

The Bulldog Bulletin

Alden Primary School – October 2023



A Note from Mr. Stepnick

Dear Primary School Families,

It's hard to believe that we've already completed our first month of school. We hope your child is excited about their new class and is enjoying each new day here at Alden Primary!

October will be a fun and busy month. October 2nd - 6th is our first district-wide "Safety Week" of the year. During this week, students are traditionally exposed to a variety of school safety drills and tips for personal safety & well-being outside of school. This year, we will conduct several state-mandated drills including a fire drill with blocked exits, and a lockdown drill. In addition, volunteer firefighters from the Townline Fire Department will be visiting Alden Primary School to discuss fire safety tips and to show students the trucks and equipment that they use on a regular basis.



Throughout the month, many of our classrooms will also be engaged in a variety of fall-themed activities such as applesauce-making, pumpkin decorating, and projects involving the transition from summer to fall. Fall is a beautiful season in WNY, and we are looking forward to celebrating its arrival together!

Looking ahead to the end of the month, we are excited about our annual APS Halloween Parade (Friday, Oct. 27th). Although visitors are not possible for this event, we know that students will still be excited to dress up for one another and parade around the school! Last year, we were able to share video footage of the parade and we plan on doing something similar for families this year. Please see the enclosed flyer for some important details about our parade.

Check out copies of our Bulldog Bulletin at any time on our Primary School website under the "For Parents" tab!

School Picture Day

October 11th

Students do not need to purchase pictures, but all students will get to have their picture taken for PowerSchool entry and for our school yearbook. If your child is on our "Do Not Photograph" list, their photo will not be included in the yearbook.

Pictures packages may be ordered online or with the Inter-State order forms.



If students are absent on Picture Day, we will have a make-up date in mid-November!



PTO Happenings

Thank you for your support with our fall mum sale! Over 800 mums were purchased between the two elementary buildings. We are always looking for help and would love to see some new faces at our next meeting!

October 10th - 6:30 PM

PTO Meeting - PS Library

Questions?

Please contact Mrs. Jackie Canetti,
PTO President, at 716-983-1650 or
aldenprimarypto@yahoo.com



Student Notes

When sending a handwritten note to school (excuse, early dismissal, etc.), please ensure that the note includes all of the following information. By including the information below, we can help limit any confusion between the classrooms and the Main Office. If you need a quick template for a school note, feel free to make copies of the attached form. We appreciate your help with this!

- The date
- Your child's first and last name
- Your child's teacher's name
- The first and last name of any adults that are mentioned
- The reason for the absence/tardy/early dismissal
- The date(s) the note is intended for

Curriculum Carnival - Friday, October 20th

We are in need of student projects and presenters for our Curriculum Carnival in October! If your child would like to present a project and you haven't returned your RSVP sheet, please do so by 10/6!



We also need volunteers to assist with games and stations (evening events outside of school hours do not require volunteer training). If you would like to help out on 10/20, please consider joining us at our next meeting on October 10th for additional information.



**Primary School doors are open
between 7:45 AM – 8:05 AM for AM
drop-off. Students who arrive after
8:05 AM should enter the building
with a parent or another adult.**

ALDEN YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

SIGN UP's (Alden Community Center: 13116 W. Main St.)

October 10th (Tuesday) 6pm-8pm

October 14th (Saturday) 6pm-8pm

October 21st (Saturday) 10am-12pm

Coaches are always needed and appreciated

Age Groups:

1st & 2nd Grade (\$30 – Includes T-shirt)

3rd & 4th Grade (\$50 – Includes Jersey)

5th & 6th Grade (\$50 – Includes Jersey)

7th & 8th Grade (\$50 – Includes Jersey)

**If your child already has an Alden Rec. Jersey, Deduct \$10 from Entry.



Season Details:

November 2023 – March 2024 (Practice/Games & Days/Times TBD)

Location: Alden Primary, Middle, & HS Gym's

CONTACT:

Joe Blahowicz: (716) 597-5845 (jblahowicz@gmail.com)



TO: _____

FROM: _____
(Parent's Signature)

DATE: _____

STUDENT: _____

(Check applicable box)

☐ is late due to _____

☐ will be picked up at _____ AM/PM _____
by _____

☐ will be going home with _____
address _____

☐ is returning to school after a _____ day absence due to _____

☐ other _____

Thank You For Supporting Your PTO!



TO: _____

FROM: _____
(Parent's Signature)

DATE: _____

STUDENT: _____

(Check applicable box)

☐ is late due to _____

☐ will be picked up at _____ AM/PM _____
by _____

☐ will be going home with _____
address _____

☐ is returning to school after a _____ day absence due to _____

☐ other _____

Thank You For Supporting Your PTO!

News and Notes:

*Please see the attached letter regarding our Halloween traditions and festivities at the end of the month.

*If students are absent for Picture Day, we will have a retake date in November. Students will be able to have their picture taken at that time.

*Additional flyers will be coming home regarding the Halloween Spooktacular and Trunk or Treat events sponsored by the Alden Substance Abuse Coalition in the coming weeks.

*Temperatures are gradually beginning to drop. Please ensure that students are prepared for chilly mornings at the bus stop with sweatshirts and light jackets.

Extended Learning Opportunity Fall Session 2 runs from Oct. 16-26 Mon-Thurs ONLY
Parent pick up is at 3:45
Spanish club starts Oct 16



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7
District-Wide Safety Week					
		Fire Safety Day	BOE Mtg. 6:30 PM	Early Dismissal Parents: 10:45 Busses: 11:00	
9 Columbus Day (No School)	10 PTO Meeting 6:30 PM	11 Picture Day! 	12	13 Bulldog Day Wear blue & gold! 	14
16	17	18 Unity Day Wear Orange 	19 BOE Mtg. 6:30 PM	20 Curriculum Carnival 6-8 PM Halloween Spooktacular	21 Trunk or Treat 3-5 PM Halloween Spooktacular 6-9
23	24	25	26	27	28
Red Ribbon Week					
Spirit Day Wear PJ Day 	Spirit Day Tie Dye Day 	Spirit Day Wear Red 	Spirit Day Jersey Day 	Halloween Parade! 	
30	31  (Class Parties)				



11197 Broadway, Alden, NY 14004

(716) 937-9116 ext. 6191

HALLOWEEN PARADE

One of our most exciting traditions at Alden Primary School is our annual Halloween Parade! Students enjoy dressing up in their costumes and seeing the creativity of their classmates!

In order for our parade to continue to be successful, we are asking that all of our families assist us with several things. Please review the bullet points below for additional information.

- Due to safety concerns and lack of space, **visitors are not permitted** to attend our parade.
- Our parade will be held indoors in the Primary School hallways. The weather is difficult to predict, and we do not want students to have to cover their costumes up with coats/sweatshirts.
- Our parade usually takes place in the afternoon and communication to the classrooms will be difficult at this time. Please **do not plan for any early dismissals between 1:00 – 2:00 PM** on October 27th. If this is unavoidable, please contact the Main Office ASAP.
- Students should be able to handle putting the majority of their costume on themselves. Teachers and staff can assist with difficult tasks like zippering and buttoning, but they will not be able to apply things like make-up and hair dye.
- Because we want our families to be able to share in the excitement of this day, we are planning to record our parade and share the footage through our website. We will do our best to get the video uploaded as quickly as we can! Students on our “Do Not Photograph List” will not be visible in the video.

General Parade Reminders

- ❖ Students should not wear their costumes to school.
- ❖ Fake weapons are not permitted.
- ❖ Be considerate of others: no fake blood or excessive gore that could frighten young classmates.

