Ruppel Academie Française

September 2024 Newsletter

Welcome back to Ruppel! We've welcomed quite a few new families to Ruppel this year, and our school is thriving. It was nice to see everyone at the Back-to-School event last week. Interim reports go home September 17, and students in grades K-8th will start benchmark testing the week of September 30.

BOOK FAIR is schedule for the week of September 17**.**

GOOGLE CLASSROOM & STUDENT PROGRESS CENTER: Remember that teachers post assignments to Google Classroom daily, which should be the resource for students who are absent for any reason. **Parents should check both Google Classroom and Student Progress Center (SPC) regularly**. The SPC letter was in the VIP folder and returning families use the same log-in as in previous years. If a parent does not have access to SPC, please email Ms. Miller at emily.miller1@jpschools.org.

GRADES: Students are starting to get grades, and interim reports will be issued soon. It is important to remember that true learning and success is a productive struggle, and even strong students get bad grades sometimes. There is no need to be alarmed if a typically A/B student gets occasional C/D/F's on assignments. Additionally, the academic challenges change as students progress through school and so too will a student's general performance. **There are two things that parents should look for when viewing grades in Student Progress Center (SPC) that would be a reason to contact a teacher immediately if the teacher has not already reached out**:

1) A PATTERN of missed homework or classwork indicating that a child is not routinely participating in class properly.

2) A PATTERN of low test grades (D/F).

There will be an opportunity for **virtual parent conferences September 18-20**, and if a student's academic performance is a concern, the teachers will priority schedule conferences with those families before opening up the schedule to others**.**

STUDY GUIDES: Students are to learn and prepare to be assessed on the concepts taught. Assessments are varied and include objective and subjective responses at various levels of thinking. **We will not send home study guides that directly mirror the questions that will be on an assessment as memorization is not a true reflection of student learning**. However, a teacher may send home a list of lessons, topics, and/or skills that will be assessed to help students prepare. It is the responsibility of students, particularly in upper elementary and middle school, to write in the agenda and to know what a teacher will be assessing by participating in lessons daily.

TEACHER CONTACT & SCHOOL CALENDAR: Please refer to the Ruppel website for the teacher contact list; however, note that the website is currently under construction but will be functional soon. Additionally, the school year calendar was included in the VIP folder on Orientation Night and is posted in the Ruppel Families Google Classroom. Please keep the calendar handy and refer to it often as reminders will not be included in each newsletter.

TRUNK-R-TREAT: This popular family event will be held on Friday, October 18 this year, but planning is well underway. We will need volunteers from every homeroom to help with concessions and to supervise games and activities. We are also asking for donation of candy and drinks, so please see the attached flyer for details.

CHILD CARE: We offer child care after school as a service to help families. However, we ask that families are courteous and conscientious when utilizing these services so as not to take advantage of our amazing evening child care and maintenance staff. These are a few policies to remember:

- Students are checked into child care at 2:25 at which point families are responsible for charges incurred. Child care opens at 2:30 p.m. for parents to check-out.

- Once arriving at school, the parent should exit the car immediately to check out the child. Parents should not linger in the vehicle once on campus.
- Parents must actually sign-out the child.
- Payments must be made on time or the late fee will be applied. Habitual failure to pay the child care fees promptly requiring multiple notices to be sent home will result in removal from child care for the entire school year.

CARPOOL: Carpool is generally going very well, and I appreciate the cooperation of families. Please remember the following:

- The most common reason for delays in the carpool line is failure to have the child's carpool tag. Make sure any person sent to get a child has the tag as well. Extra tags can be requested from the front office by emailing Gwendolyn.romano@jpschools.org
- Please pull all the way forward until just behind the car in front while waiting in the carpool line. Do not leave gaps between cars except when leaving room to pass at an intersection or driveway.
- The morning line starts on the other side of the neutral ground at 9th Street. **Even if a family thinks there is no one in line in front of the building, the family should still go to the other side of the neutral ground to make the U-Turn as other families are following the policy and end up waiting**.
- Please make sure your child is ready to get out of the car quickly in the morning. (Unbuckled, fully dressed, bags ready) Student are not to exit the car with food for breakfast.

BUS: Students should be waiting at the stop, not in another vehicle, for the bus ten minutes prior to the expected arrival in the morning, and parents should be waiting ten minutes prior to the expected afternoon arrival.

- **Bus drivers are not allowed to wait**, and the driver should not be blamed if a student or parent is not at the stop during this entire window.
- First-eighth graders may be dropped off without a parent present, so if this is a concern, the person meeting at the stop must be on time.
- We have fully staffed bus routes at this time, and the demands on these bus drivers is immense. It is important that everyone is cooperative and respectful of these drivers who offer such an important service.

Join the Ruppel Family Google Classroom: On a desktop, use your child's log-in to access Google. Go to the Google Classroom app and select the + sign to join a class. Enter the join code: dwbemx3

If using a phone, first download the Google Classroom app. Then enter the join code.