



Horseheads Central School District

Golden Star Gazette

October 2019

Gardner Road Elementary School

541 Gardner Road, Horseheads, New York 14845 (607) 739 – 6347

ppatterson@horseheadsdistrict.com



Dear Gardner Road Families –

What a great first month at Gardner Road! It was so exciting to see so many families at our Back to School BBQ, Open House, Book Fair and more. Our Golden Stars have been busy making new friendships and setting a great foundation for the school year with their teacher. It has been so much fun visiting each classroom and seeing the great learning your child(ren) are already engaged in. To keep up to date with the happenings at our school, follow our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

We are looking forward to a great October. Our PTO will be hosting a brand new Family Fun Night event at Dynamic Ceramics. See more details in the PTO Newsletter. Be on the lookout for parent-teacher conference information from your child's teacher as well as information about our Veteran's Day Celebration in November. We also look forward to our annual Halloween Parade. Please see the details on page 3 of our newsletter. Our district 'Make a Difference Day' is Saturday, October 19th. We look forward to seeing our Golden Stars participate in this great event that gives back to our community.

I hope you have been able to join me on Sunday Story Time with the Principal on Facebook Live every Sunday at 7:00. I will be giving updates to families about the upcoming week and share some celebrations from the previous week. If your child has a book recommendation, please let me know.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the school year at Gardner Road. Please contact me if you need anything, have any questions or would just like to chat about our school/your child.

Your Partner in Education

Patrick Patterson - Principal



**CHOOSE
TO BE NICE**
choosetobenice.com

Inside the Gazette:

Page 2:

Main Office Updates
September Snapshots

Page 3:

Halloween Parade
Career Day

Page 4:

Character Corner
Welcome New Staff
School Mission & Vision



Included in the Online Newsletter:

Lunch Menu
October Calendar
Home/School Connections
Bus Rules
Swim Lessons Letter
Report to Parents: Executive Functioning

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Gardner Road School Hours

8:00 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Tardy Bell – 8:15 AM

Gardner Road Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

Breakfast: \$ 1.25

Lunch \$ 2.10



Moishe's Quote of the Month:

"It's kind of fun to do the impossible." Walt Disney

Gardner Road Main Office Updates:



Substitute Teacher Expectations:

Throughout the school year, teachers must be out of their classroom to administer assessments, attend professional learning or for other reasons. Our teachers do a great job preparing students for the change in routines and expectations for these days. It would be appreciated that you also remind your child of positive behavior expectations with the substitute on these days so they maximize their learning. Thank you!

Fire Drills and Lockdowns:

Students and staff have been practicing our fire drills throughout the month of September and will continue through the fall. One question we are having students think about during our fire drills is, “what is another way out?” On October 7th, the fire department will be visiting us to discuss this for school and at home. We will also be practicing our lockdown procedure and other drills to assure all students know our procedures.

Board of Education Recognition Week October 21st – October 25th

We would like to thank all of our Board of Education members for their hard work and dedication. They play a vital role in the success of our students in our great District. If you see a BOE member, please thank them for the work they do to ensure our students **Explore**, are **Empowered**, and **Excel**. Members include: Pam Strollo, President; Kristine Dale, Vice-President; Daniel Christmas, Warren Conklin, Mary Anne Holleran, Shehla Javed, Doug Johnson, Brian Lynch, Tyler Pribulick, and Taylor Orban (Student Representative).

September Snapshots



Check out more photos and events on our [Facebook Page](#)!

Volunteers Needed for School Career Events

The school district has many career related events including career days, career panels, job shadows, classroom speakers, field trips, and mock interviews. **We are always looking for volunteers** for these events. We are looking for parents, grandparents, other adult family members and friends as well as community volunteers in every career field. If you feel your career is not of interest or you are currently at home, you may still contribute through mock interviews and other fun classroom events. Most events are only an hour or two on a given day, yet **your experience and career knowledge** can deeply influence a child's life, career goals, and future educational path.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about how you can get involved, **please contact Deb Lynch**, the Career Development Representative for the Horseheads School District, at (607)795-5320 or dlynch@gstboces.org.

