OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Maconce Elementary

6300 Church Rd., Ira, MI 48023

http://www.anchorbay.misd.net. (586)725-0284

Jay Seletsky, Principal

Mission Statement

Maconce Elementary School, in partnership with the community, will provide a learning environment by delivering quality instruction that promotes curiosity, creativity and the desire in students to reach their full potential.

We're off to a great start! Thank you for your continued support as we navigate the challenges of both face to face and virtual learning during this unusual 2020 School year

Spirit Week of "Paws"itivity October 19th-23rd

Safari Monday

Wear your wild animal prints.

Tie Dye Tuesday

Pull out those classic Tie Dye shirts, pants, headbands etc.

Super Hero Wednesday

Wear your favorite Marvel Costume or other Super Hero costume.

Hawaiian Thursday

Get out those hula skirts, Hawaiian shirts and lei's! Aloha.

Rodeo Friday

Dig out your boots and hat ya'll! Let's two step it into the week end!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FOR PARENTS

If your family lives in any of the following situations, contact the office we can possibly provide resources and support.

- Doubled up with friends or relatives because you cannot find or afford housing
- In a shelter, motel, vehicle or campground
- On the street
- In an abandoned trailer, building or other inadequate accommodations

As many of you are aware, our PTO president, Stephanie Richards has moved on to the Middle School, our secretary, Laura Prater, has also relocated and we had an untimely end of the school year. Also, following the Safe at School Guidelines, many activities such as assemblies, field trips and large events cannot take place at this time. In the future, we will plan together to create a new "Bear Council" where parents, grandparents, teachers and volunteers can sign up for a committee based activity that they would like to help with. The Bear Council will give parents the opportunity to volunteer when their own personal schedule will allow without taxing the same parents at each and every event. Our staff looks forward to developing this committee with our school community! We want to share a very special THANK YOU to Mrs. Richards for all her years of hard work and dedication! We also appreciate all the hard work and dedication of Mrs. Wuchte and Mrs. Clark and hope that they will continue to add their support with the Bear Council when we can restart events, fundraising and fieldtrips ♥

School Messenger

We checked the reports that are issued by "School Messenger" and found that many of the text messages (SMS) were being reported as BLOCKED. This means that when you received a text message from School Messenger (number: 67587) during the initial set up, no response was sent back. School Messenger assumes that you DO NOT want text messages if they do not receive a response.

To correct this, please do the following: **If you would like to receive text messages from Anchor Bay School District, send a text message to (67587) with the words "opt in" or "subscribe" as the message.** If you are already receiving text message from Anchor Bay School District no further action is required. For more information, you can visit
https://www.schoolmessenger.com/txt

EARLY ARRIVALS

Students who arrive before 9:06 a.m. have no supervision and are not allowed inside the building prior to this time. School begins at 9:13 a.m**. If you arrive too early, please wait with your child until the building opens at 9:06 a.m. We appreciate your support.**

Student Entry A.M. Kindergarten Door#7 1st & 2nd Door#8 3rd and 4th Door#1 and 5th Door#2

End of the Day Arrangements

After School arrangements for your child, such as: going to a classmate's house, leaving with someone else, being picked up instead of getting on the bus or getting on the bus instead of getting picked up **NEED TO BE TAKEN CARE OF IN ADVANCE. Please provide a note for your child's teacher whenever end of the day plans change.**

Try not to call the office to give children directions. This can be very confusing to your child, especially younger students. Certainly emergency situations occur, we understand that. The office is a very busy place , your child's Safety is always first.

Permission to ride another bus to a friends will not be allowed on half days **without prior consent from transportation. There is a half day on November 6th please plan ahead.

Parent Pick ups—Please use door #8. Be here on time 2:45 p.m. All students K-4 will meet you there at dismissal. Students K-4 that ride the bus dismiss out Door #1, please do not take your child out of a bus line without letting an adult know.

5th Grade dismiss from Door#2.

PreK(GSRP) dismiss from Door#2-Please make arrangements for early pick up directly with them. (586) 648 – 2500 ext 1413.

Remember—There is "No Parking" in the drop off/pick up area in front of the school at anytime of the day. Please use the parking lot spaces available in the front lot. Thank you.

Dress for the Weather and Outdoor Activity

Make sure your child dresses for the weather ***every day***.

We go outside ***every day*** for recess, unless it is raining, the wind-chill is below 16° or the wind speed is above 26 mph. Fall weather is unpredictable, warm one day and cold the next. Just a couple of reminders:

Flip flops/open toe sandals may not be a safe choice of footwear for the playground equipment or the woodchip areas.

