

November 17, 2023

Dear Link Families::

It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is next week! It feels as if the year is flying by! I'd like to share one of my favorite daily jokes for this month that I shared with the students: Why was the Thanksgiving soup so expensive? It had 24 carrots!

Jokes help us to start the day in a positive way, and that mindset is important to set us up for learning. November's IB trait is that of being an Inquirer. I witness this on a daily basis, as students in every class are sounding out words, interpreting ideas, solving mysteries, learning about text features, adding simple and complex numbers, learning about decimals, etc etc --and then applying these skills across all the content areas. Link's Grade 4 students have been learning about the Algonquian and the Iroquois Native Americans during ELA and SS and just presented a Native American Museum.. Throughout these lessons they have been learning how these two tribes survived and thrived in their daily lives. The students created artifacts that the Native Americans would have used during this time. Our Grade 5 students are deeply involved with the research aspect of their PYP Exhibition topics. It is a thrill to see and I'm so proud of the work that is being done. Link is alive with learning!

Link is also alive with learning to think about those around us and how we should act towards one another. This idea (and IB trait) of caring is especially important now that we are approaching a holiday season where not all are as fortunate as we are. Our newly formed Student Council is sponsoring a food drive to benefit People to People in Nanuet. Please see the list of items (sent home by your child's teacher), and if you are able, please consider donating. These types of projects are important to me, as we can put "character into action" and that makes it something that is tangible and meaningful to our students.

I sincerely hope that all of you enjoy a restful and happy Thanksgiving holiday. I am going to my middle daughter's home in New Jersey. As we have a new baby in the family, having this celebration with my family is important. Although Sarah is technically "hosting," please know that I will actually be doing the cooking. (The work doesn't end even when your children are grown - and I wouldn't have it any other way!)

Enjoy your time raking leaves, watching football, and savoring the delicious meals. As we express our gratitude, I am so thankful to be here at Link serving as your principal where we work together to help our children learn and grow.

Sincerely,
Mary Bish, Principal