Substitutes Needed:

The Horseheads Central School District is seeking applications for substitute teachers, nurses, bus drivers and substitute teaching assistants.

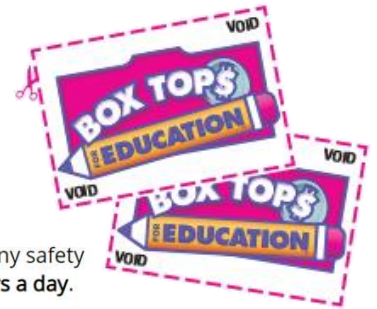
For information, please visit:
<http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/subteach.html>

Human Resources Office: 739-5601, x4211
e-mail: hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com

SAFE SCHOOLS LINE

795-2044 or
1-800-305-4984

Report a concern, rumor, bullying incident, or any safety issue anonymously and confidentially, 24 hours a day.



HALLOWEEN PARADE 2019



Thursday
October 31st
1:20 PM



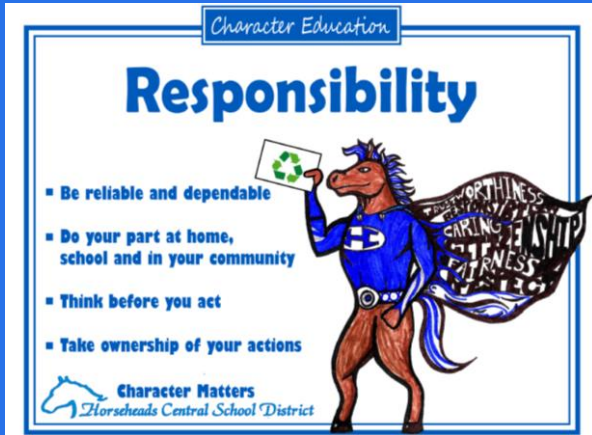
All parents are invited to join us for the Halloween parade. The parking lot fills up quickly so we encourage carpooling. There will be a complimentary shuttle to and from the Jubilee plaza between 12:45 and 1:45. The students and teachers will march in front of the school from the kindergarten wing towards the cafeteria. We ask that all visitors stand behind the fence in the parking lot. Please make sure that your child's costume is appropriate for our very young students to see and that it does not have any type of toy weapons, blood, etc. as a prop. We will run a normal morning schedule that is focused on academics. **We appreciate that your child come to school not dressed in costume or with make-up on.** All students will have an opportunity to change into their costumes prior to the parade. Because of the numbers of potential visitors and the safety concerns connected to it, we do not allow families in school after the parade. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in a wonderful event for our students.



"We Succeed Because The Stars Lead!"

October's Character Trait is:

We launched the month learning about being an 'upstander' and being responsible in school by choosing to be nice. We look forward to handing out Golden Tickets to students through the month as we see them be responsible.



Horseheads Central School District's Mission & Vision:



Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

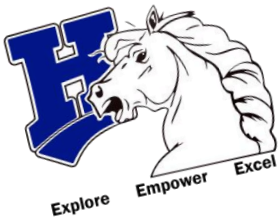
EXPLORE

EMPOWER

EXCEL

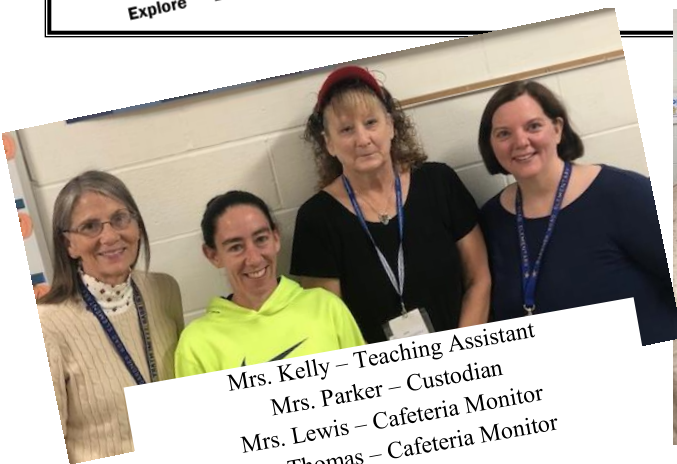


**To report child abuse or neglect
call toll free
1-800-342-3720 or
ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps**



Welcome

to our New Gardner Road Staff!



