**Parent Conferences**

Parent conferences are November 6, 2017. We will not have school for students on that day. You are welcome to bring your child to the conferences to participate if you like. Your time to talk with the teacher has been sent home with your child. If you have not received it, please call the school. If you can’t make the conference, please call to talk to the teacher.

**Book Fair**

We are hosting a Scholastic Book Fair November 6-10, 2017. The book fair will be open during parent conferences. If you choose to send money in with your child to make purchases during the school day, please make sure all money is in a marked envelope with your child’s name and Book Fair on the outside.

**PTO Meeting**

Our next PTO meeting will be Monday, November 13 at 6:00. We will be reviewing the Halloween Social and planning for the holidays.

**Coins for Caring**

Please remember to support our Route 40 Coins for Caring Project. Students bring in change and place it in the classroom container. The classroom raising the most earns extra recess. All funds collected go towards Christmas for families in our school. The drive is November 1 – December 8, 2017.

**Note from PTO Officers**

PTO would like to thank everyone who was able to attend the Halloween Social. We would especially like to thank everyone who volunteered, sold tickets, and provided items for the bake sale, auction, harvest baskets and classroom raffle baskets. PTO puts a lot of time into planning our school’s biggest fundraiser and help from parents, family, friends, teachers and staff makes this a huge success.

**Christmas Program**

Our Christmas program is set for Friday, **December 13**, 2017. The program will be delivered at 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

**Halloween Social**

Thank you to everyone who assisted with making the Halloween Social a success. Pre-K sold the most tickets earning themselves a pajama party. The top 4 individual sellers were (1) Jace Dawson, (2) Colten and tied for (3) Macey Keister and Brady McCutcheon. We will have a full report at the next meeting.

**Winners of Classroom Baskets**

- Sunny Days: R. Parsons
- IRA Bus: Jessica Beeman
- Pre-K: Jennie Friend
- Kindergarten: Jess Whitehead
- First Grade: Stella Sudine
- Second Grade: Jamie H.
- Grade 3: Tim Harrison
- Grade 4: Linda Yates
- Grade 5: Aubrey Hanlin

**Winners of Harvest Baskets**

The following people won the Harvest Baskets:

- Bransen Garlitz: Bill Jackson
- Krista Long: Jennifer Durst
- Patty Davis: Sally Cheshire
- Debbie Pritts: Amanda Dixon
- Paige Miller: Terri Lauchlin

**Box Tops**

Please remember to continue clipping and sending in your Box Tops. These are the rectangular labels found on some food and home products that schools can send and receive funds from. These funds directly impact the classroom and permit teachers to purchase items they need for daily instruction. Encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to clip and send them with your child as well. So far, we have submitted $214.10 and our goal this year is $1,000.

**School Supplies for Guatemala**

Thanks to all who brought in school supplies for Guatemala. Mrs. Brenneman will be bringing 26 lbs. of supplies to Guatemala next week.
Fluoride Program
The Garrett County Board of Education and the Garrett County Health Department are once again offering free fluoride to students in grades 1-5. Permission slips have already been sent home and returned and students are receiving weekly fluoride treatments. If you want your student to participate in this program please contact the school nurse.

Love and Logic
Responding to Poor Grades

The kids are back in school and it won’t be long before they start getting report cards. One of the most common questions I’m asked by parents and educators is how to respond to bad grades.

The first thing to remember is that the child’s report card is the child’s… not ours. While it’s easy to get down on ourselves when kids perform poorly, it’s very important to our mental health and theirs to remember the following:

*We can’t learn for kids.*

As educators and parents we can up the odds of high achievement by modeling responsibility, establishing a safe and calm environment, providing excellent instruction and demonstrating excitement for learning.

*We can’t control every action they take or decision they make.*

Secondly, it’s comforting to remember that some of the world’s most successful people have struggled with grades. Albert Einstein, Henry Ford, Jim Fay and Dr. Foster Cline are some notable examples. What’s most important is that our children develop good character, curiosity, and problem-solving skills.

Many highly successful people struggled with grades as children.

Thirdly, if we can consistently demonstrate empathy rather than anger or frustration, the odds of them overcoming their difficulties dramatically increase. Is empathy really that powerful? Yes indeed! In fact, a growing body of research is demonstrating that warmth (i.e., empathy) is strongly correlated with higher achievement and better behavior. (If you like reading research studies: Rivers, Mullis, Fortner & Mullis, 2012 and Silt, Hughes, Wu & Kwock, 2012.)

So… let’s remember to respond with sincere love and concern:

Oh man. I bet these grades are really disappointing for you. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help. The good news is that this doesn’t change the way I feel about you.

Rather than fighting with kids about their grades, consider studying, From Bad Grades to a Great Life! If it doesn’t completely change your life, I’ll buy it back.

Thanks for reading!
Dr. Charles Fay

November Events
3 Coins for Caring Starts
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends
6-10 Book Fair
6 Parent Conferences – No School
11:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
7 Grades 4 and 5 to FSU for play
PK and K to Hickory
10 Veteran’s Day Breakfast
14 1:30 Seussical FSU Play at Route 40
16 4-H 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
17 Grade 1 to Hickory
22 Noon Dismissal
23-24 Thanksgiving - No School
27-30 Grade 5 to College and Me
Kindergarten to I Can Swim