



October Monthly 2024

Spencer Trail Times

Principal - Mrs Deirdre Scott
Assistant Principal - Mrs Jennifer Christophersen
Secretary - Mrs Jamie Key
Secretary - Mrs Jillian Foytik

Superintendent - Dr Lori Motsch

Office Hours - 7:20am - 3:50pm
Phone number - 815-462-7007

A Note From Your Principals:

Dear Spencer Trail Families,

It is absolutely amazing to us that just a short time ago, we were anxiously awaiting the start of school. As we enter our second month of school, the familiarity of a school routine has developed. We are so very proud of our students as they have "settled in" and are busy learning new things every single day!

On September 19th, the kindergartners had their first Character Counts Lesson highlighting the Character Trait; Responsibility. We discussed what it means to be responsible and the importance of being a responsible person. Part of responsibility is knowing what is appropriate for school. Please remind your children to use kind words, be a good friend and keep their hands to themselves. Our next Character Counts lesson will be on October 17th. The students will learn about the Character Trait; Respect.

The month of October is quite busy. We will have school picture day, a week devoted to making "healthy choices" and we end the month with dressing up for Halloween. With all that is planned over the next month, please take some time to ask your child to share what they are enjoying most about school. Fostering a positive attitude about school is extremely important at this age. Many thanks for all that you have done to give us a great start!

Mrs. Deirdre Scott

Mrs. Jenny Christophersen

Principal

Assistant Principal

October

October 3rd- Breast Cancer Walk

October 10th - Picture Day



October 14th- Holiday: No School

October 15th - School Board Meeting at 6pm

October 17th - Character Counts - wear **Yellow** for Respect

October 21st-25th -Red Ribbon Week

October 30th - Halloween at Spencer Trail

October 31st - Half Day Institute. *PM & DK students attend for an extended day 8:25am-11:25pm. NO SCHOOL for AM students.*

*Throughout the month of October, our social worker, Mrs. H, will be visiting the kindergarten classrooms to do the Erin's Law presentations.



A Note from Nurse Cami



Spencer Trail families:

Thank you for helping us meet the state requirements by returning your physical and immunization information. **If you still have not uploaded your child's physical and immunizations, please do so ASAP and no later than October 15th to avoid having your child excluded from school.** Public Act 95-0671 became effective January 1, 2008 requiring all children enrolling in kindergarten, or any student enrolling for the first time in a public or parochial school on or after this date to have an eye examination by a physician or an optometrist within one year prior to entering school. This exam is to be completed and the form turned in by October 15th. Proof of dental evaluation is needed by May 1st so please remember at your child's next visit to have the dentist complete the dental examination form. Copies of all health related forms are available on www.nlsd122.org website, just click on registration forms and you will see a list of all related health forms you might need. Thank you.

If your child is sick and will be absent from school, please call the office to let them know.

815-462-7007

Important Information



Coat Drive with NLPD

New Lenox Police Chief Louis Alessandrini and the New Lenox Police Department proudly announce the department's 15th annual "Cops Care" coat drive benefiting the Lincoln Way area community. In partnership with New Lenox School District 122, the coat drive allows for residents to donate gently used coats and utilizes a voucher system to allow anyone in need to receive a coat, free of charge. School District 122 students and families are encouraged to donate at their schools, while the general public are asked to donate at either the New Lenox Village Hall located at 1 Veterans Parkway or the New Lenox Police Department at 200 Veterans Parkway. The Cops Care coat drive begins October 1st and concludes Thursday, October 31st. All coat collection points will have vouchers to be handed out to those in need, and vouchers will also be available at the New Lenox Township Office at 1100 S. Cedar Rd. Vouchers can be redeemed at Morning Star Treasure Chest, 2571 East Lincoln Highway, New Lenox IL. They will provide a coat, free of charge, for anyone who presents them with a voucher. Vouchers will be available for the duration of the coat drive.

Halloween at Spencer Trail

We will celebrate Halloween on October 30th! Teachers will plan their own classroom celebrations. Have your student come dressed in their costume for the day. Please don't send weapons or accessories to school. We don't want anything to get lost.



Preschool Screenings

New Lenox School District will be screening children from ages three to five in the areas of motor, cognitive, and speech/language development. Early childhood educators will present "game like" activities to your child which assess various development skills. All preschoolers who reside in our district are eligible to attend free of charge. This is a preschool screening, **not** a kindergarten readiness screening. This year the screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Elementary and Early Childhood Center.

2023-2024 Screening Dates

November 22nd

March 14th

May 9th

Call Cherry Hill School at 815-462-7831 to schedule an appointment.

Red Ribbon Week (10/21-10/25)

Spencer Trail students will be participating in **Red Ribbon Week** (Healthy Choices Week), which is the week of October 21st. During this week, we encourage our students to make positive choices for themselves and to participate in a variety of activities that will promote healthy choices. One of those activities includes daily dress up days! Each day there will be a theme that focuses on healthy choices. We hope your children have fun and participate this week!



October 21st- Mellow Monday!

