The Li’l Paws, v1n1, October 1976
Malcolm Price Laboratory School

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This is the first of several newsletters we hope to produce this year in an effort to keep the parents and friends of children in the elementary division of Price Laboratory School informed about the events and activities which take place at school. We hope you will find this publication of interest and share it with your friends and neighbors. Your reactions to this issue and ideas for future LI'L PAWS will be appreciated. Please submit to: Dr. James Doud, Elementary Principal (273-2512).

The LI'L PAWS title comes from the relationship of the elementary division to the NUHS Little Panthers and UNI Panthers. With NUHS Little Panther paws evident this homecoming week, it seemed a natural time for this initial publication.

NEW FACES AND ASSIGNMENTS

We are pleased to announce the following persons new to the elementary school faculty this year:

Mrs. Barbara Burke - Unit I
Mrs. Janet McClain - Primary Reading
Mrs. Linda Christensen - Resource Room
Miss Deborah Green - PE
Mr. Robert Schneider - PE
Mr. Robert Putnam - PE

Three faculty members are working different assignments this year:

Mrs. Soy - Intermediate Reading and Math
Mrs. Hornby - Unit V
Mrs. Parisho - Special assignment developing instructional materials regarding blacks in Iowa history.

UNIT IV

The focal point in Unit IV lately, has been the structures built in science classes. Although the structures come in many sizes, shapes, and forms, they all have two things in common. All are built of paper or cardstock, and none of them use glue, staples, paper clips or any other fasteners to hold them together or lend support. Sound easy? Can you build a structure out of four small sheets of paper which will support 15 kilograms of books? We can!

Our staff has remained almost the same this year. It includes Wayne McGarren (273-2608), Lynn Nielsen (273-2209), Joanne Wolfe (273-2711) and David Christensen (273-2032). We also share Eloise Soy (273-2608) with the team in Unit V.
Our circus unit has come to a close much to everyone's regret. We wish to thank all of you who sent dress-up clothes, costumes, and jewelry. Video tapes were made of our circuses and they will be available for viewing at our first Home­room Meeting which will be held in November.

We are currently studying fall and the cooperation from the weather has been outstanding. We walked to Karl Koelle's backyard to inspect the progress made by the pumpkin seeds we planted there last spring and were delighted to find two small but healthy specimens. We visited our friends at 8th grade camp and enjoyed much observation and collection, the residue of which you may have seen.

Because young children are often over-stimulated frightened, and confused by the ghosts, goblins and spooks that appear at Halloween time, we have decided to handle the holiday by giving a party rather than having one in the classroom. We will, with the aid of one of the university classes, bake cookies and take them to the Western Home and the Lutheran Home for distribution. We will treat, hopefully not trick, our Senior Citizen friends with cookies, songs, and a look at us in our costumes. More specific notes about the procedure for this will be sent home in mid-October.

Teachers in Unit I are: Judy Finkelstein (273-2172) and Barbara Burke (273-2007).

Halloween Parties

Halloween parties will be held on October 28 (Thursday) between 2:00 and 3:00 o'clock. Pupils in the primary grades may bring their costumes to school and change into them prior to the party. We suggest that you label your child's costume and send it in a paper bag.

The "Counselor's Corner"

I spend time each week with first grade students, involving them in activities designed to increase their understanding about such things as good interpersonal relationships, rights and responsibilities and decision making. Last week the teachers and I held a discussion with the students about how to make good choices during "center" time: what good center behavior is, and how to choose a center. Students were each given a chart so as to help them plan their day's activities; a space containing happy/sad/neutral "faces" provides a means for self evaluation of center participation. These charts are frequently discussed and in this way we hope to help students learn to make good choices, and to take responsibility for, and evaluate their own behavior.

Ann Vernon, Elementary Counselor (273-2220)

Unit V

Where do Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford stand on the issues? Many adults are trying to answer that question, and it will be of special importance to Unit V students in the next few weeks. Students will assume the roles of the presidential candidates and at least ten other politicians in an elections unit designed to help the class understand the election processes through role play involvement. Activities will include candidate selection, visits to party headquarters, learning each candidate's stand, debating the issues, campaigning, and provision for our own election. It will be interesting to compare our results with the official election returns.

Teachers in Unit V are Joyce Hornby (273-2446), Marc Yoder (273-2368), and Eloise Soy (273-2608).
UNIT II

It hasn’t taken long for the first graders to get into the routine. They are all busy with reading groups, independent seatwork, interest centers, mathematics, and science or social studies. Having just completed a study of “Families”, the unit has two interesting displays; family photographs and originally drawn pictures of their families with accompanying stories.

There are forty first graders this year and seven are new to our school. Three are from as far away as Tennessee, South Carolina, and Florida.

Each day is important in the life of a first grader and they are eager to share their experiences with their parents. Please feel free to visit school at any time. Teachers in Unit II are: Mary Butzier (273-2101), Judy Gish (273-2168), and Janet McClain (273-2251).

