



Trix Academy

November 12, 2018

From the Desk of the Principal

Hello Trix Academy families,

As we end Quarter 1, Trix Academy would like to acknowledge all parents, guardians, and extended family that has helped each scholar at Trix Academy have a successful start to the school year. At the beginning of the school year, I relayed the message of scholars at Trix Academy will have a few new programs and expanding upon existing programs throughout the 2018-2019 school year.

The first new opportunity for our scholars is the creation of our Student Council. Towards the end of October and the beginning of November, scholars had the opportunity to run for either President, Vice-President, Secretary or Class Representative. Scholars developed their campaign including writing their own speech, creating their own posters and flyers. Middle school scholars had the opportunity to ask questions of their peers to help them determine who they will cast their vote for in choosing the best candidate for each position. This process gave scholars an avenue to expand and apply skills they have learned in their multiple classes. I look forward to having conversations with our Student Council as they will pave the way for Trix Academy's student body to have their voices heard. I am proud of all who ran, as it shows they want to be a leader within their learning environment.

In addition to Student Council, during the first marking period, scholars also began participating in our first fundraiser, which will benefit all scholars at Trix Academy. The funds raised will go directly to the scholars to help each scholar extend what they have learned in class, such as on field trips. During Quarter 2, additional programming be offered for Trix Academy scholars, therefore please stay tuned.

Sincerely,

Ms. Coleman

December's Virtue: Reciprocity

As a reminder, Trix Academy is focusing on a new virtue. During the month of November, all scholars will learn in detail what reciprocity means and how to apply it during the learning process and at home. Reciprocity means an interchange of rights and benefits between individuals. When scholars demonstrate reciprocity, they will care and provide for peers and expects for peers to provide for them.

Dates and Times to Remember

November 14: Parent-Teacher Conferences
10am-6pm

November 15: Picture Day

November 21-23: Thanksgiving Break (No School)

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What's Going on in Lower Elementary

Kindergarten

We have had such an amazing fall! Our class has been working on learning sight words and letter sounds. We have also been practicing adding numbers 0-5. The children have also been working on patterns and sequencing. Please remember to read for at least 20 minutes each night. We look forward to meeting with each of you at Parent Teacher Conferences. Thank you again for all your help and support.

First Grade - Ms. Yancy

Hello Families! We are continuing to work hard in Room 102. Recently, I have assessed each scholars reading level. We continue to read, blend and spell words to develop reading fluency. I encourage all parents to continue reading at home for 15 minutes at minimum each day. As we dig deeper into our Saxon Curriculum for Math, we have mastered the skill of completing addition sentences and created addition sentences on our own. Soon we will do the same with subtraction. Our virtue for the month is Reciprocity. This is perfect for the month of November as we begin to focus on thanks during the giving season. I encourage you to talk with your children about this virtue.

First Grade - Ms. Broadie

Hello Parents. We finished off quarter one strong and are now moving into the new quarter focusing on the following skills: noun/adjective identification, short/long vowel classifications, synonym/antonym pairs, addition (doubles), and one digit subtraction. Moving forward your child will be expected to read every night via their reading a-z. I will discuss reading a-z in depth at conferences on November 14th. I look forward to seeing you.

Second Grade - Ms. Winn

Hello Trix Parents and Scholars! I am pleased to have the opportunity to work with your children. Here is an update on things we have covered during the First Quarter of Second Grade. Review from end of the year First Grade continuing to work on connecting letters and sounds to make words. Reading fluency, vocabulary, comprehension strategies. Showing an understanding of the lesson in a story by asking and answering questions about it (who, what, where, when, why, and how). Identifying the different parts of speech as we begin to move through the writing process. In MATH our focus was on addition facts, counting odd and even numbers. Writing and solving number sentences, word problems, calendar math, telling time to the hour, along with shape attributes. So far this year in SOCIAL STUDIES scholars have learned about different communities, customs, and traditions of different cultures. In SCIENCE they have explored animal habitats and how plants grow. Parents if you want a good laugh ask your scholar about our class project Lee Lee The Sweet Potato! We are excited to continue our hand at growing vegetables so stay tuned. Remember homework is given out Monday through Thursday with the reading logs due every Friday. Please make reading a priority. Set time aside each evening for family reading and encourage your child to reach his/her reading goal.

Second Grade - Ms. Long

Hello families! We have had a busy quarter one! Scholars have been working on reading fluency, comprehension skills, parts of speech and writing complete sentences. In math scholars have learned a vast amount of skills including telling time, addition facts, calendar skills, shape attributes, problem solving skills and much more. In social studies scholars have learned about communities. Scholars have focused on non living and living things, performing experiments and life cycles in science. Please remember to assist your scholars with their homework nightly. Reminder that homework is given Monday through Thursday and reading logs are due on Friday.