Mrs. Kelly – Teaching Assistant
Mrs. Parker – Custodian
Mrs. Lewis – Cafeteria Monitor
Mrs. Thomas – Cafeteria Monitor



Mrs. Alwine - 1st Grade
Mrs. Rich - Social Worker



Ms. Woodworth – Speech
Mrs. DeMuth – Teaching Assistant
Mrs. Houghtaling – Special Education

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601, x4211, or cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Gardner Road Elementary is Patrick Patterson. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Patrick Patterson at (607) 739 – 6347.

Report to PARENTS

Executive Function FAQs

Executive function is a set of skills that help your child make plans, control behavior, and set goals. Your child's growing brain, as Harvard University's Center on the Developing Child describes it, is like a busy airport, and executive function is its air-traffic control system. It allows a child to focus on an activity, remember details, and manage their time—all critical tasks for success in school.

The 7 essential executive function skills children need, according to researcher and author Ellen Galinsky, are:

- Focus and self-control;
- Perspective taking;
- Communicating;
- Making connections;
- Critical thinking;
- Taking on challenges; and
- Self-directed, engaged learning.

Read on for answers to common questions about these skills.

How can I tell if my child struggles with executive function? Since executive function involves a set of skills, there is no single test to identify executive function problems. Generally, a child may have executive function weakness if she or he has trouble:

- Planning projects and staying organized;
- Telling stories verbally or in writing;
- Retaining information while using it (remembering a phone number while dialing, for instance);
- Estimating how much time a task will take; or
- Memorizing and retrieving information from memory.

Are executive function problems a learning disability? No. But many people with learning disabilities tend to struggle with executive function. Individuals with ADHD, autism, or other behavioral disorders might have trouble with executive function, as well.



If my child is struggling with executive function, what are my first steps to address it?

Consider which skills seem to present the biggest problems for your child. Contact your child's teachers and principal to discuss how these issues may be impacting his or her school performance. Together, you can devise school and home-based strategies.

Is my sixth-grader too old to strengthen his or her executive function skills? No! Though

a child begins to develop executive function skills in infancy, his or her brain continues to develop through adolescence and into adulthood. It is never too late to help your child develop skills and processes to support learning.

How can I reinforce good executive function skills at home? One of the simplest—and most fun!—is to play games. Simon Says, for instance, teaches learners to follow instructions; storytelling games boost communication; what-if and imaginative games challenge children to consider new perspectives; and memory games help children retrieve information.

How can I help my child complete schoolwork?

Make a checklist for navigating assignments. For a child struggling with executive function skills, the steps necessary to complete a task might not be clear. Define them specifically. For instance: get out pencil and paper; put name on paper; read directions, etc. Encourage your child to write the due date at the top of each assignment as a visual reminder. At home, make a visual calendar with deadlines for projects.



2019-2020 Swim Lesson Schedule (updated 9/4/19)

Registration for swimming lessons for students in Kindergarten through Sixth grade will be on October 26, 2019. The registration will occur from 9:00am – 12:00pm at Horseheads High School pool. **All lessons have been moved up an hour.**

All students who have enrolled in previous sessions may check on their current level at the deep end of the pool. All new students must report to the shallow end area with a suit and a towel in order to be tested for ability level. Non-swimmers do not have to be tested and should just register for Level I. The registration fee is **\$25 for each session** and checks should be made out to “Horseheads Central School District.” Information is on our district website <http://horseheadsdistrict.com/pool.cfm>. (or www.horseheadsdistrict.com, Community, Pool Schedule). Also, cancelations will be posted on our district Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Horseheads-Central-School-District-180046775371927/>) and Twitter (@HhdsSchools).

If you are unable to attend the date(s) for registration, you may register the next class. Please do not call to register your son or daughter because we cannot do it that way.

