Dear Picotte Parents/Guardians,

It’s been a fun week of Read Across America events. Thanks, Mrs. Liebe, for organizing the events around the wonderful books you highlighted. Speaking of reading, don’t forget to check out the book fair next week during parent-teacher conferences!

There is no school Thursday, March 5th and Friday, March 6th due to Parent-teacher conferences. The week of March 9-13th is Spring Break. Enjoy the time with your kiddos!

With Pinto Pride,

Valerie Schovanec,
Principal

No Pinto Press next week due to the short week.

MORNING REMINDERS

Parents and families are always welcome here at Picotte. When you visit, please remember to always sign in the office. While we expect our Pintos to be walking to their classrooms on their own in the mornings, if you need to go to the classroom for some reason, you must sign in first. Staff (and students) all watch for the Visitor pass. Thank you for helping keep our Pintos feeling and being safe!

WINTER WEATHER ATTIRE

Please remember that we go outside for recess if at all possible. Some of our students are coming to school in shorts. If your child only has shorts on, they may not be able to go outside with their peers if the weather is too cold for shorts. We want to keep everyone safe and healthy!

YEARBOOK PICTURES

We’re looking for photos for the school yearbook! If you have images you’d like to share from this school year, please e-mail: Jen Simpson at jlwatzke@yahoo.com. Pictures of first day of school: Halloween parade and classroom parties: BINGO night: winter strings concert: and field trips are just a few ideas. Thanks for your help!

HUMMEL DAY CAMP

Registration online for Hummel Day Camp begins February 24th for Week 1 (June 1-5) through March 5th for Week 9 (Aug. 3-7).

Cost is $105 per camper for the week. Lunch and bus transportation provided. All bus pick up and drop off sites are located at City of Omaha recreation facilities. All campers must have completed 1st-7th grade by the summer of 2020.

Picotte has been going the last week the past several years. However, campers can select any of the weeks. Check the website for which facilities are available for pick up and drop off by camp week.

For additional information, go to: https://parks.cityofomaha.org/hummel-registration.

BAKE SALE

The Bake Sale will be Wednesday and Thursday March 4th and 5th. The sign up link (also on the PTA Facebook page) is: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D48A9A62BA1FB6-picotte We need volunteers to take donations. These donations help fund the 4th grade field trip to Lincoln. We will also need baked goods donated too. If you have a knack for cooking, this is for you!
PARENT PAY PRE-K REGISTRATION

Registration for the Omaha Public Schools Foundation (OPSF) Parent-Pay Pre-K program for the 2020-2021 school year will be open from January 13, 2020 – March 4, 2020. Upon registering you will need to provide your child’s birth certificate, immunization records/medical waiver, proof of residency. No registrations packets will be accepted if documents are incomplete and all documents must be included upon sign up. Registration is a non-refundable $75 per child upon submitting the application. We give priority first to children who live in the neighborhood of the school, second if they have siblings attending the neighborhood school already, and last is a lottery pick for the remaining openings. Children have to be four years old by the first day of school and per OPSF licensing policy they are expected/required to nap/rest quietly for one hour and forty five minutes per day no exceptions allowed. All children must be potty trained before entering Pre-K. You can pick up an application form in the school office. For any question please call OPSF (531)-299-0250.

INPUT WANTED

Here at Picotte Elementary, just like all other OPS schools, we utilize a school-wide system called MTSS-B, Multi-tiered Systems of Support for Behavior, to help our students be successful socially and academically. At Picotte we have 3 basic “rules”, which is how we teach and describe behaviors. Our 3 B’s are: Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful. Our parents are the backbone of our school, and we would like to hear from you about our 3 B’s.

During parent teacher conferences you will find three poster boards located in the front entryway area. Each will have a word in bold at the top: SAFE, RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTABLE. Please grab a marker and write the words/phrases you use at home to convey these messages to your children. We want to incorporate your language into ours to provide continuity for the children we serve. (If you see your words already up there, feel free to just add a tally mark beside the word/phrase.)

All teachers can tell you about MTSS-B, but we do have a team that represents the program for the school. If you have specific questions, please contact your child’s teacher or the office. Thank you so much for your help!

SAFETY RESOURCE

OPS continues its partnership with local law enforcement and the Boys Town National Hotline through the Safe2HelpNE mobile app, website and hotline. Safe2HelpNE allows students and families to share concerns with trained counselors by phone, chat or anonymously. Visit www.Safe2HelpNE.org to learn more or download the free mobile app in the Apple or Google Play stores.

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NSCAS TUTORIAL

To help our 3rd and 4th graders prepare for the NSCAS assessment, the Nebraska Department of Education provides a student tutorial. Here is some information about it. We hope you find it valuable and are able to explore it on your own and with your child.

The student tutorial provides detailed information about the NSCAS Summative Assessment including who will test, how many questions are on each test, and the different types of items students will need to answer. Students and parents can access the student tutorial on their own through the NWEA portal or by using the following link: http://bit.ly/NSCASTutorial

NSCAS Practice Sampler Parents and students can check out the types of questions asked on NSCAS using the Item Type Sampler found at http://bit.ly/NSCASsampler

· Each Item Sampler has 20 questions.

· Item Samplers are available for grades 3-8 in ELA and mathematics.

Username: ne
Password: sampler

Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, citizenship status, or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to address inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Coming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2001)