It is easier for a child to take off a hat, jacket, or gloves than to try and stay warm without them.

Cell Phones/Electronic Communication Devices

The district recognizes that cell phones have become a part of daily life. Many students have them, however, we would discourage students from bringing them to school. In the event that students are instructed by parents to bring them, they must be turned off and stored in lockers during the day. The district assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, damage or vandalism to wireless communication devise brought onto district property.

Cell Phone Violation

Since use of such devise can contribute to disruptions and student misbehavior, students whose cell phones go off in class or who use cell phones or electronic communication devices with or without a camera or video capability will be subject to the following consequences:

- 1st offense-warning, parent contact
- 2nd offense-lunch detention
- 3rd offense-two lunch detentions
- 4th offense-one day suspension
- 5th offense-two day suspension
- 6th offense-3 day suspension

Helping Hands

Maconce families are welcome to participate in the weekend backpack program. Let us know if you are in need of this service, by contacting the school office. Your child would come home with food packs every Friday in their backpack. The program is handled with confidentiality and care with the help of the Woods Church, the AB Community and our Friday Volunteers.

The New Baltimore Goodfellows are now accepting applications for their "No Child without a Christmas" program. Gifts are given to children ages birth through age 15.

Applications are available in all school offices and on our web page, I have attached one with this newsletter. Please be sure to have your information completed and all necessary paperwork with your referral form.

If your family receives help during the holiday, we ask you not to use more than one organization. Shop with a Cop is considered to be one of these other organizations. Please be mindful of how many families need help every year. Thank you.

YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY IS IMPORTANT TO US!

If your child will not be in school, or will be arriving late it is very important that you contact the office. Our answering machine is on when we are not in the building. (586) 725-0284.

Your child's absence will be unexcused without a phone call-we encourage you to send a medical note when possible.

Keep your Emergency cards up to date with accurate phone numbers and contacts. Your child's care is your responsibility and their safety is important to our staff.

ATTENDANCE

Please emphasize to your children the importance of being in school, as daily attendance is essential in order for a student to benefit from his/her educational experience. If a student is not in school on a regular basis, it is not possible for maximum learning to occur. Excessive tardiness are a concern because important announcements and classroom instructions are given at the beginning of the day. Good attendance patterns, which include punctuality, are developed at an early age. They must be emphasized in kindergarten and reaffirmed at every grade level. It is the responsibility of the parent to instill in his/her child the importance of attending school. All students in the Anchor Bay School District are expected to be in school on a regular day-to-day basis. Absences should occur only for legitimate, excusable reasons, generally illness. It is the responsibility of school personnel, according to the State of Michigan Compulsory School Attendance Law, to monitor all students' attendance. Parents will be notified in writing, following the seventh, fourteenth and twentieth absence/tardy accumulated within a school year. Excessive absences must be reported to the Macomb County Independent School District Attendance Office.

According to the Michigan Compulsory Attendance Law students are expected to be in school except in cases of emergency or for the following reasons:

Personal illness – The school may require verification by a doctor.

Illness in the family – Work with your child's teacher to keep schoolwork current.

Death of a relative – Absence arising from a family death. Please notify your child's teacher should you feel your child might need support when they return to school.

Religious holiday – Children will be excused from class if the absence is for the purpose of observing a religious holiday that is part of the child's creed or belief.

Medical Appointments – Parents are encouraged to schedule doctor and dentist appointments after school. Recognizing that this is not always possible, students will be allowed five (5) one hour windows at the beginning or end of the day for necessary doctor/dentist appointments. These absences will not be charged if the parent/guardian submits a medical statement or receipt from the doctor. Over five hours will result in a half-day absence for each occurrence over 30 minutes.

Tardiness – Punctuality is a lifetime habit that students should develop. Students are expected to arrive on time each day and be prepared to learn. If a student is late in arriving to school, he/she must report to the office and check in. Elementary students late to school will be recorded as "tardy" for the first thirty (30) minutes of the day. Reporting more than thirty minutes late to school or leaving 30 minutes prior to dismissal will result in one-half day absence.

Important Halloween Information related to school on Friday, October 30th

Students may wear their costumes to school. Please follow the dress code, nothing too short, or inappropriate. Nothing scary, violent, or offensive. Weapons and inappropriate attire will not be allowed. Also, NO hair paint/spray or face paint/make up.

Students need to be comfortable, able to use the restroom and participate in school activities. Please keep this in mind when selecting the costume for school.