Sincerely,

Jared Zembek, Pool Director
jzembek@horseheadsdistrict.com

Dates for Lessons:

Session 1:

Nov. 2

Nov. 9

Nov. 16

Nov. 23

Dec. 7

Dec. 14

Dec. 21

Session 2:

Jan. 11

Jan. 18

Jan. 25

Feb. 1

Feb. 15

Feb. 22

Feb. 29

Session 3:

Mar. 7

Mar. 14

Mar. 28

Apr. 18

Apr. 25

May 2

May 9

Time Slots (Levels I – VI)

9:00-9:35

9:40-10:15

10:20-10:55

11:00-11:35

11:40-12:15

12:20-12:55

***Dec 21 and Feb 29 are sign up days but there are also lessons that day.**

May 16th will be a makeup day if lessons are cancelled.



Morning Lap Swim

Morning lap swim is held Monday - Friday, 5:30-7:30am when school is in session. If there is a winter weather watch or warning, lap swim will be cancelled.

Cost: Free

*Note that school starts at 7:50am and swimmers must be out of the building by 7:40am. Those who violate this procedure will be asked not to return. Also, please sign in every day.

(When school is in session)

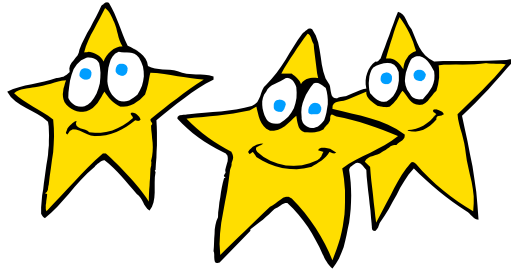
Friday Open Swim: 7:15-9:00pm check website

Saturday Family Swim 1:00-3:00pm (there is a lap lane available)

Students - \$2.00

Adults – \$3.00

<http://horseheadsdistrict.com/pool.cfm>



**American
Red Cross**



Blood Drive

Gardner Road PTO is pleased to announce that we will again be collaborating with Ridge Road PTO to host this years Pint Sized Heroes Blood Drive! This blood drive will be held on December 6, 2019 from 2-7pm at Gardner Road Elementary. We will send home further information in the coming weeks, but wanted donors to have enough notice to be able to donate. There needs to be 8 weeks between donations.

Thank you for your anticipated support!

Home & School

CONNECTION®

Working Together for School Success

Gardner Road Elementary School
Mr. Patrick Patterson, Principal

SHORT NOTES

Excellent attendance

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or PE class. Explain that he can be absent only if he's sick or if there's a family emergency.

DID YOU KNOW?

Children who regularly eat meals with their families tend to do better in school and avoid risky behavior. Eating dinner together is great, but other meals count, too. If you work at night, maybe you could make time for a family breakfast. Or on a weekend, try a picnic lunch.

Celebrate progress

Suggest that your youngster create a fun reminder of all the things she has accomplished. Let her cover a box with construction paper and label it "I did it!" Then, she can write each success ("I learned to add fractions") on a slip of paper and put it in the box. If she's feeling discouraged, have her read the slips.

Worth quoting

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up!"
Mark Twain

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Empire State Building?

A: Of course. The Empire State Building can't jump!



Conversations about school

When you think of parent involvement, do you picture moms and dads volunteering in classrooms? That's one way to help—but research shows that supporting your child's education at home is even more important. Here are conversation starters that will help you stay involved.

"Let's see what you brought home."

Look at completed work to find out what your youngster is learning and how well she's doing. You could comment on her math work or social studies project, for instance. ("You know a lot about our state's history!") Also, respond to notes from her teacher, and sign her weekly folder or daily planner if required.

"Show me what you have for homework."

It's your child's job to do her homework, but you play a role, too. Make sure she knows what she's supposed to do by having her explain the assignments to you. After she finishes her homework, glance over the work to see that it's complete.

"Describe a book you enjoyed today."

This gives you an idea of what your youngster prefers to read. Then, build a daily reading habit by asking what she'd like to read tonight. Encourage her reading and listening skills by reading aloud to her and letting her read to you.

"Tell me what you learned that you'd like to know more about."

