



Just the Facts

Dwight-Englewood Lower School

October 8, 2021

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

11 Monday 1st Grade Parent Forum – 8:30 a.m. under the big tent on Leggett Field

UPCOMING...

18 Monday Professional Day – No Classes

19 Tuesday 2nd Grade Parent Forum – 8:30 a.m. under the big tent on Leggett Field

20 Wednesday 3rd Grade Parent Forum – 8:30 a.m. under the big tent on Leggett Field

21 Thursday 4th Grade Parent Forum – 8:30 a.m. under the big tent on Leggett Field

26 Tuesday Preschool 3 Parent Forum - 8:30 am under the big tent on Leggett Field

29 Friday Project L.E.A.D. – See information letter attached

LS NOTES

The bi-weekly LS Notes communication will be issued this evening. Please be on the lookout for articles from the school psychologist, our early childhood science teacher, and the kindergarten team.

PARENT FORUMS

Each fall, the Parents' Association and LS Administration host a Parent Forum for each grade level. The agenda for each forum includes an introduction from the PA leaders and LS Admin, a short 15 minute presentation led by the grade-level teachers, and a welcome from Dr. Gene Batiste (Assistant Head of School for Engagement). This is a wonderful in-person opportunity to meet the leadership team, as well as see each other!

CHORUS- Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade

We are pleased to offer our wonderful Lower School Chorus, led by Middle School and Upper School Music Teachers, Jake Lloyd and Ken Kacmar. It will be held on Thursdays and begin Thursday, October 14 for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. Chorus will be held in the Klein Campus Center in a large room which allows us to socially distance and maintain COVID protocols. In order to maintain appropriate distances, enrollment is limited so we encourage you to sign up promptly. Chorus runs from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m., and students should be picked up in front of Umpleby Building at 4:15. When picking

students up, enter the main entrance at 81 Lincoln Street and the guard will direct you to Umpleby. There is no fee for Chorus, but please note students who are not picked up will be supervised in Umpleby by our ACE (Aftercare and Enrichment) program, where a fee is applied. Please email Dorothy Bryan at bryand@d-e.org if you are interested.

LIBRARY BOOK RETURN

Ms. Holly Goldberg has sent home overdue library slips for missing books from the 2019-2020 school year. Please do your best to locate these books and return them if found. If not, no need to be concerned, you can email Holly Goldberg at goldbh@d-e.org.

MESSAGE FROM AFTERCARE/ENRICHMENT (ACE)

Our DE360° Specialty Activities and Enrichment classes begin on Monday, October 11. Children may join us to enjoy everything from Cooking Classes on Mondays to Gardening on Wednesdays and the Artists Studio on Friday in the "Clubhouse." We've also partnered with fantastic experts in athletics (Fencing, Lax/Hockey, Running, Soccer, and Tennis), Chess, Coding, Graphic Arts, Theatre and French to offer outstanding skills-building at all levels - beginner, intermediate and advanced - in those specialized areas. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

We're also offering Discovery Day Adventures when school is not in session. The October 18th trip to Abma's Farm is full. Registration is now open and available for our next trip on Friday, November 5 to Tenafly Nature Center where the children will make apple cider, go on nature hikes and meet the great raptors of TNC. Click [here](#) for details and registration.

Note: Fees apply for all DE360° Offerings.



October 8, 2021

Dear Families,

On Friday, October 29, 2021 the Lower School will participate in a project called Literary Exploration & Adventure Day (L.E.A.D.). On this day, we invite students and faculty to come to school dressed as their favorite literary character or author. As you can imagine, the possibilities for this activity are endless.

From the earliest moments students enter Dwight-Englewood as preschoolers, they are immersed in literature through storytelling, read alouds, and other interactive work. As they progress through the Lower School, students learn to think more deeply about the characters in their books, to step into the shoes of these characters, to empathize with them, and to anticipate how the characters will act as well. Project L.E.A.D. will joyfully reinforce these ideals as students physically and dramatically immerse themselves in beloved literary characters.

The goals of Project L.E.A.D. are to:

- further foster and encourage a love of reading in our students
- provide yet another opportunity for students to engage their creativity
- spark new interest in books, characters and authors
- satisfy out students' desire to express themselves
- serve as a “kick-off” for the November Book Fair

Although many will be dressed in character, our school day will operate on a normal schedule. The presence of so many varied characters and authors will enhance our instructional time, and it will also provide a springboard for student conversation during lunch and recess time. Please see the reverse side for more specific details about this very special day and help our students to “L.E.A.D. by example...”.

Preeti Fibiger
Lower School Principal

LITERARY EXPLORATION & ADVENTURE DAY

Here are some guidelines to help your child make the most of Project L.E.A.D.

Early Childhood (Preschool 3, Preschool 4, Kindergarten)

- The students in the Early Childhood grades will receive more information about the book that they will read as a class.

Grade 1 through Grade 5

- Talk with your child about favorite books, characters or authors.
- Help your child brainstorm ways they can look like or symbolize their chosen character.
- Some book characters represent themes that may be difficult to understand given the broad age range and interest level for this assembly. Thank you for encouraging your child to avoid characters that are frightening or those that represent negative stereotypes.
- Costumes do not need to be elaborate. There are many simple ways to represent a character, including carrying a prop, drawing pictures and/or wearing small signs or labels that help others easily recognize the character.
- Students are asked to be mindful of the school dress code when planning their attire for the day.
- Students must be able to manage their own costumes for the day (i.e. large, ornate costumes will interfere with a student's ability to attend to lessons during the day).
- Project L.E.A.D. is for students and faculty only. Photos will be shared via Lower School Notes.

