



October 5, 2017

Dear Parents,

Weather permitting, the Halloween Parades at Hamilton School will be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 1:45pm for the students in PM Kindergarten and Grades 1 through 5. The AM Kindergarten students will have their parade at 10:15am. If it isn't raining, both parades will be held outside. **If it is raining, the parades will be cancelled.**

The parade route will be as follows: All children will parade in front of the building, around the 5th grade wing (near parking lot), and on the side of the school near the playground. Students will circle the building once.

PLEASE DO NOT STAND ON THE SIDEWALKS. The students will be using the sidewalks for the parade. You may view the parade at the three locations listed above. **THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR COOPERATION!**

Halloween is a very popular event here at school and draws a large crowd of families and friends. This presents a challenge for us in our ongoing commitment to keep the students safe. Therefore, you must adhere to the following guidelines for our Halloween parties and parades.

Please note that all are invited to the parades. Regarding parties in the classrooms, only the parents assigned to the parties will be permitted to enter the building at 1:15pm. There will be monitors posted in the lobby to screen all individuals attempting to enter the building. The names of the party coordinators will be on a pre-approved list that will be checked by these monitors. These pre-approved people will then receive a pumpkin pass to attend the party. This pass will have the visitor's name and classroom recorded on it. In fairness to all parents and children, there will be no exceptions. If you have any questions, please contact your classroom coordinator.

- **Party Treats:** If you are dropping off party treats, please do so between the hours of 9:30 and 12:30. Parents may deliver treats to the area inside the front door. Someone will take the treats to your child's classroom. **Be sure the treats are labeled with the teacher's name.**

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT that you consult with the teacher in advance about any student allergies in the classroom. We need to provide snacks that do not contain those life-threatening allergens. Head Room Parents must consult with the homeroom teacher regarding safe snacks. Those classrooms that have students with nut allergies should be made aware and should not have products containing peanuts, cashews, almonds, and any other tree nuts. All items should be labeled. Be sure not to provide soda, candy-coated popcorn, caramel apples, and candy of any kind. Any child with a nut allergy will have the opportunity to have their parent invited to the party. Some suggestions for snacks are: pretzels, popcorn, fruit, veggies, brownies or cupcakes. Students should not be sharing any food at any time. This includes during the party, at lunch, and on the bus.

- **Costumes/Makeup:** Children may bring costumes to school regardless of the weather. **If it were to stop raining, the parade would be back on.** The children will change into their costumes before the parade. Please use common sense in selecting appropriate costumes. Class party helpers will assist

children with costumes and makeup. Please note that some “foundation” dressing can be done before coming to school; such as, tights or other garments that can be worn under school clothes. Please make sure all accessories and makeup are in a bag with your child’s name on it. **If adults choose to dress up, do not wear masks or makeup that significantly alters your appearance. We cannot allow you access to the school grounds if you are in disguise.**

Children are not permitted to wear roller blades or carry objects that could frighten or endanger another student; such as, toy guns, knives, sickles, swords, etc. We would also appreciate it if the children did not wear bloody masks or costumes. Some costumes in past years have frightened our younger students.

PLEASE NOTE: Your child does not have to dress in costume; that is your decision. No child will be forced to be in the Halloween parade. Please let the classroom teacher know if your child will not be participating in the parade or party.

- **DISMISSAL:** If you are a parent assigned to the party, please be sure to sign your child out in the classroom if you are taking him/her with you. **TO AVOID TRAFFIC CONGESTION, VISITORS MUST DEPART SCHOOL GROUNDS BY 2:45PM BEFORE THE BUSES ARRIVE.**
- The lunch schedule will not be changed.
- No child is permitted to wear the costume home.
- Parking is always a problem during this event. I would suggest carpooling if possible to alleviate some of our parking concerns. Please remember not to park illegally. If you are parked illegally, you may be given a parking ticket.

I wish to thank you in advance for your understanding and support. We know that Halloween has become a concern both in and out of school. With everyone working together, we can still provide the children with a safe and enjoyable day.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew H. Moskowitz

Andrew H. Moskowitz
Principal

