

THE HEDGEHOG HERALD

September, 2008

Dear Parents,

The focus of this newsletter is on student progress and how that information is reported to you. We have been in school for almost a full nine weeks; therefore it's time for us to send you formal information regarding your child's progress.

Interim reports

Interim reports are sent home for two reasons: to share how much progress your child is making and/or to share with you your child's areas of need. This information is sent out mid-quarter for all students in grades one through five. Kindergarten will send an interim home at the end of the first quarter since you will not be receiving a report card from them. Interims will go out again for all students at the mid of third quarter; however if there are concerns with regards to your child's academic or behavioral progress you will get an interim each quarter.

It is important that you read the information sent home and work with your child on those areas where he/she may be experiencing difficulty. Our goal at Holly Grove is for every child to be successful. The R (retention) word is not one that we have in our vocabulary at this time. We will **strive** to ensure that each child is on or above grade level and where that **is not** the case, we will keep you informed. It is important that you work with us as we work with your child to help him/her grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued quarterly for all students. Kindergarten and First grade do not send out report cards for the end of the first quarter. Parent conferences are held in lieu of report cards. Kindergarten teachers do not send out report cards third quarter either. The dates that report cards will be sent home are listed in our student-parent handbook.

Remedial/Enrichment support

For students in grades K-2 who are experiencing academic difficulty, we have a literacy program and teacher that will work with students who qualify for service. Students are ranked and those with the greatest need will be served. At the 3-5 grade level, we have an Accelerated Learning Teacher, who is currently serving our level 1 and 2 students as well as other students during the day to provide remedial support as needed. This year, we have a 45-minute period in the morning that we call "power hour." This is a time when our entire school is focused on literacy or math instruction. All specialists in the building have been assigned to a grade level to provide support during this period of the day. This is new and we are learning and adjusting as we go; however the goal is to reduce class sizes during this time to provide a focused lesson either to enrich or remediate.

If we can assist you with strategies, clarification of activities, etc., please call us at 577-1700.

Sincerely,
Wiladean R. Thomas,
Principal