



New Field School

Respect Responsibility Collaboration

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Dear New Field families,

Fall is here and the school year is well underway. Today you should receive your child's progress report for the first five weeks of school. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with your child's teacher regarding grades, missing homework or assignments, progress in reading, writing math and more. Our teachers have also just concluded our beginning of year reading assessment, BAS, to determine your child's independent reading level. We scale children on a reading system A-Z, A representing mid-year kindergarten and Z representing an 8th grade reading level. Students that are emerging readers may be a PC (print concepts) or RB, (reading behaviors). Consider going to the Chicago Public Library and finding books that align with your child's level and practice reading every night before bed.

I would also like to take this opportunity and tell you about some exciting instructional practices at New Field. All of our teachers have just begun a year-long study of our writing workshop curriculum to best support the individual needs of students. Our fourth grade teachers are launching a new curricular initiative called *Second Step*. Second Step is a curriculum that addresses social emotional learning needs and is a part of the social studies content area. It teaches children about empathy, building positive peer relationships, healthy self-esteem and how to deal with conflict respectfully.

We also have some exciting arts and experiential learning opportunities launching this month. Kindergarteners will take a field trip to the Chicago Botanic Gardens, second grade has begun working with Lifeline Theater and will take a walking field trip to see a play at the end of October. Our Chicago Children's Choir has started and boasts our largest choir to date with over 70 students!

October is also a busy month for our community and ripe with volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved. October 10 is School Picture Day. On Saturday, October 14 we are hosting a free flu vaccine clinic for children and adults aged 10+. **Also on Saturday, October 14 at 12:30 PM we are hosting a New Field Movie Day.** The entrance fee is \$1.00 and we will sell popcorn and water. Bring a blanket, pillows and snacks if you wish and come enjoy a movie with us on a Saturday afternoon. All money will go towards childcare for LSC meetings. Another great opportunity for community fun is Sullivan High School's Worldest on Saturday, October 21. If you are interested in volunteering at New Field we will have a fingerprinting session on Wednesday, October 18 from 9-12. As always, all events are posted on our website and school calendar. We look forward to seeing you at one of our many events this October.

Regards,

Conrey Callahan