



A LITTLE GENERAL NEWS



Volume XXV Issue 1 Salem Elementary Salem, NY 12865 September 2018

Our First Month Has Begun

Welcome Back to School— During the 2018-19 school year, we look



forward to happy beginnings and sweet endings. As we continue to strengthen positive relationships and ongoing communication, we will nurture social and emotional well being in a safe and supportive environment. With the many demands in everyday life, there are ways that staff and parents can assist students in maintaining a healthy life balance by helping them to express their feelings appropriately, think before they react, and connect with others. Self-awareness of emotions and reactions encourages respectable interactions, enhances learning performance, and expands the students' ability to control their decisions. Most importantly, a caring atmosphere is evident when we are present, listening, and talking with each other. Please take time to read the entire newsletter. On the calendar, save the dates for any upcoming September activities that you and your family are interested in attending. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sharon Varney
PK-6 Principal

2018-2019 Student & Parent Handbook

The youngest PK-6 child in your family will be bringing home the 2018-2019 PK-12 Student - Parent Handbook. Please take some time to review the handbook with your child(ren), then complete the acknowledgement sheet found in the front of the handbook and return it to school as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns about information contained in the handbook, please contact me.

PTA Meeting - The first meeting of the PTA will be held on **Tuesday, September 11th at 6:00 pm at Brooklyn Marie's Restaurant** on Main Street. All parents are encouraged to attend and become involved. The success of the PTA depends on your involvement and participation! Our PTA officers for the 2018-2019 school year are as follows: Meghan Aubrey-President, Kari Mancine-Vice President, Kerri Buck-Secretary, and Tanya Carney-Treasurer.

Bus Loading & Unloading Procedures

Bus loading and unloading will take place in the archway again this year. Only buses are permitted in the archway driveway. Parents who transport their children to school may drop them off in front of the school on East Broadway or use the west driveway to the school and stop in the special student drop off zone. Once students are dropped off, cars may proceed into the parking lot in order to turn around and exit. **Parents should not drop their children off at school before 7:55 am.** For safety reasons no parking is permitted in the west driveway at anytime. If you need to enter school or help your child into the building, please park your car in the parking lot first. Parents who pick their children up in the afternoon should park on East Broadway or in the west driveway parking lot. Children who walk to school may enter the building through the archway doors. Students should not arrive or enter the school before 7:55 am. Parents who pick their children up at the end of the day should meet their children in front of the school in the vicinity of the flag pole.

Welcome Back

Important Reminders-

- The cafeteria is available for students to wait for school to begin starting at 7:30. Breakfast is available for students starting at 7:45 in the cafeteria. Students should not be in the hallways or outside teachers doors prior to 7:55. Students are tardy after 8:05; any PK-6 child who arrives at school late needs to be signed in by a parent or guardian at the elementary office.
- In the event your child is absent from school, please call the elementary office at 854-9505 by 8:15 to inform us of the absence. An email or written note needs to be sent in with your child on the day of their return to school, otherwise, the absence will remain unexcused even if you made the phone call. Our automated system, *SchoolMessenger*, will call any family who does not report the absence to the office either by phone, email, or in person the morning of the absence.
- If it is necessary for your child to be dismissed early (before 2:20), please send in a note to your child's teacher so that we can have your child ready to leave. Children must be signed out in the elementary office.
- Student/Parent/Contact Information sheets were mailed home to each child at the end of the summer. Please be sure to update the information on this sheet; it is extremely important that we have up to date information to be able to contact parents/guardians in the case of an emergency. If the information is current, **please sign the salmon colored form on the back and return to school ASAP.**

PTA Fundraiser —The annual PTA fundraiser materials will go home with students on September 17 and are due back by October 1. This fundraiser supports their yearly teacher grants and scholarships. These grants help teachers pay for additional supplies, programs, and field trips for our students.