SAFETY PATROL

The 1976-77 Safety Patrol includes 58 students from the 5th and 6th grades. Service on the Patrol is voluntary, although members are elected for their courtesy, dependability, interest in their job, physical fitness, attitude toward others, and scholastic standing.

We have initiated a program with the Cedar Falls Police Department which we hope will increase the effectiveness of our Patrol. Dennis Saak, School Resource Officer, and Scott Moline, uniformed Patrolman, will meet with the Patrol 3 or 4 times during the year for in-service training. Patrol officers (Capt. Donny Findlay, Lt. Carol Glasscock and Lt. Scott Treiber) will meet with these men more often to keep things going well. If this program is successful, we hope it can be expanded into other interested Cedar Falls elementary schools.

PRESCHOOL SPEECH/LANGUAGE SERVICES

Area Education Agency 7 will offer speech and language services to preschool children who are suspected of having speech and language problems. Children will be evaluated on a referral basis. Recommendations will be made for each child and therapy will be initiated if indicated. For more information about this free service, call the AEA-7 office: 277-3330.

TENNIS SHOES FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The fieldhouse remodeling is now essentially completed and several precautions are required for care and preservation of the new surface. We are especially concerned about keeping out dirt and in preventing the use of items which will mark the surface. For these reasons, we request that all children have a pair of tennis shoes which may be worn only for physical education classes. Shoes which are worn all day, particularly in inclement weather, bring a great deal of dirt into the area. Your cooperation in avoiding purchase of extremely dark-soled tennis shoes will be appreciated.

UNIT VI

Teachers in Unit VI are Mrs. Linda Williams, Mrs. Linda Christensen, and Mr. Jim Clausen. Mrs. Williams (273-6064) teaches in a program housed in the Education Center and serves five profoundly handicapped youngsters. Mrs. Christensen (273-2233) teaches in various units in MPLS and serves eighteen students in a multi-categorical resource program. Mr. Clausen (273-2233) teaches in room 5 at MPLS and has a class of nine mildly handicapped youngsters.

Mr. Clausen’s class is presently working with math concepts related to money and time. They are involved in a health unit on nutrition and are working on written communication skills. All activities are highly individualized and are oriented toward practical life skills.
On the afternoon of September 29, Unit III went “Metric Outdoors.” All the children participated in eight metric centers: running long jump, standing long jump, softball throw, high jump, Big Foot, giant step, measure me, and Frisbee throw. Distances were measured in metres, decimetres, and centimetres. Super afternoon!

Each Tuesday and Thursday we are enjoying the friendship and learning experience of working with university students enrolled in Dr. Jeanne Harms’ “Teaching Expressive Language Arts” class. We’ve already had four puppet shows! These seem to be favorite days in Unit III.

Elections are coming and Unit III is implementing a social studies unit related to the electoral process. Things are in high gear now. Students are studying the forms of local, state, and national government; the candidates, and the issues. We have our own precincts and we’re even going to register to vote.

A big thank you to all parents who sent plastic containers! Would you believe we have enough plastic to have our own container company? With this kind of parental support, we can do the impossible!

Unit III welcomes your phone calls—whether they relate to colds, late buses, meetings, or conferences. Feel free to phone Maribelle Betterton, Beverly Ewald, Beverly Smith, and Betty Strub (273-2540 or 273-2428) or Janet McClain (273-2251).

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

A project to support purchase of elementary school playground equipment was approved at the first general meeting of the Lab School PTA on Thursday, October 7th. The project simply requires that we save the portion of the Post cereal box top that includes the “Freshness Date.” Only Post cereals are included in the project. These include: Grape-Nuts, Raisin Bran, Toasties, Grape Nuts Flakes, 40% Bran Flakes, Fortified Oat Flakes, Super Sugar Crisp, Alpha Bits, Honeycomb, Fruity Pebbles, Cocoa Pebbles, Frosted Rice Krispies, Tens, and Treat Pak. Please help our school by saving the Post cereal box tops and sending them to the Elementary Office each week! The project ends March 31, 1977.

BICENTENNIAL YEARBOOK SALE

Bicentennial Yearbooks are now for sale at a reduced price. The yearbooks, produced by a multi-aged photography group in May, are a pictorial record of happenings at MPLS during the bicentennial year Units I–VI, special area classes, and bicentennial multi-aged groups are pictured. These yearbooks are available in the Elementary Office for only $1.50. Get one for your family now, before they are gone!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 22 — NO ELEMENTARY CLASSES (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
Oct. 28 — Halloween Parties at school
Oct. 29 — NO SCHOOL (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
Nov. 9 — Unit IV Homeroom Meeting
Nov. 10 — Unit III Homeroom Meeting
Nov. 11 — Unit II Homeroom Meeting
Nov. 25-26 — Thanksgiving Recess
Dec. 21 — Elementary Christmas Program
Dec. 22-Jan. 3 — Christmas Vacation
Jan. 4 — Classes Resume

PTA PARENT FUN NIGHT – NOV. 18