

Porter Academy Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday November 16, 2016

Quick Reminders:

- Book Fair in Porter Academy gym November 14-18—stop by anytime or send money with your students. Ms. Hannah will make time to take parents/students to the book fair anytime throughout the week.
- November 18: Grandparent/Special Friend Day celebration starts at 11:00 and ends at 1:00 dismissal
- Don't forget to complete the SSO forms to redirect your state tax dollars to provide Porter Academy student scholarships and send them to Porter Academy by December 15th.
- EARLY DISMISSAL (**and no after school**) this Friday. Please pick your child up by 1:00.
- NO SCHOOL NOVEMBER 21-25—THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Message from Ms. Lynn

Thank you to all the parents who made the Fall Festival so much fun for all of our students! There were so many fun and creative activities that the children really enjoyed (and my OT brain noticed all kinds of good fine and gross motor work as well). Thank you for your hard work and creativity that made for such a fun day!

I'm looking forward to seeing grandparents and special friends this Friday. It is such a fun opportunity for our children to introduce their school to people they love. We hope every student will have someone with whom they can share this special day. This is also a great time to visit our book fair.

Our Character Education trait for November/December is Kindness. In OT today, students are writing/discussing our definition of kindness ("I will choose to help people feel good"), writing something they've already done that was kind, and (older students) also are thinking of something new they could do that would be kind. I encouraged them to think outside of their normal realm. We looked at the Random Acts of Kindness website to trigger their thinking, and they came up with some great ideas. I am sharing some of their ideas on the last page of the newsletter. Hopefully they'll make you smile!

Parent Pipeline— Deadline for orders is November 28th

Thank you to those of you who have already purchased Fun Pasta and shared the webpage with your friends and family! As of November 14th, Porter supporters had purchased \$1,065 worth of pasta—Thank you! The pasta is clever and they have some great kits to make delicious meals. This is a great opportunity for convenient holiday gifts that will be used and enjoyed (or an easy meal for your own family) while also helping our school. Thank you for your support!

Parent Pipeline—Complimentary Concert for Porter Families

The family of one of our students performs in this Christmas Pageant each year, and they have generously offered free admission to all Porter Academy staff and students/families this year! The pageant will take place December 9th at Mt. Pisgah Church, and this will be a "kid friendly" performance. They are not worried if children need to get up to move around or go to the bathroom and quiet rooms will be available if children become overstimulated or restless in the performance.

Important Dates

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

Nov 21-25: No School—Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec 15: 1:00 Dismissal

Dec 16-Jan 3: No School—Winter Break

Jan 3: Teacher Work Day

Jan 4: 1st day of second semester

Jan 16: No School—MLK Jr. Holiday

Feb 17-20: No School—Mid-Winter Break

Mar 3: End of 3rd 9 week period

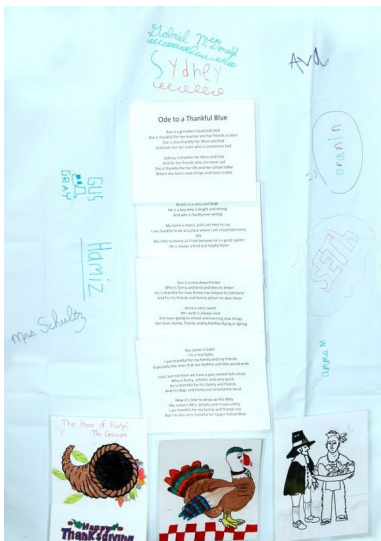
The Character Education trait for November is Kindness—"I will choose to help people feel good"

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Classroom Spotlight—Thankfulness Baners

Our students and teachers did a wonderful job on their Thankful Banners. Each class came up with their own unique way to express their thankfulness.



See next page for readable version of Upper School Blue's thankful poem.



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Ode to a Thankful Blue

Ava is a girl who is loud and clear
She is thankful for her teacher and her friends so dear
She is also thankful for Mom and Dad
And even for her sister who is sometimes bad

Sydney is thankful for Mom and Dad
And for her friends who are never sad
She is thankful for her life and her school today
Where she learns new things and loves to play


Branin is a very cool dude
He is a boy who is bright and strong
And who is hardly ever wrong

My name is Hamiz and I am here to say,
I am thankful to be at a place where I am respected every
day
We refer to Hamiz as Frank because he's a great speller
He is always a kind and helpful feller

Gus is a very deep thinker
Who is funny and kind and likes to tinker
He is thankful for how Porter has helped his behavior
And for his friends and family whom he does favor

Anna is very sweet
Her work is always neat
She loves going to school and learning new things
She loves family, friends and butterflies flying in Spring

My name is Gabe
I'm a real babe
I am thankful for my family and my friends
Especially the ones that are faithful until the world ends

Last, but not least we have a guy named Seth 
Who is funny, athletic and very quick
He is thankful for his family and friends
And his dogs and home just around the bend

Now it's time to wrap up this ditty
My name is Mrs. Schultz and I have a kitty
I am thankful for my family and friends too
But I'm also very thankful for Upper School Blue

- I help my mom cook. I will help someone with their groceries.
- I say please and thank you every day. I will donate.
- I played the game my friend wanted to play. I will help my mom make breakfast.
- I let my friends play my video games. I will be kind by letting my friends spend my money in my video games.
- I donated toys that other people don't have. I will give free popsicles to kids in my neighborhood.
- I help my (pregnant) mom get her bath ready. I will donate a toy to a stranger.
- I help my mom empty the dishwasher. I will clean my bedroom as a surprise to my parents.
- I once helped people knock down trees and branches. I want to help with construction.
- I hug people to be kind. I will pet Thunder (pet cat) for 48 hours.
- I helped someone work in the yard. I will plant trees to be kind.
- I help my friends when they need it. I will pick up trash to be kind.
- I ask people about their weekend to let them know I care. I will give a person a kind compliment.
- I gave the swing to someone who wanted it. I will help someone plant a tree.
- I have helped people clean their houses, shared with people, and washed their cars. I will help someone get their car unstuck, help cut the grass, and take out the trash.
- I shared a toy with a friend. I will put gas in someone's car if they run out of gas.
- I open the door for people. I will give people a snack if they want one.
- I helped a friend feel better about an assignment. In the future, I could become a pen pal with a soldier.
- I hold the door for strangers at stores all the time. Next time I go to a store, I will leave a dollar in the cart when we leave.
- I gave food for people who need it for the holiday. I could leave quarters in candy machines to be kind.
- I cheer people up if they are unhappy and give food to the poor. I will help people who have had disasters.