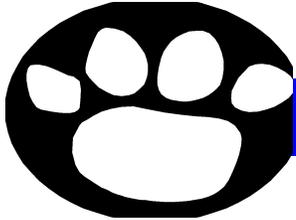


# Defiance Elementary School News

400 Carter Road  
Defiance, OH 43512  
419-785-2260

Principal K – 2: Deanne Held  
Principal 3 – 5: Jane Myers



## OCTOBER 2020

### Important Upcoming Events

October 19	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Teacher In-Service
October 20 & 22	Third Grade Parent Teacher Conferences
October 26-30	Red Ribbon Week
October 28	Picture Retakes

### Looking Ahead

November 5	Parent Teacher Conferences (3:45 - 8:30 p.m.)
November 10	Parent Teacher Conferences (3:45 - 5:45 p.m.)
November 25-27	<b>NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break</b>

### DES Information

**Red Ribbon Week:** Defiance Elementary School will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week, October 26-30. Students are encouraged to dress up following the themes for each day:

Monday - “Be Brave Every Day! Say No To Drugs!!” - Wear clothing to celebrate EVERYDAY HEROES (Military, Law Enforcement, Firefighters/EMTs or Doctors/Nurses)

Tuesday - “Be Super Brave! Go To Battle Against Drugs!!” - Wear Superhero attire

Wednesday - “Be Happy! Be Drug Free!!” - Wear an outfit that makes you happy

Thursday - “Our Team is Happy, Brave and Drug Free” - Wear gear from your favorite team

Friday - “Be Happy! Celebrate a Drug Free Life!!” - Wear clothing from your favorite holiday



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**Fall Weather:** As the weather changes and the air turns cooler, please make sure you are sending your child to school in a jacket or sweatshirt. All students go outside for recess daily.

**Masks:** Please make sure you are washing your child's mask regularly to prevent the spread of disease. Also, if your child forgets his/her mask or it breaks during the day, there are always disposable masks available in the office.

**Absences:** If your child is going to be absent, please call the office and report the absence with specific symptoms to ensure we can keep all students and staff healthy. Thank you for your cooperation with this!

**PTO Information:** We welcome you to join our Facebook group for updates from PTO.  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Defiance.Elementary.PTO/>.

**Coats for Christmas:** The annual Coats for Christmas drive is approaching. Barrels will be located in our halls. If you have clean, gently used coats that your children have outgrown, please consider donating them to those in need.

**There's an App For That:** Defiance City Schools now has a Mobile App that is ready to download and install. It is available in both the Google and Apple App stores by searching for Defiance City Schools. Download it today to stay up to date on events at DCS!

**Parent Teacher Conferences:** Our annual parent teacher conferences for grades KS-2 and 4-5 will be held on Thursday, November 5 and Tuesday, November 10. Third grade conferences have been scheduled for October 20 and 22. Teachers will begin scheduling appointments this month. Look for information in your child's folder.

**Online Student Registration/InfoSnap:** By now you should be aware that Defiance City Schools has implemented an online Returning Student Registration system. This online form replaces the EMA that has been sent home in the past for parents to complete. If you have not completed this task, it is imperative that you do so IMMEDIATELY. Follow the directions below:

- Visit <http://www.defiancecityschools.org> and click on "Central Registration".
- When the "Central Registration" page opens, please click on the link "Click here for the RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION".
- Use the "snapcode" that was previously supplied to you, as it is specific to each individual student. If you have lost this, you may call the office for assistance
- If you do not have internet access at your residence, which is necessary to complete this process, visit



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the local library, go to a local business that provides Wi-Fi or feel free to come to our office for assistance. We have laptops available here.

**Socktober:** During "Socktober", we are asking for donations of new, unused socks that are still packaged; and we will be donating them to local homeless shelters. This will start October 1 and end Friday, October 30. There will be boxes in each hallway for students to drop off the socks in the morning before school. The grade level with the most socks donated will earn a reward. Student council members will keep track and give an update of each grade levels item count throughout the month.

**Science Central:** Every year Science Central opens their facility to students with disabilities free of charge. The past few years our self-contained classrooms have taken advantage of this opportunity. This year, due to COVID-19, they were unable to host these events. As an alternative, they offered to create a google classroom with Science demonstrations and kits to go along with them. Our self-contained classrooms have partnered with Science Central to bring Science to the classroom with hands-on activities. They donated 210 individualized kits to our students! If you know someone who works there, be sure to thank them; or make a trip with your family to show our support.

## K – 2 Information

**Monthly Character Word:** The character word for October is **Accountable**. Part of our Bulldog Promise is to say we will 'BE Accountable'. Teaching our students about accountability makes them realize they need to be responsible for their own actions and decisions.

**Vision and Hearing Screenings:** Vision and hearing screenings will take place by our school nurse and health aides during the coming months. All first grade students, and the kindergarten students that either failed or missed this test during kindergarten screening will be checked. If any problems are found during the screenings, parents will be notified.

**Kindergarten Immunizations:** As a reminder, our final report to the State is due October 16. Any kindergarten student that is not current or "in process" with their immunizations will be exempt from school. This will result in an unexcused absence for each day your child misses school. Call the Health Department at (419)784-3818 to schedule your kindergarten boosters or visit your family physician. The Health Department is currently scheduling these by appointment only on Wednesdays for children with Medicaid or who do not have insurance. Please take advantage of this opportunity to get your child's shot record current.



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## 3 – 5 Information

**Twitter/Facebook:** DES 3-5 now has a Twitter Page. Follow us @DefianceElemen1. Look for updates several times a week. Facebook updates will be posted periodically and especially at the end of each month. If you enjoyed the bedtime story the night before school started, be on the lookout for another story coming in October.

**Online Grade Check for Parents:** To set up an account to access your children's grades online:  
<http://www.defiancecityschools.org>

Click on Grade Check. Click the blue button that says "Create Account". Fill in the information requested, including your own unique username and password. For each of your children you will also fill out the information requested: Student Name (first and last), Access ID (This is your child's 6 or 5-digit student ID which can be found on your child's schedule or ask him/her for their lunch number), Access Password (This is your child's birthdate) Examples: 5/12/04 or 10/3/14 or 3/7/01. After pressing submit you will be returned to the login screen to enter the username and password you just created.

**Third Grade Reading Guarantee Information:** Third grade students have recently completed a reading assessment, MAP, to help teachers determine whether or not a student is on track in reading. Students will soon be taking the Ohio Test in Reading to further determine where a student is at this time. Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plans, also known as RIMPS, will be written for each student outlining what is being done in the classroom to help assure that your third grader is receiving the instruction needed to be successful this year. These will be shared with parents during conferences. Why is third grade reading so important? The ability to read is the foundation of learning. Research shows that children who are not reading at a third-grade level by the end of grade 3 are likely to have trouble learning in all classroom subjects in higher grades. Struggling readers greatly benefit from their families' involvement and help at home. The following links will give you the information you need about Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee.

- [Third Grade Reading Guarantee Parent RoadMaps](#)
- **Fact sheet:** [Third Grade Reading Guarantee](#)