Use her interests as jumping-off points for activities to share. If she likes geometry, you might hunt for

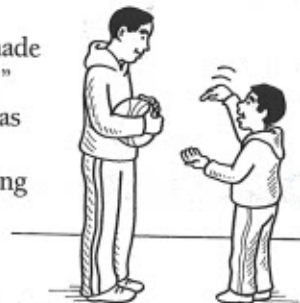


shapes together. If she's fascinated by how animals adapt to winter, take her to the library to research the subject or to the zoo to see live animals. ♥

After-school questions

Asking "How was school today?" might not get you far. Instead, ask questions like these for a better picture of your youngster's day:

- "What's the coolest thing that happened today?"
- "Pretend you're the teacher. How would you describe the day?"
- "What made you laugh?"
- "What was the most creative thing you did?"
- "How were you kind or helpful today? How was someone kind or helpful to you?" ♥



What does respect look like?

Your youngster's daily dealings with adults and kids alike will be more pleasant if he speaks and acts respectfully. Try these tips for helping him learn about respect.

Respectful replies. Think about something that you and your youngster disagree on (say, whether his video game time should be limited). Model having a respectful discussion about it. You might say that his brain and body are growing and that he needs to run and play to stay healthy. Then, suggest a respectful response, such



as, "I want to be healthy, but I love video games." Have him brainstorm other situations where people have different opinions but still speak to each other with respect.

Everyday acts. When you mow the lawn or clean up after your dog, you can teach your child about respect for neighbors. Explain that keeping your

neighborhood clean and neat makes it nice for everyone. Ask him to think of other respectful things neighbors should do. If you share an apartment laundry room, he might say that you respect neighbors' time by removing your clothes when they're done so others get to use the washers and dryers.♥

A reading challenge

By reading more complex books, your child can learn new words, facts, and ideas. He'll also be exposed to more complicated plots and will grow as a reader. Share these suggestions:

- Knowing something about the topic or setting makes a tougher book easier to comprehend. If your youngster is reading a novel set in China, he could talk to someone who has been there or look up the country online (try a children's site like kids.nationalgeographic.com).



- Encourage your child to look at a simpler book on the same subject. A picture-book biography about Harriet Tubman may help your youngster better understand a textbook chapter on the civil rights movement, for instance.

- Suggest that your child read complicated material with pencil and paper in hand. He can jot down questions, words to look up, or facts he wants to learn more about.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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Strong study habits

Q: My third grader has to spend more time studying this year. How can I make sure she studies effectively?

A: Set your daughter up for success by helping her find a distraction-free study spot. Also, have her come up with a study routine. For instance, she could reserve time each evening to review her textbook and notes in the days leading up to a test. Also, many students find it helpful to jot down a purpose each time they study. Your child might write: "I will learn the definitions of all the boldfaced words in chapter 7, section 1."

Finally, encourage her to experiment with study strategies to find what works best. She could close her eyes and imagine how a word is spelled or draw a grid with 9 squares to solve 3 x 3. Or she might find it helpful to spell or recite math facts aloud in rhythm or to a familiar tune.♥



PARENT TO PARENT

Talking to kids about money

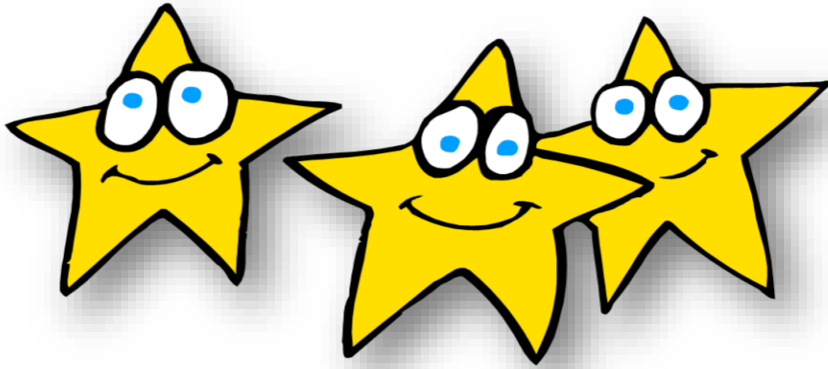
My children were always asking to buy things like dress-up shoes or new games. They didn't seem to understand that these items weren't in our budget.

