

COOLIDGE COURIER

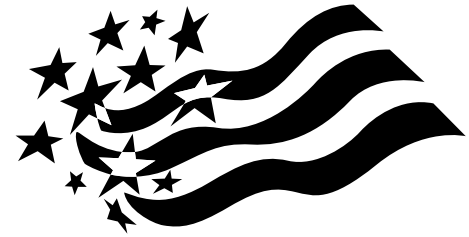
COOLIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2015

All Coolidge students and staff enjoyed the beautiful sunshine as they gathered outside at the flagpole on the first day of school. As the flags were raised, students recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang a patriotic song. Mr. O'Connell shared the theme of "Building a Foundation for Learning" for the 2015-16 school year. Several Five Seasons Learning Center Coolidge students sang about this theme. Special thanks go to Kaitlyn Mercil, A.J. Davies, Hannah Napier, Lean Schmidt, Madison Scheu, Zonona Bolinger, Lily Kolek, and Reilly Kingus for teaching the school the song "A Firm Foundation." Try singing these words to the Mexican folk song "La Cucaracha":

"A firm foundation for education, we are building every day! A firm foundation for education, learning much along the way!"

When we come to school each morning, we will be a knowledge-searcher; because we know that our teachers want to help us build our future."



SAFETY CONCERNS

Cedar Rapids Community School District takes your safety seriously and welcomes your input. Please contact your building principal/administrator and report any safety concerns that you may have. Thank you for helping us keep staff and students safe.

For more great pictures go to: <http://coolidge.cr.k12.ia.us>

WELCOME

to a new month! It is hard to believe that we have already been in school for an entire month. Thanks so much for all that you are doing at home to make the new school year start off so well. It was great to see so many families at our Parent Night on September 10th, thanks for coming and showing your support of Coolidge School.


We are continuing to implement PBIS, Positive Behavior Intervention Supports. We spent the first week of school teaching all the common area expectations to each classroom. Teachers have created their expectations and have them for students to refer to and use throughout the day. They have also created at least 5 different procedures that are taught and re-visited frequently. We will be acknowledging students doing their PARRT by showing the common area and classroom expectations. We will continue with the ticket system, so please be asking your child about what they have learned and if they earned a paw ticket (or more) during the day. We will continue to use the purple tickets this year given by our guest teachers in the building. Students are very pumped to earn a purple ticket for displaying the expectations. If you have questions, please give me a call. We also sent a brochure home with Preschool, Alternative Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and our new families accentuating what we are doing here at Coolidge with the PBIS program. The common area expectations are printed in the student-parent handbook and are always on the website: <http://coolidge.cr.k12.ia.us>

Please refer to the article in the newsletter referencing how you can use the same language at home with the PARRT guidelines. A chart was sent home either at Parent Night or afterwards with information on it.

Hope that you have had a chance to update your information in PowerSchool so we have the most updated phone numbers and emergency contacts. Please remember to give permissions for field trips also—there are lots coming up and we want each and every child to be able to attend.

Like Coolidge School on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Coolidge-Elementary-School-1662391870684338/timeline/>

Mr. O'Connell



VIRTUAL BACKPACK

The District offers an online Virtual Backpack site to support the efforts of community organizations wanting to share information about educationally-based programming.

Individuals or organizations wishing to post material on the Virtual Backpack submit items electronically and approved materials will appear online for families to access.

Organizations will find a link to submit flyers for consideration on the District homepage at www.cr.k12.ia.us. Families can access the Virtual Backpack from their school Web site.

IMPORTANT DATES

October

- 2..... Coolidge Pride Day – wear black and gold
- 10..... Online sign up for conferences begins
- 13..... School Picture Day
- 16..... NO SCHOOL – STAFF LEARNING DAY
- 19..... CONFERENCES 3:45-7:00 PM
- 20..... CONFERENCES 4:00 – 8:00 PM
- 21..... CONFERENCES
- 22..... CONFERENCES 4:00-7:00 PM
- 23..... America Reads
- 23 Coolidge Pride Day – wear black and gold
- 24..... SCRIP sent home
- 26..... CONFERENCES 3:45-7:00 PM
- 27..... CONFERENCES 4:00 – 8:00 PM
- 28..... SCRIP Due
- 30..... Fall Classroom Parties 3:00



Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Cedar Rapids Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (employment only), marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (students/program only) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. District employees with questions or a grievance related to this policy should contact Jill Cirivello, Director of Human Resources, 319-558-2421; jcirivello@cr.k12.ia.us. Students and others should contact Ken Morris, Manager of Student Equity, 319-558-1504; kmorris@cr.k12.ia.us. The District mailing address is 2500 Edgewood Rd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-1015.

