

Halloween at TAS Lower School

Creative, Kind & Respectful

Halloween is a special time for our Lower School students to use their imaginations, express themselves, and enjoy some fun with friends. As families choose costumes, we encourage everyone to keep our **TAS values—respect, responsibility, kindness, honesty, and courage—in mind.**

Choose Creativity Over Imitation

We love seeing the creativity and imagination our Tigers bring to Halloween. Children might dress as superheroes, animals, storybook characters, athletes, scientists, or something completely original.

We ask families to choose costumes that are **fun and respectful** and do not make another person's culture, religion, identity, disability, or lived experience into a costume or joke.

Before choosing a costume, consider:

- Could this costume make someone feel uncomfortable, excluded, or disrespected?
- Does it use clothing, hairstyles, makeup, or symbols that are meaningful to a particular culture or community simply as a costume?
- Could the costume be seen as making fun of a person or group?
- Is there another creative choice that would be just as fun?

When in doubt, choose imagination over imitation.

Keep It Ready for the School Day

Our Lower School costumes should allow students to **learn, play, move, and participate safely throughout the day.** Please choose costumes that:

- Are comfortable enough to wear for the school day.
- Allow children to move freely and participate in activities.
- Are not overly scary, violent, gory, or disturbing.
- Do not include real or pretend weapons.
- Do not completely cover a child's face or make it difficult for adults to identify them.
- Avoid accessories that could be distracting or unsafe.

Safety First

A fun costume should also be a safe costume. Please make sure:

- Shoes are comfortable and secure for walking, running, and playing.
- Costumes are not too long, loose, or difficult to move in.
- Children can see and hear clearly.
- Props are soft, lightweight, and appropriate for school.
- Face paint or makeup does not interfere with vision or comfort.
- Hats, scarves, and accessories are secure and do not create a tripping or visibility hazard.

Help Our Tigers Make Thoughtful Choices

Halloween gives us a wonderful opportunity to help children practice our TAS values. You might ask your child:

“Is your costume kind and respectful to everyone?”

“Will you be able to learn and play safely in it?”

“Does your costume celebrate your imagination without making fun of someone else?”

At TAS Lower School, we want every Tiger to feel **safe, included, respected, and ready to have fun**. With a little thought and creativity, we can make Halloween a celebration that reflects the very best of our community.

Be creative. Be kind. Be respectful. Be a Tiger!