Please leave accessories to the costume at home. We do not want anyone to be unhappy on Halloween with lost or broken items.

Obviously activities are very different this year, volunteers are not allowed in the building and there will not be a parade.

No outside food or candy is allowed to be brought in to the school.

We felt this was the best option to keep our focus on education and have fun too!

Student Birthdays-

We are looking at alternative ways to celebrate classroom birthdays. But for right now, no outside food or treats are allowed. Thank you.

It All drains to Our Lakes and Rivers

Storm drains and roadside ditches lead to our lakes and rivers. So, any oil, pet waste, leaves or dirty water from washing your car enters a storm drain gets into our lakes and rivers without being treated. With almost five million people living in Southeast Michigan, we all need to be aware of what goes into our storm drains. How can you help? Simple.

1. **Sweep it**. Do you have extra fertilizer, grass clipping or dirt on your driveway or sidewalk? Sweep it back onto your lawn. Hosing your driveway sends these pollutants into storm drains that lead directly to our lakes and rivers.
2. **Keep it clean.** Whether in the street or in your yard, remember to keep leaves, grass clippings, trash and fertilizers away from storm drains.
3. **Only rain in the drain**. Never dump motor oil, chemicals, pet waste, dirty or soapy water, or anything else down the storm drain. All of these materials pollute our lakes and rivers.
4. **Label it**. Volunteer to label the storm drains in your neighborhood to inform residents that storm drains flow directly to our lakes and rivers. Call your local community for more information on storm drain stenciling programs.

Student Breakfast and Lunch Information

Breakfast and lunch are available for all students in grades K-5. Free/reduced lunch applications are available online (visit https://www.lunchapp.com/ to apply) or in the school office.

Each student is entitled to one FREE Breakfast and one FREE Lunch per day through December 20th.

IF you receive benefits, please make sure you still fill out a Free/Reduced Lunch application so your benefit will continue once we come back from winter break. VIRTUAL STUDENTS can still get breakfast and lunch. Boxes can be picked up at MacDonald on County Line Road #5 on Monday's for the week.

Parent -Teacher Conference Information

More information regarding parent teacher conferences will be coming home soon. The end of the card marking is Friday, November 6th. Conferences will be virtual or by phone.

Records Day

Friday, November 6th

Half Day for ALL Students.

11:48 am. Dismissal

Students will NOT be allowed to ride a bus (not their own) home with a friend. Please plan ahead.

No School on November 3rd for Students.

Nov. 6th Picture Day AM only

Virtual Students 12:30 p.m.

November 8th Half Day – Records Day
11:48 A.M. Dismissal

Watch for information on the Woods Church sponsored Fall Festival coming up. It will include Hay Rides, Magic Show and Costumes. Free to Maconce Pre K- 5th Grade Families. Limited Space. All Outside. No Restrooms available – building closed.

NEW BALTIMORE GOODFELLOWS

P.O. Box 82 ● New Baltimore, Michigan ● 48047

September 25, 2020

The New Baltimore Goodfellows is now accepting applications for their "No Child Without a Christmas" program. Gifts are given to children birth through age 15.

Applications are available from any Anchor Bay School, and the New Baltimore City office. Completed applications can be returned to either of the above locations, or mailed directly to New Baltimore Goodfellows PO Box 82 New Baltimore MI 48047. You can also email completed application to dtinnette@yahoo.com.

Applications must include all required information

- Proof of Anchor Bay School District Residency
  - Examples: copy of a current driver's license or a utility bill
- Signed application by a Parent or Guardian
- A VALID phone number must be on the application
  - Phone number is necessary to notify you of the date you will receive the gift
- A copy of the Birth Certificate for each child is required
- Proof of Income for the family is required
  - An example is a copy of a current Bridge Card

NEW BALTIMORE GOODFELLOWS

P.O. Box 82 ● New Baltimore, Michigan ● 48047

PLEASE COMPLETE EACH SECTION OF THE ENTIRE APPLICATION

- Please Print –

Mother: First Name Last Name

Address City/State/Zip

Father: First Name Last Name

Address City/State/Zip

Attach copies of Proof of Income, Copies of Driver's License with Current Address And Birth Certificate for All Children

-List the Actual Age of Each Child-

No. Age Boy Last Name/First Name	No. Age Girl Last Name/First Name
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.

Parent/Guardian Signature Print Name Phone Number Date

Toys for Tots Signature Date:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Approved Disapproved (Reason)

Notified By Date