What's Going on in Upper Elementary Continued

Third Grade - Ms. Hinton

We were very busy in 3rd grade in the month of October. Here are some of the skills your child has learned. In math student learned how to count money (Coins), tell time to the half hour, how to read a thermometer, and an introduction to fractions. In ELA scholars worked on our Reading Comprehension skills, understanding the parts of a sentence as well as learning more about synonyms, antonyms and related words. In Social Studies scholars completed a report about our Great State of Michigan. We learned about all the great things that Michigan has to offer. I hope you were able to take a look at the reports because the scholars did a wonderful job. In addition, to the report, scholars also learned about some of the people that helped make our state great. In science scholars learned interesting information about the needs of plants and animals. Please make sure your scholar reads each night to help with their Reading Fluency.

Fourth Grade - Mr. McElhaney

This quarter had been an interesting one. In math we have focused in on the processes of how to complete equations. While the math may have seemed easy at first, students really had to be able to explain what they were doing and why they were doing it, which is much more difficult than it sounds. In English students learned how to identify subjects and predicates, as well as finding and fixing incomplete or runon sentences. Moving into next quarter students will be working more with writing complete five paragraph essays and in math they'll be moving into multiplication and division. As always my door is always open, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to see me.

Fifth Grade - Ms. Turmon

What scholars have learned first quarter; The Basics. Fifth graders has been working hard on projects and tasks that require them to draw on the skills and strategies they have been learning in elementary school. We are a self-contained classroom, therefore we study skills in all subjects regarding math, science , ELA, and last but not least social studies. Scholars have learned formatting paragraphs, compound words, fractions, graphing, multiplying with three digit numbers, American Revolution, and The solar system. However there's still knowledge to gain we will continue to tap into our brains and expand our vocabulary with many group discussions and fundamental games.

What's Going On in Middle School

Middle School Science - Ms. Brown

Your scholars have been excelling in Science during this quarter. We have learned the Scientific Method and how it can be applied in the real world scenarios. Sixth and seventh-grade science is wrapping up a unit on Classifying Matter. Your scholars can tell the difference between a physical or chemical change in matter. They have also explored how to classify objects as matter and what matter is made of. In the 8th grade, scholars have explored the Solar System. They should be able to tell you the types of objects that can be found in our solar system. To test their knowledge, ask your scholar to explain to you why Pluto is no longer a planet. It has been my pleasure to spend this first quarter with your scholar.

What's Going on in Middle School Continued

Middle School ELA - Mr. Boss

In quarter 1, scholars in 7th and 8th grade focused on writing evidence based arguments. Eighth focused on culture and immigration. Seventh grade focused on making bold actions and their consequences. Sixth grade focused on famous people who all took a stand for something while looking deeper into their reading comprehension skills. Seventh and eighth grade scholars will write their final argumentative essays before beginning unit 2, while sixth grade scholars will start looking at ancient cultures.

Middle School Math - Ms. Johnson

Hello Trix Family,

Quarter 1 has come to an end and we are getting started with Quarter 2, wow that was fast. During Quarter 1 scholars and I worked on building vocabulary, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing whole number and money. Finding unknown numbers with adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. Solving linear equations and Fact Families. In Quarter 2 we will be jumping into order of operations, fractional parts, lines, segments and rays, linear measure, perimeter, sequences and scales. The number line: order and comparing. As we see Quarter 2 is digging deeper and will be more challenging for scholars so it is important that every scholar comes to school and is ready to focus. Thank you for your cooperation and entrusting us with your scholars.

Middle School Social Studies

In middle school scholars began learning about the voting process through the election of Trix Academy's Student Council. Scholars learned the importance of voting, how to choose candidates that can fulfill the responsibilities of the position and who can help scholars get their voice heard. Middle school scholars demonstrated their understanding of the process by asking follow up question to their curiosity and in demeanor when choosing their candidate.

What's Going On in Enrichment

Technology - Mr. Keys

It is the goal of Phalen Leadership Academy to prepare students for the future, even though the future is unknown. We must provide students with the tools necessary to adapt and change in a world that changes rapidly. There are five areas of technology that we focused on throughout quarter one which are: energy and power technology, transportation technology, communication technology, manufacturing technology, and construction technology. The areas listed above helped students grasp the concept of how technology is being used around them daily.

Mr. Robertson - Art

During the first quarter in Art, our K-8 scholars started working on several introductory concepts that will lay the foundation for the remainder of the school year. In general, the scholars worked on Project Preparation, Elements of Art, Safety, and proper use of supplies. In addition, the K-4 scholars also had a heavier emphasis on safety. As our scholars continued to learn about the Elements of Art, towards the end of the quarter we also began to work on time management. Overall, the first quarter was a success and the scholars are gaining more confidence in Art.

