

The Eagles Newsletter

Principal's Corner

Good Day Students, Parents, Guardians and Staff of Imagine Foundations at Morningside. We have completed two weeks of school, and if the past ten days are any indication of what the year is going to be like....LOOK OUT, we are well on our way to success.

I would like to thank all of you for your kind words, prayers and support over the past two weeks, as I have tried my best to keep the many balls I am juggling "up in the air". With that said, I am looking forward to an exciting school year. We have a GREAT mix of young, energetic and very talented first year teachers; educators who have experience at Imagine Schools in other parts of the country, and a few "wily" veterans.

OUR emphasis this year is to provide a world-class education, promote shared values, and have "Joy at Work". Students will be exposed to challenging curriculum, educational opportunities through exploration and project based learning, and meaningful field trips both inside and outside of the school.

WE are looking forward to a break-out school year, and with the support of our stakeholders, a school year we hope all of us will remember as successful, meaningful and FUN.

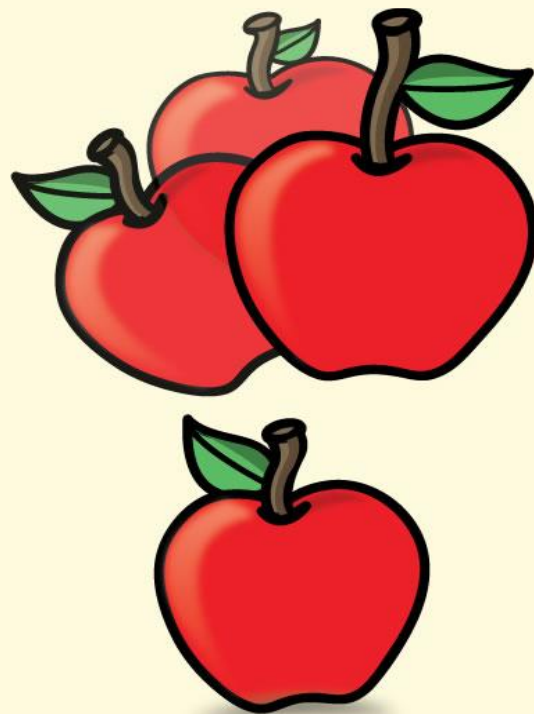
School News

During the month of September, Mrs. Zitofsky, Imagine Morningside's Professional Counselor, will be visiting each of the classrooms to talk about her role as the School Counselor and to discuss the steps of DEBUG to our students.

What is DEBUG?

Imagine Foundations at Morningside has adopted DEBUG, a five-step conflict resolution strategy, as a way to empower children to become assertive individuals and to self-manage conflicts. DEBUG also helps to clarify the adult's role as one of assisting children after students have attempted to resolve conflicts on their own. As the DEBUG steps can also be used and reinforced outside of the school setting, it is important for you as caretakers to know them as well. This is how it works:

1. Decide to Ignore. If that doesn't work...
2. Exit or Move away. If that doesn't work...
3. Be friendly. If that doesn't work...
4. Use firm words. If that doesn't work...
5. Get an adult



Character Development

If you did not already know Friday, September 21, 2012 is the International Day of Peace! "Peace Day" provides an opportunity for children and adults to create and participate in acts of peace on a shared date.

In honor of "Peace Day", we will be focusing on the character trait of PEACE for the month of September where our students will be learning about what peace means and will be participating in a variety of activities focused around peace.



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Dates to Remember

1. **September 10th** – Book Drive Kick Off
2. **September 17th** – School Closed - Rosh Hashanah
3. **September 21st** – International Peace Day
- Visiting author, James Merritt
4. **September 28th** – School Closed - Professional Development Day

Classroom Highlights – Third Grade

Written by Ms. Lassus and Madison Heuston (Student)

During the first few weeks of school, the third grade class has been thinking and learning about setting goals and taking responsibility for their education. As a class we outlined our paths to the future, thinking about what our dream jobs are, and what kind of work we will have to do to get there. The third grade team felt that the best way to get the students invested in school and their futures was to help them practice applying for jobs.

First, Ms. Lassus and Mrs. Stone brainstormed a list of classroom jobs with their students and developed a job application for each student to fill out. Students had to reflect on their best skills and talents and asked family and friends for letters of recommendation. The process concluded with an offer letter that was given to them after their job interview.

Madison Hueston of Ms. Lassus's class enjoyed the chance to apply for many different jobs. "All of us had our four top choices. Some of the job choices are Artist in Residence, Teacher's Temp and Environmentalist. After that, we got an offer letter." Parents, teachers, and students have all enjoyed the application process because it has gotten the third grade very invested in their classrooms and the future.

Madison adds that, "it's important for third grade to have responsibilities because when we are in fourth grade we are going to have to be trustworthy." Each student will be rewarded for their hard work with a paycheck of Eagle Feathers at the end of the week (to be distributed by the class Bankers). Students will have their pay docked for misbehavior or for failing to follow through on their responsibilities. Employees who do an excellent job will be rewarded at an "office party" at the end of the first 9 weeks. We look forward to letting you all know about how our oldest students are living out Imagine's value of "Fun" in the coming weeks!

Imagine Morningside Arts

The Arts Teach...

1. The arts teach children to make good judgments about qualitative relationships.
2. The arts teach children that problems can have more than one solution.
3. The arts celebrate multiple perspectives.
4. The arts teach children that in complex forms of problem solving purposes are seldom fixed, but change with circumstance and opportunity.
5. The arts make vivid the fact that neither words in their literal form nor numbers exhaust what we can know.

Special Thanks to Our Contributors:

Dr. Thompson, Mrs. Zitofsky,
Ms. Lassus, Madison Heuston, and
Mrs. McGill Thompson

