

SEPTEMBER 19, 2007  
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

# CALVIN COOLIDGE SCHOOL

## Mr. Famularo, Principal



Dear Parents,

Other than rain on the first two days of school, I am happy to report that we had a smooth opening to the school year. I want to thank our staff and maintenance personnel for their tireless efforts getting the school ready for the first day. I am looking forward to a fantastic year at Coolidge School!

### **2007-2008 School Theme:**

Our school theme for this year is *Manners Matter*. Throughout this school year the entire staff of Coolidge School will be supporting the notion that *manners really do matter!* Through daily lessons, school wide assemblies and daily interactions with students, students will be provided with concrete reminders of what good manners look and sound like. Each month we will focus on a different situation during the school day in which it is important for students to show manners. For September, we will be focusing on what good manners “look like” in the classroom.

### **Back to School Nights:**

The Coolidge School Back to School Nights will take place according to the following schedule:

Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>- Grades PreK-2

Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>- Grades 3-5

### **New Playground:**

On behalf of the entire staff, I would like to extend my appreciation to our PTO for the donation of our new playground. Thank you to the many parents who worked towards raising money for the purchase of this equipment. On August 25<sup>th</sup>, about forty parents spent an entire Saturday putting together and installing our new playground equipment. This community installation exemplified the community spirit at Coolidge School and illustrated the amazing dedication of our parents. Thank you for showing your COUGAR PRIDE! The students are enjoying using the playground as part of our Midday Fitness program.

### **Student Drop-Off:**

On a temporary basis, all student drop-off will continue to take place in our front circular driveway. Parents are asked to pull up as far as possible and students should be ready to exit their cars from the right hand side. Please help keep safety a top priority!

As construction continues, parents are encouraged to carpool or walk to school with their children. Please be respectful of residents on the streets adjacent to Coolidge School by abiding by all parking signs and following all traffic rules.

**Walk to School Week:**

Join kids and families around the globe to walk and bicycle to school in October! Coolidge School is proud to take part in the International Walk to School Week during the week of October 1, 2007. Details regarding this event will follow.

**Important Dates:**

School Picture Day- Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

**Lunch Routines:**

As you may be aware, students in grades 1-5 take part in Midday Fitness prior to having lunch. In an effort to keep our students germ-free, parents are encouraged to pack a disinfectant wipe or a small Purrel bottle in their child's lunch box each day.

**Safety Patrol:**

Our fifth grade Safety Patrol team is now in place and will assume responsibilities this week. I am proud of this dedicated group of fifth grade students who have accepted this leadership role at Coolidge School. Safety Patrol students, under the leadership of their advisor Mrs. Perry, will help make Coolidge School a safer place during line-up and dismissal. Best wishes for a great year!

**Elementary Code of Conduct:**

The Wyckoff Schools Elementary School Code of Conduct was distributed to all students last week. Parents have been asked to read over this handbook carefully and complete the *Code of Conduct Scavenger Hunt* with their children. For learning to take place, a school climate must exist that promotes a commitment to maintain and sustain high educational standards and the development of appropriate attitudes and behaviors.

**Midday Fitness:**

Students in grades 1-5 take part in Midday Fitness each day for 20 minutes prior to lunch. During this time, students are provided with various choices of activities to take part in depending on grade level. These activities will support the goals and objectives of physical education and align with the New Jersey Core Content Standards in Physical Education. Students will always be able to choose to play on the playground if they want. Although fitness and movement is encouraged during this time, students are still provided with choice and flexibility. This year our physical education teacher, Dan Pochini, along with several aides, supervises Midday Fitness. We are proud to report that we have more than doubled the number of adults per student supervising student play. Furthermore, we have successfully created a more structured environment while still allowing student flexibility and choice. I am confident that this formula will create a safer and more pleasant play experience for our students while minimizing injuries, conflict and disciplinary problems. The increased emphasis on fitness and health is also necessary in a time period when 35% of the children in the United States are considered obese.

