teacher has given a different assignment to a co-oper).

- Show excitement for the activities taking place in the classroom or on the playground. Kids can sense whether or not you think an activity is worthwhile by your facial expressions, tone of voice, and enthusiasm in participation. This means we should; respond quickly when asked to do something, give our full attention to classroom activities by leaving other concerns (phones, food, personal care tasks like applying makeup or trimming nails) out of the classroom, not grumble disapproval under our breath, not snicker quietly about an

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Happy School Library Month from your Library

If you could only use 6 words to write your memoir, what words would you choose?



It's not too late to support our library's **SIX-WORD MEMOIR PROJECT**

It's really simple!

- *Write your story using six words*
- *Bring it to the library*

You can show your artistic side by decorating your page. If you can, write your story with your child at home.

And, remember...

Libraries love passionate, dedicated community members.

(our own little six-word story)

Do you have children's magazines that you don't want anymore? Consider donating them to the library! Publishing date doesn't matter. The kids love their magazine rack.

New School Flag



Our school has a new flag donated by Specialist Marston, Shelly's husband, who is currently deployed in Afghanistan. The

donated flag was flown in a combat zone in Afghanistan. While on leave two weeks ago, Specialist Marston presented the flag to the the kids in room 3 who had written him letters.



The O.C. Rummage Sale

Saturday, April 30th

8 AM -2. PM

You may start bringing your donations to the school right away. All donations should be placed on the stage. There are still some items from the musical up there so please keep donations separate. We welcome donations from anyone- so ask your friends, family, neighbors. **Please only bring items in good condition. One man's junk is another man's treasure, but garbage is always garbage.**

There are labels on the stage for the different categories of items. If you have time, please sort your donations and place them in the appropriate section. That makes setting up so much easier. Also, we need lots of coat hangers and will welcome donations of those as well.

We need volunteers! The sign up sheets for shifts are posted outside the office above the chairs. EARLY Saturday morning, around 6 am, we will need to move everything outside. The more people the better. If you are not afraid to haul, lift and move please come help me.

Cheers, Shari Bridge (Ivy/Phia in Amanda's) sqbridge@hotmail.com

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activity with another co-oper or kid, give our best effort when it's our turn to prepare a class or mini-course and be excited about what we are teaching.

We all have days when our minds and hearts are not in our co-oping duties for various reasons, this is to be expected, but we owe it to our kids and their teachers to put on a smile and a willing attitude when we enter the school. If the kids see through the occasional fake smile, hopefully they will learn from the example of a responsible adult pressing forward in life's duties even when it's not easy. If we keep them fooled - or if we just genuinely enjoy our co-oping time :) - the kids will learn that school is a great place to be and learning is the most important activity they can undertake.

OC Community News

The OCCN is published approximately every two weeks during the school year. Please feel free to submit parent or student announcements, articles, photos, artwork and important dates for the Open Classroom.

Please send any submissions to
oc.communitynews@gmail.com

**Upcoming deadlines are
Mondays, May 9 and 23.**



When:
Friday, April 29, 2011

Where:
Across from the gym

Time:
1:05 p.m.

Go Green & Xeriscape Bake Sale

Please come and support Denise & Erin's class in our service learning project by bringing your sweet tooth to our bake sale. The funds received will help us to xeriscape a portion of the front parking strip for all to enjoy.



**THE ART COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO
INVITE ONE AND ALL TO THE ANNUAL**

Open Classroom
ARTstroll

June 3rd

Each child is encouraged to create a display of all the Art they have created, over the school year (and also anything they have created at home) to contribute to the display in their classroom Gallery, which they will design.

Each classroom will set-up their Gallery to be viewed during the

Art Stroll from 5-9 pm. Also on the schedule, for that night, is our Talent Show and SILENT auction! Classrooms go wild creating the theme baskets to donate.

**PLEASE JOIN US
FOR A FUN NIGHT
AND A GREAT
CAUSE!**