FOURTH/FIFTH GRADE CLASS EXPLORES CANVAS

This year the Cedar Rapids School District is launching a new computer platform called Canvas into the elementary grades. Those families that have middle and high school children are probably already familiar with Canvas since it was launched at those levels in the last two years.

Students in our classroom use Canvas in several ways throughout the school day. They can check the calendar for upcoming events and teacher announcements about homework, tests, and fieldtrips. Students complete assignments, have discussions, fill out surveys, watch videos, navigate to websites, and take quizzes through Canvas.

Parents can access Canvas at home through their own log-in or through their child's to monitor what is being taught and to help support their child's learning. We are excited to learn more about this platform and to continue to add to the student's virtual school activities.



KINDERGARTEN IS TREE-MENDOUS!

Our kindergartners are off to a great start putting down their roots at Coolidge! They have been branching out, doing their PARRT and making new friends. In addition to learning about our school, procedures and each other, the students have started a year-long science study on trees. The weather has provided some beautiful days for exploring trees around our school yard. The children have used their senses to gather information about trees and to make comparisons between various trees they have studied. Back inside the classroom they have enjoyed learning the difference between hardwood and conifer trees, labeling tree parts in their journals and putting together tree puzzles. Each classroom will 'adopt' a classroom tree (on our school grounds) to watch throughout the year. Next month we will study leaves and later in the year discover 'our tree' changes in each season. Leaf it to kindergarten scientists to bloom where they are planted – just like 'their trees'.



USEFUL URL'S & AMAZING APPS

Do you have an amazing App that you would like to share? Please let Mr. O'Connell know and we would be happy to feature it next month.

Story Patch

This is a fantastic app for digital storytelling that goes through the step-by-step process of telling a story.

C-Fit

This program consists of a series of apps designed to keep kids healthy by engaging in exercise via walk-through videos!

Flash Card Maker

This is a cool app for kids to create flash cards using their own images and text.

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/ActivitySearch.aspx>

This is a research-based website created by the National Council of Teacher's of Mathematics. It has interactive activities for kids of all ages – from PreK on up!

<http://lightupyourbrain.com/stories/>

This site has more books online that can be downloaded, read and enjoyed!

<http://www.hwwilson.com/databases/artmuseum.htm>

The Art Museum Image Gallery is a rich digital resource of art images and related multimedia gathered from the collections of distinguished museums around the world.

<http://www.iowaaeaonline.org/index.html>

This is an excellent site for students and parents to visit. It has many resources for doing homework and it also provides clip art, weather and various educational magazines. When visiting the site the User ID is: 1053cool password: aea10

<http://powermylearning.com/>

This is a favorite site for finding educational activities on a wide range of subjects!



The school year is off to a great start and students have been busy in the art room! All of the grades have started working on their Art to Remember fund raiser designs for this year's art fund raiser and they should be completed by the end of September. The order forms should arrive at Coolidge in mid October and will be sent home once

they arrive. If you are unfamiliar with Art to Remember fund raiser and would like to learn more, you can visit the website at www.artoremember.com. The fundraiser is a great way to raise money for the Coolidge art program so that kids are able to have great resources for art in the classroom. I am so excited to be a part of the Coolidge community and working with such great groups of kids. Feel free to email me at khammann@cr.k12.ia.us if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Mr. Hammann
Coolidge Elementary Art Specialist

TO THE BOOK FAIR... AND BEYOND!

The Coolidge Fall Book Fair is just around the corner and it is going to be out of this world!

The fair will have a stellar selection of books from a variety of publishers at great prices. Teacher wish lists will be available if you would like to purchase a book for your child's classroom. All proceeds from the book fair go toward purchasing books for our school library.

***Purchase by cash, check, or credit card.**

DATES:

Wednesday, October 28 – Friday, October 30

The fair will be located in a galaxy far, far away...(the library!) It will be open before and after school, as well as during Parent/Teacher conferences.

