



UNION MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Parent Newsletter
October 2, 2009

Open House: Don't forget our fall open house will be held on Thursday, October 8 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

Curriculum Guides for Parents: Curriculum guides for each grade level were sent home recently. They provide an overview of the curriculum and some quick facts. There are extra copies in the main office if you need one.

Save Those Box Tops: Please make sure you clip the "Box Tops for Education" coupons and send them into school.



Last year the program earned over \$600 for our school. There is a complete list of products that carry the coupon on the back of this newsletter.

Halloween: We do not celebrate Halloween at UMS, but most of our students go out Trick-or-Treating. The principal's organization I belong to provides some good tips from the CDC to make it a safe evening. I've included their tips in the box to the right.

October PTO Meeting: The next PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13 from 6:30 – 7:30 in the library. Don't forget, we'll be discussing events/activities that promote school-wide community. So, please come with your ideas.

Newsweek Article: I've attached an interesting article on parenting from *Newsweek* magazine. The central themes of the article are one, parenting is really hard and two, it's not as intuitive as a lot of people lead you to believe. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Respectfully,

Chris Antonicci
Principal

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission offers the following tips for a safe Halloween:

- **Treats:** Warn children not to eat treats before an adult has examined them carefully for evidence of tampering.
- **Flame Retardant Costumes:** When purchasing costumes, masks, beards and wigs, look for the label "Flame Resistant." Although this label does not mean these items won't catch fire, it does indicate the items will resist burning and should extinguish quickly.
- **To minimize the risk** of contact with candles and other fire sources, avoid costumes made with flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts.
- **Costume Designs:** Purchase or make costumes that are light, bright and clearly visible to motorists.
- Children should **carry flashlights** to see easily and aid in being seen.
- **Costumes** should be short enough so that children won't trip and fall.
- Children should wear **well-fitting, sturdy shoes**.
- **If your child wears a mask**, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision.
- **Swords, knives and similar costume accessories** should be made of soft, flexible material.

For more information:
<http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/vitamin/1026.htm>

UPCOMING DATES

October 8	Open House (6:30 – 7:30)
October 13	PTO Meeting (6:30 – 7:30)
October 22 – 23	NEA Convention (no school)