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School Website: <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/island>

As Halloween approaches we wanted to remind you of some important information about Hallowe'en Festivities at IPS and Hallowe'en Safety Tips!



WE SCARE HUNGER Food Drive – Monday, October 28th to Wednesday, October 30st

A poster for the 'WE SCARE HUNGER' food drive. The title 'WE SCARE HUNGER' is written in large, bold, black letters. The poster is decorated with hand-drawn illustrations of witches in blue dresses with yellow hats and black bats with red eyes. The text provides details about the event:

WHEN: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Mornings

WHERE: City Ferry Docks

WHAT: Bring Non-Perishable Food Items

WHY: To Donate Food To The Daily Bread Food Bank

WHO: You!

IPS Hallowe'en Parade & Costume Information – Thursday, October 31, 2019

- Classroom **Hallowe'en Parades** will take place in the afternoon
- As per our usual Halloween festivities, students may choose to wear a costume to school for the day and classes will be invited to parade in the school after lunch. Individual classrooms may choose to hold Halloween activities as they choose.
- We suggest that you label your child's costume with his/her name.
- **Costume Information:** A reminder that costumes that depict excessive violence or are culturally exploitative in nature are not in the spirit of the children's holiday or IPS school culture. Please do not send weapons/replicas of weapons, knives, guns, swords etc. if these are a part of your child's costume. Thank you for your cooperation!

Hallowe'en Classroom Activities – Thursday, October 31, 2019

If your child's class is having a party, please note the following food guidelines that **must** be followed due to severe allergies and to promote healthier snack options:

- Snacks that contain (or say "may contain") peanut and/or nut products are **not permitted**.
- Any home baked goods are not to be shared at school.
- Any store bought baked goods must clearly indicate that they are "nut-free" with original packaging with ingredient list displayed.
- All treats/snacks that are intended to be shared must be sent in sealed and original packaging with ingredient list clearly displayed.
- **Samples of suggested items that could be shared must come in original packaging/container and could include:**
 - ✓ Fruit platters
 - ✓ Veggies and dip
 - ✓ Cheese and crackers
 - ✓ Chips or popcorn
 - ✓ Drinks – juice boxes, water
 - ✓ Pre-packaged rice krispie treats

Please be diligent about reading ingredient lists as manufacturers often change their products without notice. As always, it will be the choice of all parents as to whether you wish your child to participate. Please speak to your child's teacher to be sure that you are aware of specific allergies/restrictions of students in individual classrooms. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the office 😊



Hallowe'en Safety Tips

Hallowe'en provides an opportunity for parents and children to spend time together creating costumes, carving pumpkins, planning trick or treat activities and participating in family parties. Hallowe'en is a big event at schools and provides opportunities for parties, creative activities, art programs and impromptu history lessons. Hallowe'en is also a time for students, parents, and schools to take extra care to ensure safety and security.

If parents are concerned about trick or treating, here are some basic safety rules to follow:

- ✓ Children should NEVER eat any treats until parents have had a chance to go through them and inspect them.
Parents should look for tampering of packages and discard any they believe to be unsafe or unknown.
- ✓ Have your child carry a flashlight.
- ✓ NEVER go into a stranger's house.
- ✓ NEVER trick or treat with people you do not know.
- ✓ Trick or treat only at homes you know.
- ✓ Children should always stay in groups if no parent is present.
- ✓ Younger children should ALWAYS be accompanied by an older person.
- ✓ Accompany your child when trick or treating.
- ✓ If you cannot accompany your child then know the route your child will take.
- ✓ Flame resistant (retardant) costumes are in order. Keep costumes short and remind children to stay away from pumpkins with candles in them.
- ✓ Remind children to stay away from pets they do not know.
- ✓ Remind children of road safety rules. Cross only at corners. Do not criss-cross the road. Go up one side of the road and down the other side. Never cross between parked cars. Walk facing on-coming traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- ✓ If adults are driving their children, drive slowly, with lights on and be cautious when pulling to the side of the road.
- ✓ Children should wear their own shoes when trick or treating. Wearing costume shoes/boots can be dangerous and uncomfortable.
- ✓ Remind children that not everyone celebrates Hallowe'en, and to avoid any homes that have no lights on. Also remind children not to run through neighbours yards or gardens.
- ✓ With older children, be sure to know what other events (such as parties) they plan on attending.
- ✓ Set time limits when children should return home. Children should NEVER eat any treats until parents have had a chance to go through them and inspect them.