Relax and wear your pajamas!



Fast Facts: Kids 5-12 years old need 9-12 hours of sleep

October 22nd- Be a Hero: Have the Power to Say NO to Unhealthy Choices!



Dress to channel your inner superhero! Wear your favorite superhero shirt!



October 23rd- Team Up Against Unhealthy Choices!

Dress to represent your favorite sports team!



October 24th- Throwback Thursday!

Dress in clothes from another decade to show that you will make healthy choices over time!

October 25th- Spencer Trail Wildcats Make PAWsitive Choices!

Wear yellow or your Spencer Trail spirit wear!



Calling Your Student OFF of School

If your child will be absent from school, please call 815-462-7007.

Leave your child's name, teacher, session, and the reason for the absence.

This is a 24 hour line, so you can call anytime. If your child is NOT in school and we have not received a call within 35 minutes after the start of the student's session, one of our secretaries will call you to verify his/her absence. To ensure the safety of our students, if we cannot make contact with the parent/guardian, we will call the New Lenox Police Department to perform a non-emergency wellness check at your residence.

Transportation Department

If you have an absence, or any questions or concerns regarding bus transportation, please contact the Transportation Department at 815-717-3100.

This includes late buses or buses that missed your stop.



Virtual Backpack

New Lenox School District is proud to support the "Going Green" initiative with our virtual backpack. Information regarding activities, special events, and registrations available for school aged children from outside organizations will be posted. Go to www.nlsd122.org and click on the Parent/Student tab at the top and scroll down to the virtual backpack.



Sign Out Procedure

When coming to pick up your student during the school day, please bring your photo ID. You will be buzzed into the office where you will sign out your student on the office IPAD.

Specialists' Spotlight



Library News from Mrs Ozbolt

Hello from the library! I am happy to be seeing your child's class each week. The students are working hard on whole body listening, following directions and learning our library routines. As the kindergarteners continue to bring books home:

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE "BOOK CARE" RULES:

- 1. Please do not scribble or write in your books.**
- 2. Remember to not eat and drink while reading your books.**
- 3. Do not leave your books outside.**
- 4. Clean fingers are appreciated!**
- 5. Please return your library book when you are finished reading it. You do not need to wait until your next library visit. There is a library cart in the hallway of every neighborhood. When it is not library day, students can return their books to that cart. Thanks so much for returning library books on time! ** I always stress to the students that accidents happen. If something happened to their book, it's important that I know about it, so I can decide if the book can be repaired or a new one needs to be ordered.**

We always start our library time with a read aloud followed by an activity or lesson and then end with check out time. We have been working on lots of library skills and new library terms. We are learning book care and different parts of a book. We even built a pretend book together in class! I love getting to see the students explore all the different types of books we have available and helping them choose the one they will check out that week. We thank you for the huge role you play in fostering a love of reading in your child.

Art & Music News from Mrs. Tinny

The kindergarten artists have done a wonderful job practicing their fine motor skills this past month! We have practiced scissor skills, including how to properly and safely use scissors. They learned the phrase "just a dot, not a lot!" in regards to using bottled glue.

We have discussed caring for our art supplies and ensuring that we "snap that cap!" when using glue sticks and markers. We have worked in small groups, rotating through different fine motor centers, strengthening our little hands! Next month we will explore texture, line, and shape.

In music, we have introduced basic percussion instruments. Students have been able to try the instruments and learn about the history of each one, and how to carefully use them. We talked about keeping a steady beat with instruments. Soon, we will move towards exploring string instruments and how they work.

The students have done a great job, and I am looking forward to our October learning and exploring!

Social Worker News from Mrs. Hamaker

In 2011, the state of Illinois passed Erin's Law, which requires all public schools from grades Pre-K through 12th grade to receive age-appropriate curriculum to addresses sexual abuse and how to identify trusted adults. As stated in our New Lenox School District 122 Student Handbook, I will be visiting each classroom to deliver our age-appropriate Erin's Law presentation to our Kindergarteners. This will occur throughout the month of October. This conversation will emphasize the importance of safety, understanding personal space, and how to identify a trusted adult at home and at school.

Specialists' Spotlight

P.E. News from Mr Lundborg (Mr L)

Since the beginning of the school year, I have been teaching your child equipment names and obstacle courses. As the school year continues, over the next few weeks, I will be teaching your child the above mentioned, as well as, different locomotor movements like hopping, jumping and soccer.

Please remember to dress your child in proper clothing and shoes. (When selecting your child's gym shoes, please stay away from black soled shoes as they tend to mark up the gym floor.)



Thank you!

Visual Information from the Occupational Therapist

Vision information related to school functioning:

Visual acuity. A person's ability to see clearly both close up and at a distance. When there is a deficit in acuity a child may struggle with: tasks up close, such as reading, coloring, printing, and/or cutting or tasks at a distance, such as copying from the board.

Focusing. A person's ability to change focus quickly between tasks. When there is a deficit in focusing a child may struggle with shifting visually between the board and their work.

