

# Porter Academy Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday August 17, 2016

## Quick Reminders:

- Safari Minutes from summer were due Monday, August 15. If you have not turned them in, please do so ASAP.
- Lunch orders are due by August 19th. Please click on the "Smart Lunches" link on the main page of the webpage.
- If you have not turned in your signed registration papers, please do so. Contact Barbara Richard with questions.
- Please send in an old button down shirt your child can use as a smock for art class.

## Message from Ms. Lynn

Thank you to everyone who was able to make it to curriculum night last night. We had a great turn-out and a very positive feel!

Last night was a chance for the teachers to present a general picture of a day in your child's class. However, we do have an individualized program so academics are differentiated and modifications are made for each student as appropriate. You will learn more about your child's individualized program and modifications used with your child during September conferences. If you have any questions or comments before then, feel free to email your child's teacher or Barbara Richard at any time. Thank you for your partnership with us. I am looking forward to a wonderful year!



## Classroom Spotlight

Our students are learning the meaning of various idioms. The first two have been "actions speak louder than words" and "beggars can't be choosers". Students are having great discussions around these idioms and learning to apply the concepts to things they experience throughout the day.

## Porter Academy Parent Association (PPA)

Parent volunteers are an integral part of making our program great. If you are interested in helping with PPA events this year, please email Barbara Richard to let her know you're willing to help. Based on parent availability and interest, we will create a committee to be in charge of each event or task throughout the year. Thank you!

## Parent Pipeline

As most of you heard last night, we have changed our curriculum this year. We are now using Core Knowledge Curriculum, which is based on E.D. Hirsch Jr.'s cultural literacy books. We chose this curriculum because it teaches some of the nuances of English language and exposes students to stories, fables, and poems that will help them join conversations in the larger world around them. Core Knowledge also has rich social studies and science themes that are engaging and intriguing. **While each homeroom has a grade level curriculum to use as a framework, this framework only applies to the above subjects. Reading and math will be taught on each child's level.** For more information on Core Knowledge Curriculum you can visit the website <http://www.coreknowledge.org> or ask Barbara Richard.

## Important Dates

**Sep 5:** No School—Labor Day

**Sep 19-20:** Lower School Conferences; NO SCHOOL for Lower School Students

**Sep 22-23:** Upper School Conferences; NO SCHOOL for Upper School Students

**Oct 7:** End of first nine-week period

**Oct 10:** No School—Columbus Day

**Nov 18:** Grandparent/Special Friend Celebration; 1:00 Dismissal

**Nov 21-25:** No School—Thanksgiving Holiday