



# The Fisher Flyer

Official Newsletter of Fisher Island Day School

October 18, 2018

Dear Students, Parents, Faculty, & Staff,

Following are this week's [FIDS](#) updates:

### **Calendar at a Glance.**

- Wed., Oct. 24, 2018 Parent Association Meeting – South Pointe Tavern (9:00 a.m.)
- Wed., Oct. 31, 2018 In-Classroom Halloween Celebrations, 2:15 p.m.
- Fri., Nov. 2, 2018 Report Cards Issued for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

**Rescheduled Parent Association Meeting.** Last week's Parent Association Meeting has been rescheduled as follows:

Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Place: South Pointe Tavern  
40 South Pointe Drive, Unit 109  
Miami Beach, FL 33139

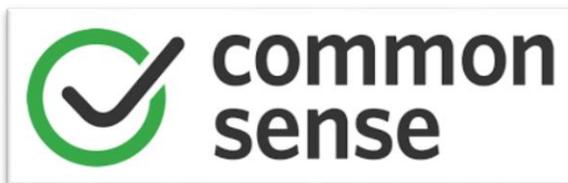


Agenda:

- Halloween
- Food Drive
- Gala on March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Jingle Run
- Books and Books Book Fair
- Grandparent's Day

Other: Coffee and pastries will be served.

For those on the island looking for a ride to the meeting, Genaro will depart school driving the bus at 8:35 a.m. to South Pointe Tavern and bring you back right afterwards.



**Access to Age-Appropriate Media.** As FIDS evolves into a Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 school, we are broadening the scope of our instructional catalog of books and educational media to better address the academic and social-emotional needs of toddlers through teens. We pay careful attention to ensure that books and educational media are suited to each child's academic and maturity levels. FIDS's

library—which houses a collection of books suited for toddlers to teens—is organized by reading level. Our faculty and library staff guide children's library book selections according to this organization.

Recently, we have added books to our library that are suitable for middle schoolers, depending on their age. These books are clearly marked by grade level. In addition to being organized by grade level, we have appended a “minimum age” sticker to the middle school books’ spines, which specifies the age the child must be to read each book. The “minimum age” sticker reflects the best judgment of staff, based on a review of the book, as well as the recommendations of [commonsense.org](http://commonsense.org). If a book does not have a “minimum age” sticker, it means that there is no age restriction regarding the book’s content.

As parents, I ask you to support our recommendations regarding restrictions to certain content based on a child’s age. Further, I recommend [commonsense.org](http://commonsense.org) as a tool for parents to use in guiding their decisions regarding when it is appropriate for children to have access to books, films, social media, and—particularly—video games. The amount of [research](#) on the negative impact of violent video games on children and adolescents is frightening. As such, I ask you to be vigilant in terms of what your child has access to, as well as the amount of time spent on such pursuits. As always, thank you for being a partner in your child’s education.

**Halloween.** Following is information regarding Halloween. To wit:

- **Wednesday, October 31, 2018**, will be a regular, learning-filled day for students. Students – along with faculty and staff – should arrive at school attired according to school dress-code standards. (Costumes may be brought to school in a labeled bag.)
- We will have a costume parade commencing at approximately 2:00 p.m. Early Learning will have a separate parade and classroom celebration prior to their midday dismissal. Coach D will coordinate the parameters for the parade.
- **Costumes that are scary, sexually suggestive, and/or political in nature are not permitted.**
- **Faux weaponry is not permitted.**
- If masks are worn, they may only be worn during the parade.
- At approximately 2:30 p.m., each homeroom will have an in-classroom celebration, hosted by Room Parents under the direction of the homeroom teacher. In-class celebrations must be contained within individual classrooms.
- FIDS nutritional guidelines remain in place for Halloween; serving sizes should be the equivalent of an “afternoon snack.”
- Participation in the costume-portion is optional.

We believe the above will allow us to celebrate the holiday, while maintaining the academic integrity of our instructional program. Parents may join in the fun by wearing costumes—but please remember—this is a celebration for our kids! Let’s put them first. Thank you for your support.

Thank you for your support in making every week at FIDS a wonderful learning experience for our children. Your partnership is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,



[Michael Bell](#)  
Head of School

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