It is hard to believe, but we have already completed one quarter of the school year! That means it is time for Parent-Teacher Conferences. They are scheduled for Monday, November 3 from 4:00-8:00 and Thursday, November 6 from 4:00-7:00. Many conference times have been confirmed by parents which is wonderful. Even if you are not able to attend the conference, please schedule a different time. A phone call is a good option as well.

I encourage all parents and community members to check out the updated Olin CSD webpage. You will see it has a new look and hopefully, easier to locate items. On the left side of the page, under the District tab, you will find the names of the school board, financial information and Mandatory Notice Information. Under the Olin News tab, you will find newsletters, the lunch menu and information about B.U.G.S. Under the Information tab, you will find information about Alumni, Anamosa CSD, Jones Co., and the Olin School Foundation.

We were very disappointed that we were not able to have Goodies For Grandparents on October 24, 2014. The students were excited to have his/her grandparent to share a breakfast with and then visit the classroom for an hour. We are looking forward to “show casing” our new reading series, called, Journeys. Goodies For Grandparents will be rescheduled. Another date will be announced soon.

On late start days please remember you can have a text message sent to your cell phone.
Information is also found on KCRG, KWWL, and KGAN. Because our 7th -12th grade students attend Anamosa we follow the same late start and early out schedule for weather related events. It is important to note that many times I am contacted by the Anamosa CSD at the same time the information is available on the TV. Therefore, that is the reason you may know that Anamosa has a late start, but you have not heard from the Olin CSD. In cases where we have an early out – PLEASE- make sure we have updated information regarding where your child goes after school.
FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SHARON DICKMAN - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
Olin CSD and Anamosa CSD are in the 3rd year of a 3 year Whole-Grade Sharing Agreement. Recently, both districts renegotiated the new agreement that will be in effect until June 2018. Few, if any changes were made to the current agreement. However, by law, a Public Hearing must be held. The Public Hearing informs the parents and community of the conditions of the agreement and will be held Monday, November 17, 2014 at 7:00 in the Olin school gym. Please note this is a change from Tuesday, November 18, which was originally published.

Please note these upcoming events: Picture retake day is November 14th, and the Winter Concert has been scheduled for Thursday, December 11 at 6:00.

PREKINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Andrews & Mrs. Williams: PreKindergarten continued to discuss the different kinds of weather. It was really windy on the day we read a book about the wind!

In October, we had a visit from the fire fighters. The students learned what a fire fighter wears, what they do on their jobs, and what a fire station can look like. We learned a finger-play about fire fighters and have been pretending to be fire fighters in our dramatic play center. We also have been using the sensory table to discover more about fire and fire trucks. We talked about good heat and bad heat and practiced being safe when we are around bad heat and fire.

The students practiced writing their names. Some are ready to write their name on a line.

The students have been counting and learning about the numbers 1, 2, and 3.
KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Tjaden: The Kindergarten and Pre-K classes went on a field trip to The Pumpkin Patch Pizzazz on Oct. 17th. They learned about the life cycle of a pumpkin and gourds. We saw and got to pet many different types of exotic animals. The students also had fun in the corn box, jumping on bales, playing a life-size game of Candyland, and running in the hamster wheel.

We took a short break from our science unit on trees and weather and focused on apples. The students and I had so much fun learning about apples and trying different types of food made from apples. We made applesauce muffins for snack one day and tried three different types of apples to see which one we liked best. The students also had a chance to try apple butter on bread. Mrs. Williams let us borrow her apple peelers so the students could see what it was like to peel apples. The classroom is even decorated with our stained-glass apples the students made!!

The Kindergarteners welcomed a new student, Trinitee, to the classroom! We are excited to have her!

FIRST GRADE:

Mrs. Hendrickson: We’ve been busy in first grade. We finished unit one in our reading series, Journeys. In unit two, we met Jack and the Wolf and learned about the importance of telling the truth. First graders are working hard on their “words to know” or sight words.

There is a lot to learn in first grade, and this class is up to the challenge. We also finished unit one in our math series. We reviewed addition and subtraction concepts and are practicing our addition and subtraction facts to ten.

Bouncing! Rolling! First grade is moving right along with their science unit on balls and ramps. Our science study includes learning about how different balls move when they are rolled, bounced, and thrown, and when they roll down ramps. We even used straws to help us move different balls with our breath.

MAP testing is done and first grade rocked it! We had all students present for both days of testing. Way to go!

First grade students have Been Unusually Good Students (BUGS) and earned two class rewards so far. The most recent class reward they chose was to chew gum in school. Keep up the good work!
SECOND GRADE:

Ms. Embry: In social studies we learned about fire safety. We learned how to prevent fires and talked about planning a way to escape if a fire were to start in our school and houses. We also had a visit from the Olin firemen! We got to see the firemen’s uniforms up close and ask lots of questions about fire safety.

In reading we learned about animal homes. We read the story Animals Building Homes/Whose Home is This? We worked on text and graphic features.

In science, we finished up our study of balance and motion. We had a lot of fun using spheres and foam runways to make our marbles do loop-the-loops, turn in a circle, twist and spiral, and many other fun tricks!

Kael was our star student one week. We learned that Kael wants to be a football player when he grows up. We also learned that his favorite food is cinnamon rolls and his favorite animal is an elephant.

We celebrated Anamosa’s Homecoming Week with a pep rally in the Olin gym. It was great to have Anamosa students at Olin Elementary to get us excited for the Homecoming game!

