

Porter Academy Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday January 18, 2017

Quick Reminders:

- No School Feb 17-20 for Mid-Winter/President's Day Holiday
- Please remember to donate what you can to our Annual Fund—100% participation from parents, staff, and board members is important in demonstrating internal support of our school (plus you could win a week at a beach house)
- Please remember to help your child with The Great Kindness Challenge—the goal is to complete all acts of kindness by the end of February

Message from Ms. Lynn

I have a few different things to touch on this week so please take the time to read through the whole message.

SSO Tax Credit: Thank you to those of you who chose to support our school through the student scholarship tax credit program. I have just received word of one person who has received their approval letter from the state government. I wanted to relay the next steps so you'll know what to do once you receive your approval letter. Please note that your approval amount will most likely not be as much as you requested. Because more than the \$58 million was requested, the government approved contribution requests from each person/company who requested it on January 1st, but did so for a lesser amount than was requested so as to stay within the \$58 million dollar cap. So if you requested to contribute \$2500, you most likely were approved to contribute \$1237 instead. The amount approved is the amount for which you will be able receive tax credit. Once you receive your letter, you have 60 days to send your check (write "Porter Academy" on the memo line) and a copy of the approval letter to Great SSO at 1595 Peachtree Parkway, Suite 204-128 Cumming, GA 30041. Thank you for your support!

Annual Fund: If you have not yet donated to the Annual Fund, please do so. It's really important that we get 100% participation. Remember that for every \$250 donated, you will be entered into the raffle for a week's stay at a Florida beach house. You can send in a check with annual fund in the memo line, stop by to see Pam, or pay online by clicking the "donate" button on our website.

On-Time Arrival: Please make sure you are arriving to school before 8:30. Our teachers begin the daily routine right away, and even being 10 minutes late can make things more difficult for your child. Starting the day off feeling rushed and behind often causes stress, which can negatively impact the entire day for many of our students. I know it's difficult to get out of the house in the mornings, but waking up a little earlier or doing more of the preparations the night before can make a big difference. Thank you for your help to make each day a success for your child!

Important Dates

Feb 17-20: No School—Mid-Winter Break

Mar 3: End of 3rd 9 week period

Mar 10: Inclement Weather Day

Apr 3-7: No School—Spring Break

Apr 28: No School—Teacher Work Day

May 8-9: Lower School Conferences; No School for Lower School Students

May 10: Field Day

May 11: Upper School Conferences; No School for Upper School Students

May 25: Last Day of School; 1:00 Dismissal (No Afterschool)

May 25, 30, 31: Teacher Work Days

The Character Education trait for January is Patience:

"I will stay calm while I wait"

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Parent Pipeline— “A Parenting Conversation—How to Help My Anxious Child”

A Porter Academy parent has shared this information in case any parents are interested in attending this event.

Dr. Kimberly Vay, ED.D, LPC, NCC will be speaking at Cloverleaf School in Decatur. Dr. Vay is a Licensed Professional Counselor who has been working with children, adolescents, and families for more than a decade. She has extensive experience in both clinical and educational settings. In addition to her degrees in education and counseling psychology, Dr. Vay received intensive clinical training in Dialectical Behavior Therapy and Theraplay® Dr. Vay enjoys working with children, pre-teens, adolescents, and their parents. She provides therapeutic treatments and educates families to effectively manage intense emotions The cost is \$5 per parent. A flyer is attached if you'd like more information.

Parent Pipeline—Frontier Baseball

Registration is open for Spring 2016 Frontier League Baseball. Frontier is Baseball for kids (boys or girls) with learning challenges such as ADHD, ADD, Apraxia, Speech Delays, Dyslexia, Auditory Processing Disorder and other executive or sensory challenges. Many of our students participate in the program and are happy with it. Evaluations are coming up on February 4th. Below are links to their new promotional video and registration:

- New promotional video: <https://vimeo.com/185678694>
- Registration <http://www.murpheyecandler.org/>
- There is a flyer attached with additional information.

I Have a Dream...



Our students demonstrated kindness and respect for everyone through their “I Have a Dream Project”. Each classroom decorated their door with their dreams for our world, and it was touching to see the compassion within these walls. Here is a small sampling of some of their work (see Facebook for more).

Porter Academy is dedicated to educating children by utilizing individualized programs that are appropriate to each student's development level and learning style. Your child can succeed in the right environment.