Visual efficiency/Oculomotor skills. A person's ability to coordinate movement of their eyes together.

The ability to use both eyes as a 'team', is what allows our brain to fuse the two separate pictures coming in from each eye into a single image with depth perception. This skill is called binocularity. When the eyes do not 'team' a child may see double or they may struggle to visually track across midline. When there is a deficit in oculomotor skills a child may struggle with: aligning scissors to a page or line, following a line when cutting, using lines while printing, tracking a line of print when reading, catching a ball, and navigating changes in surfaces.

Some research shows that up to 75% of children who struggle with reading have deficits in oculomotor skills.

Other signs that there may be a visual difficulty includes: rubbing eyes, looking at things from the side, tilting head while doing close work, avoiding fine motor tasks, and/or saying things are hard to see.

Many vision exams only evaluate visual acuity. If you see your child struggling with any of the above skills it may be best to share that information with your eye doctor to see if they would evaluate oculomotor skills.

ATTENTION!!!

PM Dismissal Changes

To alleviate traffic congestion with the Spencer Crossing clubs. We are changing up the PM car rider and Trailblazer pick up.

Please take time to review the changes.

We will implement the changes on Monday, September 30th.

Trailblazer PM pick up Cars:

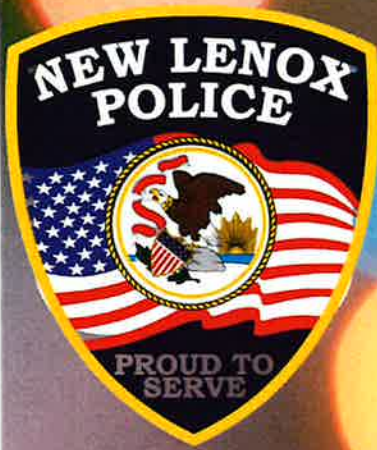
Please park in lanes 1 and 2 of the stadium car rider lines.

*** Please note if you arrive early, you will be stopped to let the Spencer Trail buses and car riders dismiss.

Car Rider PM Pick Up:

Please use lanes 3 and 4

Students will now be dismissed out of the side doors of the blue neighborhoods. NOT the gym doors moving forward. Please return to your cars quickly so we can dismiss immediately.



Join us in our annual Cops Care Coat Drive!

October 1st-31st

Coat donations can be dropped off at:

New Lenox Schools

New Lenox Police Department

New Lenox Village Hall

Coat Vouchers are available at:

New Lenox Schools

New Lenox Police Department

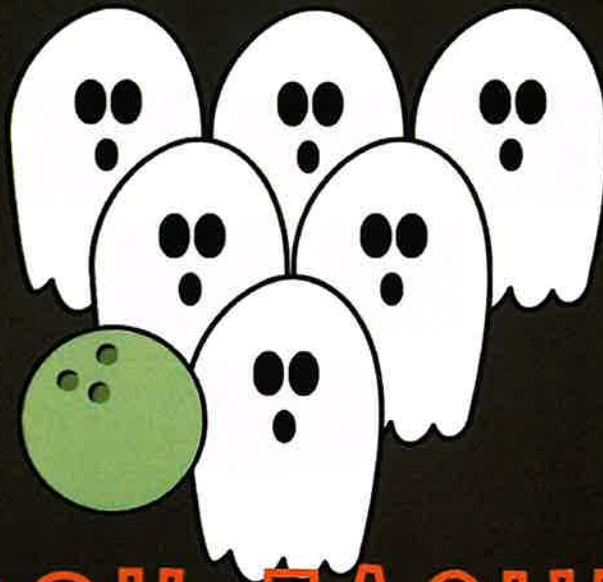
New Lenox Village Hall

New Lenox Township



NEW LENOX 122 PTO PRESENTS

\$50
PER ADULT-
STUDENT
DUO



\$25
PER
BOWLER

SPOOK-TACULAR BOO-LING

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF COSMIC BOWLING IN
YOUR COSTUME!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024

AT LARAWAY LANES

1009 W LARAWAY ROAD, NEW LENOX

SESSION 1:
12:30PM-2:30PM

SESSION 2:
3:30PM-5:30PM

SALES CLOSE OCTOBER 1, 2024 OR WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

INCLUDES 2 HOURS OF UNLIMITED BOWLING

PIZZA AND POP WILL BE SERVED

ALL ENTRIES REQUIRE A TICKET
DUE TO CAPACITY LIMITS

LARAWAY LANES IS ADA ACCESSIBLE

*ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL BE EQUALLY DISTRIBUTED AMONGST THE DISTRICT



WE CAN DO THIS!!! FOOD WITH INTEGRITY
COMMUNITY STARTS HERE
FOIL-WRAP
GOODNESS
GENEROUS
FOOD CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
TASTES MADE FRESH EVERY DAY
EVERY DAY
SOMETHING

DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE



CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR
**NEW LENOX SCHOOL
DISTRICT 122 PTO**

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9TH | 4-8PM
641 E LINCOLN HWY, NEW LENOX, IL, 60451

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **9TNQDVT**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.