What's Going on in Enrichment (continued)

Physical Education - Mr. Castellon

What a great year this has been for us so far in Physical Education. We have been having fun while learning soccer, basketball, and Floor Hockey skills and so much more. We have had a Fitness Unit for K-8 and it was amazing! For Kindergarten through second grade they have learned how to throw overhand, and have been working hard on their locomotor movement skills, manipulative skills and spatial awareness. We get lots of exercise in so many fun ways in the gym. We will continue to talk about "My Plate" and the importance of eating healthy along with proper hygiene. I'm Looking forward to seeing you all at conferences!

Parent- Teacher Conferences and Awards Program

Trix Academy will have its first Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 14, 2018 from 10am until 6pm. Scholars will not have school on that day to ensure staff can devote as much time as needed for all of our parents. It is extremely important for all parents to attend conferences for Quarter 1 to receive additional information to help address strengths and weaknesses of each scholar. It is also extremely important for all scholars to attend conferences with parents as well. This year each scholar has set a weekly goal with their teacher regarding our Kickboard system. This will be extended during conferences as each scholar will help to lead his own parent-teacher conference as it relates to their Kickboard Character Report. Please make plans to attend and see what your scholar has learned thus far at Trix Academy. As a special note, conferences will be closed from 1pm until 2pm, however will resume at 2pm.

Third Grade Reading Law

Being a good reader is critical if a student is going to be successful in school. In order for students to be college and career ready, it is important that they have strong literacy skills. In 2016, the Michigan Legislature passed House Bill No. 4822 to ensure that children who exit Third Grade are reading at grade level. All children in Grade Three are required to take the state assessment and beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, students must be proficient on the reading portion of this test in order to be promoted to the Fourth Grade. In accordance with this law, and as a means of better informing classroom instruction, we will complete assessments in Kindergarten through Third Grade. These assessments will identify students who need intensive reading instruction and will also provide useful information to help teachers tailor instruction to meet individual student needs. Students will be assessed in reading at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year. The law also requires districts to provide written communication with parents of Kindergarten through Third Grade students who are not meeting proficiency targets. These notifications and a reading plan will be given and discussed at Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 14, 2018. It is critical for everyone to be on the same page regarding Michigan's reading law. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the principal.

A Special Dress Code Thank You

As all families are aware, Trix Academy staff is enforcing the dress code policy that has been set. We appreciate every effort you have made to ensure your child(ren) is in uniform. Thank you to all parents and guardians for having your scholars in dress code daily. Your support is greatly appreciated as we continue to move forward in the school year. Again, thank you!

Greenbriers Fundraiser

Monday, November 5th, Trix Academy kicked off our first school fundraiser. The fundraiser will run from November 5th thru November 19th. All orders and money will be due by Monday, November 19th. The fundraiser consist of popcorn and candy with a company called Greenbrier Foods. Please make sure you review the flyer, and order form. There will be a first, second and third place prize for the top sellers. Also, the class who sells the most, in dollar amount, will receive a pizza party. On November 5, 2018, all scholars participated in an assembly focusing on the fundraiser and how to remain safe. For safety reasons, please speak with your child(ren) about not going door to door. Please speak with your scholar regarding an adult helping during the fundraiser.

Breakfast

Trix Academy serves breakfast daily from 7:55am - 8:20am. It is very important for all students to arrive at breakfast time to eat breakfast. Instruction will begin daily at 8:30am, therefore all students eating breakfast must be present between 7:55am and 8:20am.

Daily Instruction Begins at 8:30am

Trix Academy instruction will begin daily at 8:30am. Promptly at 8:30am, all teaching staff will begin their daily instruction. As a school, I ask that teachers not be interrupted during this time. If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please call the office to make an appointment. Instruction time is very valuable and will not be interrupted as our scholars will be engaged in the learning process. Please make sure your child(ren) are here daily by 8:30am to receive every second of instruction during the school day. It is also important for our scholars to remain in class until the dismissal time at 3:30pm. We truly value our instructional time. If our scholars are going to have every chance at being successful, we need to have every chance to help prepare them.

Truancy and Excessive Absences

Trix Academy will continue with its Truancy Program. It is the expectation from our Intermediate School District (ISD) and the academy that students will attend school on a regular basis. Students who miss an average of 2 days per month are notably performing below peers. Excessive absences prevents our scholars from receiving the amount of instruction that is needed to apply various academic skills. Please ensure your child(ren) attend school on a regular basis. Every second of the day is critical when it comes to learning.

Dress Code

Trix Academy is a uniform school. All students in grades K-8 are expected to be in proper uniform daily. Please ensure your child(ren) are in uniform daily.

Grades K-3: Wear red polo shirt with black or khaki pants.

Grades 4-5: Wear gray polo shirt with black or khaki pants.

Grades 6-8: Wear black or white shirt with black or khaki pants.

During the cooler months, students may wear long sleeves or sweaters. All long sleeves or sweaters, must match the uniform color for the specific grade level. Jean and sweat pants are not allowed.