

WALT DISNEY MAGNET SCHOOL
4140 North Marine Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60613
Phone: (773) 534-5840 Fax: (773) 534-5714



Kathleen Hagstrom, Ed. D., Principal
Gisela Velez – Assistant Principal
Gary Norcross – Early Childhood Director
Milagro Collazo – Intermediate Level Director
Sergio Mojica – Upper Level Director
Thomas Montoye – Chief Engineer

October 12, 2011

To: Disney Parents
From: Kathleen Hagstrom, Principal
Re: Assorted Matters

***STUDENTS MAY NOT BE DROPPED OFF BEFORE 7:30 am
THERE IS NO SUPERVISION!***

Congratulations to our 5th grade student, Dilara Karatas, in Ms. Gottlieb's class who took 2nd place in the Chicago Sun Times Student Fire Safety Essay Contest! We also would like to acknowledge our fall sports athletes for all their hard work. The 5th – 8th grade Cross Country, Flag Football, Soccer and Volleyball teams have all been busy practicing and playing hard. Playoffs are fast approaching and we wish all our teams and coaches the best of luck!

-Calendar Dates – mark your calendar for the non-attendance days: **Friday, October 28** - Staff Development Day
Thursday, November 10 - Professional Development **Friday, November 11** - Veterans Day
Wednesday, November 16 - Report Card Pick Up **Friday, November 18** - Staff Development
Thursday & Friday, November 24 & 25 - Thanksgiving

-Neighborhood Safety & Concerns – It has been brought to my attention that students are moving in large groups in the Uptown neighborhood causing a nuisance. Parents, please be mindful that your children understand your expectations for appropriate behavior. Students are obstructing traffic, causing public peace violations, and displaying general disorder. Personal property has been vandalized and some Disney students have been alleged to have been associated with these violations. When students behave like this they damage their own reputation, as well as that of their school and family. We are informing you so that you can monitor your child's behavior after school hours. If anyone has knowledge of the offenders, please notify me so that I can take the necessary measures.

-Local School Council – The LSC meeting is **Monday, October 17**, at 5:30. We have two vacancies on the LSC – one parent and one teacher. Parents interested in being considered for the parent vacancy may request an application from the main office. The deadline for submitting the application is **Monday, October 17**. The candidate forum will be held during the **Monday, October 17** meeting, followed by a closed LSC vote to fill the vacancy.

-PTA – The PTA has established monthly meeting dates; all meetings will be held at 7:45 a.m. in school. Dates are: November 1, December 6, January 10, February 7, March 6, April 10, May 1 and June 5. Please don't forget the Red Apple Fundraiser. All order forms and payment must be turned in at the school this **Friday, October 14**. If paying by check, make them payable to Walt Disney School PTA. Orders will be delivered to school for you to pick up on **Wednesday, November 16** – Report Card Pick Up Day. Also, this **Friday, October 14**, is the first PTA Movie Night; the movie will be *Phineas and Ferb* – all Disney families are welcome. Children must be supervised by their own families. Water and popcorn will be available for purchase.

-School Bus Transportation – Our regular school bus service is provided by Illinois Central School Bus Company. Transportation policy, established by the CPS Office of Student Transportation, states that all requests for new school bus service, change in assigned bus stop, or request for afternoon drop off at a Chicago Park District must be received at CPS headquarters by October 31, 2011. After October 31, only requests for school bus service from families who have moved will be processed. If you need to request any change in your child's current bus service, make sure that you complete the necessary paperwork in time to meet the deadline.

-October Parenting Tip – 150,000 spoken words per week is the difference between households whose children demonstrate strong language development and those who do not. Hearing language is the initial step in learning to read, write and make sense of the world. As parents we must consistently read aloud to our children. Children should continue to hear oral reading. We must positively interact with our children by engaging them in conversation which both instructs and reinforces. Parents who promote their children's listening, speaking, growing vocabulary and encouraging an enlarged knowledge of their world are also fostering success in school.