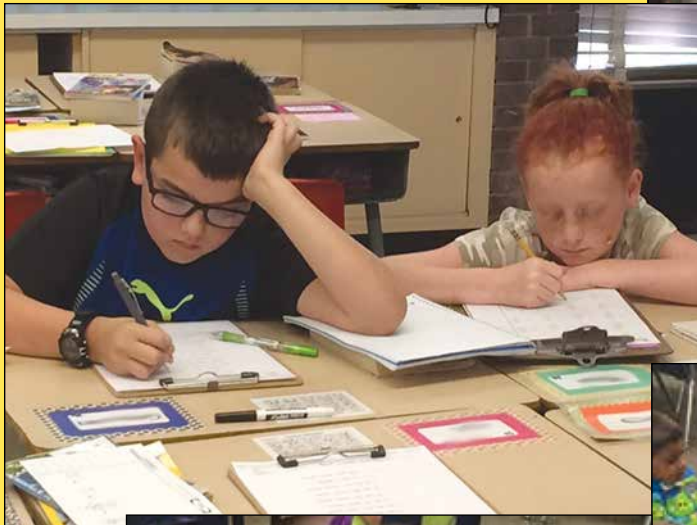
If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help at the sale, contact Lisa Miles at Lmiles179@yahoo.com.



Follow the District on ,  @crschools,
and 

BE A READING STAR!

IN AND AROUND COOLIDGE . . .





COOLIDGE HOME COOL TOOL

Asking permission

Expectation: Do Your PARRT

Purpose of the lesson? Why it is important:

1. To teach children that asking permission is respectful and allows caretakers to be aware of what children are doing.
2. A caretaker feels that a child is safe when he/she has been given permission to do something.

Teaching Examples: The following presents situations that your child might find himself in. Use these examples to discuss with your child how to make good decisions about asking permission.

Your child is outside the house playing with a friend. The friend asks your child to come into his house to play a game. Your child loves that game and says yes right away. Your child starts to walk toward the friend's house without asking permission. Ask your child to predict what could happen if permission is not asked. What feelings will you, your child, the friend, and the friend's caretaker have? Tell your child what consequences would take place if permission was not asked.

Your child comes home from school and has a headache. You are home but your child can see that you are on the phone. Your child goes into the bathroom and takes out a bottle of aspirins. He puts two in his hand and reaches for a glass of water. Ask your child if he/she thinks the aspirins should be taken without permission. Discuss why it is important to ask before taking any medications. Talk about what your child could do instead of deciding on his own (ex. politely interrupt, wait until you are off of the phone, write a note).

Your child is at a friend's house playing and knows to be home at 5:00. They are very involved in something and it is near 5:00. Your child's friend asks her if she can stay just a little bit longer. Your child says yes without calling and asking permission. Ask your child if he/she thinks that a good decision was made. Ask what possible consequences could have come from not asking permission (ex. not allowed to play at a friend's house for a while, having your parent not trust you, worrying others, etc.).

Kid Activities/Role Plays:

1. Make a list with your child of what types of things require asking permission to do or to have.
2. Discuss and decide with your child what types of situations warrant disturbing you if you are busy.
3. Talk about consequences that will occur if permission is not asked.

Follow-up/Reinforcement Activities:

1. Verbally praise your child when he/she asks for permission at appropriate times.

MATH PROBLEMS OF THE MONTH



1. Row of Coins

Place eight quarters in a row. Replace every other coin with a dime. Replace every third coin with a nickel. Finally, replace every fourth coin with a penny. What is the value of the eight coins now? How much more or less money do you have than when you started? Were any coins not replaced? Why or why not?

2. The Eyes Have It

Each honeybee has 5 eyes! Three honeybees are circling a flower. How many bee eyes are around the flower? Five honeybees are returning to the hive with nectar. How many bee eyes are returning to the hive? Now there is a total of 30 bee eyes in the flower garden. How many honeybees are in the garden?

SECOND GRADE'S NEW SCIENCE UNIT

Second Graders are excited about their new Science Unit called Insects and Plants. This unit provides experiences that help our Coolidge Second Graders become more aware of the living world around them. They will discover the life cycles of a number of insects. Students will see the life cycles unfold before their eyes as they observe and compare the stages of each species. Also, the students will grow one type of plant from seed and observe it through its life cycle to produce new seeds. So if you hear giggles, screams, and excitement coming from the Second Grade classrooms, the students may be observing, feeding, and touching their Mealworms.



COUGAR LUNCHEON

Congratulations to the following students who attended the Cougar Luncheon on September 17th: NaKayla Coats, Nathan Mulangaliro, Ender Cousins, Charlie McCoy, Ayonna McGee, Vincent Mooney, Yezi Park, Maddox Valenta, Anika Koepke, Ben Patton, Faith Drzycimski, Lily Kolek, Emerald Abbott, Morgan Hewitt, Emily Henderson, Ayden Kasak, Kai Arneal, Peyton Kline, Antonis Christodoulou, Liam Smith, Savanna Zeien, Shelby Plumb, Josue G, Nick Harms, Julissa Torres, Brayden Gatewood, Yuna Song, Logan Ball, Allie Barlow, Adam Panoch, and Kaileen Brost.

