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Principal's Desk

Old Donation Center



Oct. /Nov. 2009

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ODC is off to a great start for the 2009-2010 school year! We are so proud of all of our Eagles who have "Caught the Energy" and are into their routines and are flying high. From the first day of school, everyone has been working hard and doing his or her best.



The Fire Marshal came by ODC the other day and declared our school primarily safe. However, the FIRE LANE on the side of the school must be marked more prominently. This lane will continue to be used as the pick-up lane, but drivers must remain in their cars or they are subject to being ticketed. This applies to the afternoon parent pick-up line. Please remain in your car until the children are brought to you. If you need to come in the building, you should park in a designated parking place. THANK YOU!



LOST AND FOUND is in the cafeteria. Putting names in jackets, on lunchboxes, and water bottles will help keep this pile to a minimum!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tues, Nov 3: No school/Conferences
Wed, Nov 11: Veteran's Day/Closed
Wed, Nov 25: 12:00 Dismissal/No Art or Dance Classes
Thurs/Fri: Nov 26 & 27/Thanksgiving School Closed



Habits of Mind

By Arthur I. Costa

"Habits of Mind" are the characteristics of what intelligent people do when they are confronted with problems, the resolutions of which are not immediately apparent. (Costa)

If you hear your children mention "the Habits," they are most likely referring to the Habits of Mind. We are utilizing this philosophy at ODC. There are many habits in the Habits of Mind program; not to be confused with Stephen Covey's Seven Effective Habits. Teaching children how to think, collaborate, solve problems, and get along with others are just a few of the 21st Century skills that are expected of young adults in the workplace. The first three habits are:



Persistence: Stick to it! Persevering in a task through to completion; remaining focused; looking for ways to reach your goal when stuck; and not giving up.



Managing Impulsivity: TAKE YOUR TIME! Thinking before acting; remaining calm, thoughtful and deliberative.



Listening with Empathy and Understanding: Understand others! Devoting mental energy to another person's thoughts and ideas; making an effort to perceive another's point of view and emotions.

Reinforcement of these habits at home can help your children begin to internalize them and help them prepare to become successful adult citizens!