



October Updates



Picture Re-Takes: All students have now had their school pictures taken and as you review the samples if you find that you would like to have your child's picture retaken or your child was absent on picture day, re-takes have been scheduled for October 7th. If you are requesting a re-take, please submit your request to the office by the morning of the 7th. All picture orders including orders from re-takes are due Tuesday, October 18th.

Change in Bus Schedule: Our afternoon bus, #17 will be picking up the students at Anansi approximately 5-10 minutes later in the afternoon. Which means that our students will be picked up at Anansi at 4 or 4:05pm and will then arrive in town at 4:20-4:30pm. Our bus service has lost a driver and as a result all bus routes have had to pick up additional stops. We hope this is a temporary issue; however, our community currently lacks a sufficient number of bus drivers.

After-Care Billing: Ms. Roberta will be sending out the after care bills within the next two weeks, please stop by the office to remit your payment and if you have questions, please schedule an appointment with Ms. Roberta.

Storyteller Coming to Anansi: This Friday, October 7th Anansi will host internationally known storyteller, Laura Simms. She will be working with our students throughout the morning. This activity was made possible through the Friends of the Anansi Charter School and the school support funds.

No School lunch on October 10th & Change in the Lunch Menu October 12th: Due to the Taos Schools being closed on October 10th we will not have school lunch, all students who paid for a lunch for that day will receive a credit. All kids will need a home lunch on Monday, October 10th. The spaghetti served on October 12th will have pork meat in the sauce, if you are a family that does not eat pork, please send an email to Tracy in the office at tracy@anans.acstaos.org or stop by with a note to the office by October 11th, so that marinara sauce can be ordered.

Governance Council Meeting, Thursday, October 13th: The Anansi Charter School governance council will hold its monthly meeting in the Anansi Charter School Library at 5:30pm. Agendas are available upon request in the school office.

After School Chess Program Begins: Dennis Hedges is returning this year to provide the after school chess program, please sign up in the office if you plan to have your child participate in chess, you may sign up by the week. The program will take place in the Anansi Charter School Library on Wednesdays from 3:45-5:30pm beginning in October. This program is for every level of player and offers kids a great opportunity to learn the strategic thinking and planning skills and develop perseverance and stamina. The cost is the same as after care and the funds pay for the team of coaches who come in to help, snacks for the students, and incidental supply costs for the team.

October Anti-Bullying Awareness Month: This month is national anti-bullying awareness month and Anansi has been taking the proactive focus on kindness and Random Acts of Kindness. We are

challenging our students in grades K-5 to be “RAK-Stars” and our middle school students to be “RAKtivists”. Here are simple ways you can bring kindness in as a focus in your own homes:

- Leave an appreciation sticky note for someone in your house
- Take time to write a thank you note together, for someone you appreciate
- Take time when around the dinner table to share something you appreciated or enjoyed in your day
- Make a treat for someone
- Donate items you no longer need to others
- Lend a helping hand to others in the community
- Smile at others when you see them or when you are passing by
- Hold the door open for someone else

We have learned through our research that one simple act of kindness can lead to dozens more acts of kindness, just through witnessing the single act. This ripple can breed generosity, empathy, and a sincere care for others, please join in and pay it forward with kindness!

In addition, we will continue to educate our students about bullying and will teach them strategies for bullying prevention. Our biggest culprit is teasing others, which often seems light-hearted, but is actually very hurtful. The victim to teasing often tries to laugh along and accept the joke; however, ongoing teasing leads to feelings of exclusion, low self esteem, and acts of self-deprecation. Please remember your role-modeling is your child’s greatest teacher, consider a conversation about the impact of teasing others and choose kindness toward others yourselves.

Field Trip to Millicent Rogers Museum and Taos Pueblo: Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade will be taking a cultural field trip on October 25th in the Taos Community to support their learning of New Mexico culture, architecture, and history. They will participate in activities and tours at the Millicent Rogers Museum and the Taos Pueblo. Please be sure to turn in your permission slip.

No School: There will be “no school” held on Friday, October 21st due to the teacher in-service for conference report write-ups. In addition, school is closed on Friday, October 28th to conduct Parent Teacher Conferences.

Parent Teacher Conference Sign-Ups: Please look for the conference sign-up sheet in your child’s classroom starting, Friday, October 14th. Our goal is to meet with every family to review your child’s progress and work together to set goals for the school year. Conferences are scheduled for Friday, October 28th from 8-4pm.

Halloween Festivities: Each classroom will have an afternoon Costume Party on Monday, October 31st. All students are invited to bring a costume in a bag to participate in the parade and festivities. The K-5 classes will gather together on the soccer field to parade in their costumes and then will return to classrooms to participate in games, crafts, and creating healthy snacks. We will be sending more details closer to the date so that you can be involved in your child’s class party.

Simple Ways to Fundraise for the School without Spending any extra money! The Friends of the Anansi Charter School have set up several easy ways that you can contribute to the school with very little to no extra work on your part. The Friends of Anansi fundraise to provide additional funds to the classrooms to enhance education with events like our storyteller day, to bring special artists and educators into the school to work with students, and to sponsor field trips. In addition their fundraising efforts are used to help with school enhancements for classroom programs and equipment. You can

contribute by signing up for Earn and Learn at Smith's under the Anansi Charter School name, bringing your own bags to Cid's and putting your poker chip in the Anansi Charter School can, or when you shop online at Amazon, you can click on to Amazon through the Anansi website: www.acstaos.org, then on to "Amazon Smiles where you can elect Anansi Charter School as a benefactor to have a percentage of your purchase price go directly to Anansi, or you can bring in Boxtops for Education and place them in the school box at the front entrance. If you have any questions, please see Ms. Tracy in the front office.

October Dates to Keep In Mind:

Wednesday, October 5th: Chess Begins for the year, sign up in office

Friday, October 7th: School Picture Re-Takes, Storyteller 9-10:15

Monday, October 10th: No School Lunch, all students need a home lunch

Wednesday, October 12th: Lunch menu change to Spaghetti with Pork Meatballs instead of beef meat sauce

Thursday, October 13th: Governance Council Meeting, 5:30pm, ACS Library

Friday, October 14th: Sign up for a parent teacher conference in classrooms, Middle School early dismissal day

Friday, October 21st: No School, Teacher In-Service Day

Tuesday, October 25th: Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd grade field trip to Millicent Rogers & Taos Pueblo

Friday, October 28th: No School, Parent-Teacher Conferences

Monday, October 31st: Costume Party, 1:30 or 2pm, Bring costume to change into
