

Minford Elementary School Newsletter

October 01, 2016
Volume 2, Issue 2

Ryan McGraw, Principal

Upcoming Events

October 10th
3rd Grade Reading
Parent Meeting
5 p.m.

After School
Program Meeting
6 p.m.

October 13th
3rd Grade
Harrisonville
Reunion

October 14th
Elementary Fire
Safety Assembly

1st Grade Field Trip
to Fuhrman's
Orchards

October 18th
Kindergarten and 3rd
grade Field trip to
Noble Family Farms

October 21st
End of 1st Nine
Weeks

October 24th
PTO Fall Carnival

October 27th
Reading Rally #1

October 28th
Report Cards Sent
Home

October 31st
Dress up day, Class
Halloween Parties and
Costume Parade
(weather permitting)

Principal's News

I find it hard to believe that we are almost finished with our First Quarter of school. I am so proud of our teachers, staff, and students on how hard they have worked so far this year. We are truly blessed at Minford with an outstanding group of teachers and a community that is so involved with the school.

This fall, we have many different activities planned for our students. These activities may vary based on your child's grade. Therefore, I highly encourage you to stay current with your child's schedule in his/her communication folder and also make frequent visits to our schools webpage and Facebook page.

Ryan McGraw

Principal

www.minfordfalcons.net

<https://www.facebook.com/minfordelementary/>

Important Reminders

- Transportation/bus changes can only be made in person or by sending a signed note with your child to school that day. Bus changes cannot be taken over the telephone.
- Students are permitted to have 10 parent notes per school year for excused absences. After 10 notes, absences without a doctor's note will be counted as unexcused. When a child accumulates 4 unexcused absences, they will be referred to the truancy office.
- Parent Pick up times:
 - o KG - 3:05
 - o 1st - 3:10
 - o 2nd - 3:15
 - o 3rd - 3:20
- With winter vastly approaching, be sure to send your child to school with a jacket. Our students will go outside for recess everyday unless the temperature is below 32 degrees or it is raining.



*Don't' forget, Party
and Dress up day is
October 31st
Happy Halloween*

*Parents,
please make
sure you are
reading with
your kids
every night.
Work hard to
read for at
least 20
minutes every
night. Think
of reading
with your
child as a
priceless
investment in
their future!*

*The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.*



Informational Meetings - October 10th

On October 10th, Minford elementary will be holding two separate informational meetings for parents in the district. At 5 p.m. we are inviting all parents of 3rd graders to discuss the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee and the 3rd grade State Tests. At 6 p.m. we will be conducting a

meeting concerning the future of the Minford afterschool program (Minford MARCS). Parents of students in KG-3rd grade are encouraged to attend the meeting to ask questions and/or seek clarification on the program's status.

Feeling ill?

If your child is sent home from school with a fever or has a fever in the evening or night, please keep him/her at home. Your child needs to be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications such

as Tylenol or Motrin before returning to school. Thanks for helping keep our school healthy!!

Deborah Daniels, RN
School Nurse

3rd Grade Testing Dates

Students in Grade 3 will be taking the Reading Terra Nova test on Tuesday, October 11, 2016. They will also be taking the ELA (English Language Arts Ohio State Test) on Wednesday November 9, 2016.

Attached to this newsletter is a list of proven testing tips that will undoubtedly help your child as they prepare for any kind of academic test.

Brent Howard
Elementary Guidance Counselor

Have a new phone? Maybe you moved?

One of our goals at Minford Elementary is to provide a safe and secure environment for every student. There may be times we may need to contact you concerning your child's behavior, health, and/or overall wellbeing. For this reason, it is imperative that our office has the most up to

date contact information for your family. If you have moved or changed your telephone number recently, we need to know. Simply, stop by the elementary office and let us know of any changes.

Before the Test

- **Talk about testing** – It's helpful for your child to understand why schools give standardized tests and why it is important for their future.
- **Encourage your child** – Praise your child for the things they do well. If your child feels good about themselves, they will have more confidence when taking the test. Children who become anxious when taking tests and who are afraid of failing are more likely to make mistakes.
- **Meet with your child's teacher** – Discuss the test with your child's teacher, clarify the dates of the tests and ask the teacher for any activities that you and your child can do at home that would help them prepare for the test.
- **Make sure your child attends school regularly** – If your child misses school, they are missing instruction that could help them do better on the test.
- **Provide a place for studying at home** – This could be the dining room table, a bedroom or a corner of the living room. Make sure the space is quiet and comfortable for your child to provide the best learning environment.
- **Establish a daily routine** – Even if life doesn't always go as planned, you want your child's routine on test day to be as close to normal as possible. Starting the day with chaos or disruption can affect their success on the test.

On Test Day

- **Ensure your child eats a good breakfast** – Studies show that children perform better at school when they aren't hungry. It's important to give your child a good breakfast at home or ask your child's school about options for breakfast.
- **Help your child get enough sleep** – Your child will need to have a good night's rest to perform well on the test. Children ages 7 to 12 need 10 to 12 hours of sleep a night, while children ages 12 to 18 need 8 to 9 hours. Make sure bedtime the night before the test is early enough to provide enough sleep.
- **Dress your child in comfortable clothing** – Students will sit for long periods of time when taking tests, and it's important they feel comfortable in what they are wearing so they focus on the test rather than their clothing.
- **Prepare the night before** – Lay out clothes and school supplies the night before the test to create a smooth morning routine. It's important for your child to feel calm and organized as they prepare for a test.

After the Test

- Reward your child for trying hard on the test.
- Talk with your child about what was learned from the test.
- Talk with your child about what can be done between now and the next time a test is given to improve their performance.

When you receive your child's test results:

- Don't compare his/her results to a sibling or a friend's child.
- Point out your child's strong areas and how proud you are of them.
- Talk about the areas of need and how the family can work together to improve those areas.
- Discuss with your child's counselor any questions you or your child have about the test or the results.