IOWA AEA ONLINE:

AP Images: Iowa AEA Online is a virtual library that provides no-cost access to 14 high-quality, web-based resources for grades preK-12 schools. Iowa students have access at school and at home (Internet access required), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These online resources give your child access to a wealth of information for assignments, classroom projects, and personal interest.

One of these online resources is AP Images. This contains over 9 million primary-source photographs, sound bites, maps, charts, timelines, and text stories from the Associated Press.

Students can access these online resources at www.iowaaeanonline.org using the username and password they are given at school. The password can also be obtained by contacting the school.

It is the policy of the Olin Consolidated School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (Employment only) marital status, sexual orientation, gender identify, and socioeconomic status (students/programs only) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district’s Equity Coordinator, Michael Marsden, (Employment and Education Programs Coordinator), PO Box 320, Olin, IA 52320, 319-484-2170, mmarsden@olin.k12.ia.us. Code No. 102
PEOPLE SAFETY LESSONS DURING CLASSROOM GUIDANCE:

Students in the grades K-4th and 6th grade students have been discussing “people safety” skills in weekly classroom guidance lessons using materials from Kidpower (www.kidpower.org). These lessons are in response to the Community Safety Forum held last February 2014 here at Olin. Also, these lessons are important because children are more likely to be harmed by someone they know than by a stranger. Skills and knowledge are the keys to keeping kids safe. Children need to have clear safety rules both for strangers when they are out on their own and for setting boundaries with people they know. Children also need to understand that there are different safety rules when they are not in the care of their adult and when they are on their own. Children who are only a short distance away from an adult in charge even for a few minutes are on their own. They don’t need to worry. They just need to know what to do.

Kidpower Tips for Talking to Your Kids About Strangers
“Stranger danger” is an idea that can increase anxiety and make it harder for us to figure out ways of helping our children stay safe. Instead, Kidpower talks about stranger safety. Rather than focusing on the bad things that sometimes happen, Kidpower focuses on teaching and practicing the skills and behaviors they want their children to use to stay safe with strangers.

Kidpower Safety Rules for Children when They Are on their Own
• Most people are good. This means most strangers are good.
• A stranger is just someone I don’t know and can look like anybody.
• The rules are different when I am with an adult who is taking care of me and when I am on my own. When I am on my own, my job is to check first with the adult in charge before I let a stranger get close to me, talk to me, or give me anything.
• If I am old enough to be out on my own without an adult to ask, it is safer to be where there are other people close by to get help if I need it.
• I do not give personal information to a stranger or to someone who makes me feel uncomfortable.
• It is OK to get help from strangers if an emergency is happening to me, and there is no one close by that I know.
• My job is to check first with the adult in charge before I go anywhere with anyone (a stranger or someone I know). I will tell the adult in charge where I am going, who will be with me, and what I will be doing.
• I will have a safety plan for how to get help anywhere I go.
• I will know what my family’s safety rules are for children answering the door, being on the phone, and being on the internet.
Kidpower Safety Rules With People Kids Know

- I belong to myself—my body, my time, my spirit—ALL of me. Touch for play, teasing, or affection has to be both people’s choice and it has to be safe.
- Except for health, no one should touch me in my private areas (the parts of the body covered by a bathing suit).
- No one should ask me to touch them in their private areas.
- Touch or other behavior for health or safety is not always a choice, but also should never, EVER, have to be a secret.
- Anything that bothers me should not have to be a secret.
- If I have a problem, I need to tell an adult I trust and keep on telling until I get help.
- It is never too late to get help.

The best way to protect your children’s personal safety is know what is happening with them. Make the time to ask them often, “Is there anything you’ve been wondering or worrying about that you haven’t told me?” and to listen to their answers with patience and respect. In addition to these lessons, in April, all students will have a Safe Touch presentation from St. Lukes Child Protection Center. Any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Ruess, kruess@olin.k12.ia.us or 484-2170. For more information on Kidpower, go to www.kidpower.org.

PAST OLIN YEARBOOKS FOR SALE
The Olin Consolidated School District has past yearbooks for sale. You will find a list of the yearbooks that are available below. They are $5.00 each and will be sold first come first serve. To purchase them please contact Carrie Fortin in the business office at 319-484-2261. Please call for an appointment prior to coming as Carrie is a shared employee and is in another location some days. Yearbooks must be paid for prior to receiving them. No holds will be allowed.

Students are taught and reminded to make choices based on:

- The SAFETY of all students and adults
- Treating all students and adults with RESPECT
- RESPONSIBLE behaviors
Mark Your Calendar:

Monday, November 3: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-8:00 PM
Tuesday, November 4: General Election - Meeting Room - 6:00 AM-10:00 PM
Thursday, November 6: Early Out at 12:30 PM
Thursday, November 6: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 PM
Friday, November 7: No School
Monday, November 10: Special Board Meeting 6:00 PM
Friday, November 14: Lifetouch Picture Retake Day 8:05 AM
Monday, November 17: School Board Meeting 6:00 PM
Monday, November 17: Public Hearing in Gym 7:00 PM
Wednesday, November 19: BUGS Assembly -
  Wear Your BUGS T-shirts
Wednesday, November 26: No School
Thursday, November 27: No School
Friday, November 28: No School

Thursday, December 11: Winter Concert at 6:00 PM

Lion Tales clip art from http://schools.iclipart.com/iowa/