I wanted them to learn about how we spend our money—and that it is limited. So I got a spiral notebook and labeled it "Family Spending Journal." I explained that for two weeks, everyone would keep a record of what they spent money on. I listed items like my

subway fare, the electric bill, and food at the grocery store. The children wrote down expenses such as school lunch, soccer cleats, and field trip fees.

After a few days, they were surprised by how many things we needed money for. Our kids had no idea, for example, that we paid for taxes on our income, several types of insurance, and membership in our homeowners' association. Sometimes they still ask to buy too many things at the store, but when I say no, at least they understand why.♥





**GARDNER ROAD PTO OCTOBER 2019
NEWSLETTER**

FALL FESTIVAL!!!

The Fall Festival is all NEW this year!!! Our Halloween event this year will take place at Dynamic Ceramics (3312 S Main St. Horseheads, across from Spectrum). You will be able to paint your very own item and take it home for the keeping! You can choose a piece of your liking from the many options. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase as well as raffle tickets for VIP parking for the Halloween parade.

BOX TOPS

No more clipping - download the new Box Tops App and start scanning

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

All PTO positions will be up for re-election in December

A volunteer to change the sign out front of the school

**October 1st - 10th:
Spirit Wear Sales**

**October 11th –
October 14th:
No School**

**October 19th :
Make A Difference
Day**

**October 25th:
Fall Festival @
Dynamic Ceramics
5:00-8:00**

**October 31st:
Parade at 1:20**

PTO BOARD:

President: Lita Mata
Vice President:
Treasurer: Courtney Bola
Secretary: Stacy Witzel

pto.gardnerroad@gmail.com

Like us on facebook: Gardner Rd PTO



NO MORE CLIPPING – SCAN YOUR RECEIPTS

THE NEXT GENERATION OF BOX TOPS IS HERE.

Box Tops are changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.



BOX TOPS MADE EASY.

No more clipping. No more sending Box Tops to school. All you need is your phone. Download the ALL-NEW Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then simply scan your store receipts to find participating products. The app will automatically credit your school's Box Tops earnings online.

Twice a year, our school will receive a check and can use that cash to buy whatever it needs!

Horseheads Central School District Bus Rules









- Sit in your assigned seat
- Use kind words, inside voice, and clean language
- Remain seated until the bus is at a **complete** stop
- If you didn't bring it on the bus, **DON'T** touch it! If you did bring it on the bus, **TAKE** it with you
- Keep your hands & feet to yourself
- **NO** wireless speakers – you **MUST** use your earbuds
- Do not block the aisle
- Use your listening ears when the driver gives instructions
- **NO** pictures or video recording allowed
- You got on a clean bus, leave a clean bus

October 2019



Gardner Road Elementary School



| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|---|
|  | 1 <i>Day 2</i> | 2 <i>Day 3</i> | 3 <i>Day 4</i> | 4 <i>Day 5</i> |
| 7 <i>Day 6</i>  <i>Fire Prevention Week Assemblies</i> | 8 <i>Day 1</i> | 9 <i>Day 2</i> | 10 <i>Day 3</i> | 11 <i>No School</i>  <i>Superintendents Conference Day</i> |
| 14 <i>No School</i>  <i>Columbus Day</i> | 15 <i>Day 4</i> | 16 <i>Day 5</i> | 17 <i>Day 6</i> | 18 <i>Day 1</i> |
| 21 <i>Day 2</i> | 22 <i>Day 3</i> <i>Lawas to Rockwell Museum</i> | 23 <i>Day 4</i> <i>Wear Orange</i>  <i>Hall to Rockwell Museum</i> | 24 <i>Day 5</i> <i>Tillinghast to Rockwell Museum</i> | 25 <i>Day 6</i> <i>Hunt to Rockwell Museum</i> <i>GRPTO Event</i> |
| 28 <i>Day 1</i> | 29 <i>Day 2</i> | 30 <i>Day 3</i> | 31 <i>Day 4</i> <i>Halloween Parade 1:20</i>  | <u>RESPONSIBILITY</u> *Set up routines for your child to get ready for school *Involve children in shopping and appropriate chores. *Help create a homework routine.. |