

T.C. Knapp

Month of **November**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This school year at Knapp, we are focusing with our students, teachers and families on having a growth mindset. If you have been in the school, you might have seen growth mindset bulletin boards in the hallways and classrooms.

You might be wondering, what is growth mindset and what does it mean? Simply put, it is the belief that intelligence and ability are not fixed traits or that we are born with only so much of them. Rather, with effort and perseverance all students are capable of academic achievement.

Every day your child will be immersed in the growth mindset in our school. The students will be asked to take educational risks. They will be praised not for their mental quickness or natural intelligence but for approaching the process of learning with grit and determination. And they will grow in ways they never thought possible.

But, here is the thing, the message cannot only come from the principal and the staff. I am writing this letter to ask for your help. How can you help? You can value growth and improvement in your home. Here at Knapp, we believe grading is a valuable data tool for tracking progress and helping devise appropriate instruction, but the most important thing is that we see students grow. For example, if a student goes from a D- to a D+, we have two choices. We can either look at the D+ as an unimpressive D+, or we can celebrate it as an increase in comprehension of skill or concept. I choose the latter. I am not asking you to throw a party, but I am asking you be mindful of where your students start and how they have made progress.

Here are some things you can do to extend and promote growth mindset in your home:

- Encourage your child to take risks and tackle new challenges at school.
- Praise your child for the amount of effort they put into learning a new concept.
- Emphasize perseverance and effort in extracurricular activities. For example, "I am proud of how much effort you put into the basketball game" instead of "I'm proud of how many points you scored."

I hope you will commit to joining the teachers and myself on this growth mindset journey. I believe it will be worth it.

Your Partner in Education, Tricia Self

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Principal: Tricia Self
Secretary: Laurie Essig
Counselor: Melissa Watkins
Psychologist: Ashley Reinhart
Speech: Jennifer Pearce
Speech: Amy Snyder

Teachers

Preschool

Jodi Downerd
Rania Fowler
Kayla Hogue
Lauren Morris

Kindergarten

Courtney Boyd
Laura Keller
Cheryl Miller

1st Grade

Anne Bennett
Daniel Risher
Rachel Taylor

2nd Grade

Stacey Dean
Cara Denbrock
Amy Elson

3rd Grade

Jana Anderson
Tina Carbenia
Cynthia Foens

4th Grade

Kristen Bagnola
Justin Boggs
Alexis Madden

Intervention Specialists

Dawn Frantz
Deanna Hoffer
Alecia Schalmo

Gifted & Talented

Stacy Adams

Title One Instructors

Rosalie DeComo
Lindsay Williams
Michele Williams

Library Tech: Patricia Jacobsen

Computer Tech: Andrea Catazaro

Music: Linda Davis

Art: Julia Davis

P.E.: Ethan Kagy

Our classroom aides, kitchen crew and custodians help in the everyday operations of T.C. Knapp. Way to go Knapp Team!

Fundraiser Information

Thank you so much for taking the time to help your child sell items for our school. The money will support educational initiatives in our school.

The orders will be arriving on Friday, November 3rd. When they arrive, if your child can take the items home on the bus we will send them home with them. If the order is too large, we will be contacting you to pick up the order after school on Friday between 2:30-6:00.

Again, thank you so much for your dedication to our school. It means a lot to myself and the staff to be able to provide extras for our students throughout the year.

Student of the Month for October

Congratulations to our students of the month. They have been wonderful citizens who used their manners, treated other students kindly and believed that effort is the key to achievement.

Kindergarten: Emma Coverdale, Hannah Mayne, Jordan Thompson

First Grade: Olivia Blakeslee, Dylan Mutko, Jayden Petty

Second Grade: Richard Morrow, Mason Perdue, Brookelynn Troyer

Third Grade: Ashley Gale, Kady Schafer, Evan Spurrell

Fourth Grade: Madison Johnson, Eli Nave, Dakota Shaeffer

The classroom of the month is Mrs. Carbenia's class. Congratulations to this special class for their grit and perseverance in and outside of the classroom. Keep up the good work!

Family Night Out On Friday December 1st from 5:30-8:30

Knapp is hosting our Second Annual Family Night Out again this year. This is a great night in which we provide fun activities for our Knapp students for a few hours so parents/guardians can go shopping for Christmas or go out to dinner. Some of the activities are decorating cookies, watching a Christmas movie, making Christmas cards and playing on inflatables in the gym.

Please remember this is only for Knapp students PreK-4. The cost is \$12.00 per child.

There will also be information coming home soon from PAKT. PAKT is hoping to put together raffle baskets again this year. We will be selling raffle tickets for another beautiful quilt too. You can purchase raffle tickets

the evening you drop your children off for a fun time with our Knapp Teachers and Staff.

BOX TOPS

It is that time of year again to start thinking about cutting out box tops to raise extra money for our students.

Here are the winners of the box top party for the month of September:

Preschool- Mrs. Morris 641
Third Grade-Mrs. Carbenia 106
Fourth Grade- Mrs. Madden 47
Fourth Grade- Mrs. Bagnola 6

Please consider cutting out your box tops and sending them into Knapp. Last year we raised over \$1,500 for our school. It is an easy way to make extra money. Thank you.

Literacy Night and Book Fair

Please come to our Literacy Night on Tuesday, November 14 from 6:00-7:00. On Literacy Night, parents are welcome to shop at our book fair. You and your child are encouraged to dress like cowboys or cowgirls to celebrate reading.

Here are the activities for the Week of November 13th-17th Book Fair

Tuesday 14th- Saddle Up and Wear Jeans and Flannel
Wednesday, 15th- Cowboy Bandana Readers- Wear Red or Bandanas
Thursday 16th- Dress as a Cowgirl or Boy with Cowboy Hats
Friday 17th- Wear Pajamas for Campfire Readers Day