

“Notes From School”

Trick-or-Treat Safety/Fall Festival

With the end of October near, the Halloween tradition of Trick-or-Treating draws closer and closer as each day passes. Along with the goal of having fun, more importantly, we want all of our youth to have a safe evening on Saturday, October 31.

The National Safety Council offers the following safety tips for parents and anyone who plans to be on the road during Trick-or-Treat hours next week:

Motorists

- Watch for children walking in roadways, medians, and curbs
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing

Trick-or-Treating

- Instruct your children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and avoid trick-or-treating alone
- Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home
- Teach your children to never enter a stranger's home

Costumes

- All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant
- If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags to make sure they are visible
- When buying Halloween makeup, make sure it is nontoxic and always test it in a small area first
- Remove all makeup before children go to bed to prevent skin and eye irritation

The American Academy of Pediatrics has compiled a list of Halloween Safety Tips for the Trick-or-Treat trail:

- A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds
- If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable. Agree on a specific time when they should return home
- Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat
- Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind Trick-or-Treaters...
 - Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going
 - Remember reflective tape for costumes and trick-or-treat bags
 - Carry a cell phone for quick communication

- Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk
- If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing traffic
- Never cut across yards or use alleys
- Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks. Never cross between parked cars or out driveways
- Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing Trick-or-Treaters
- Law enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

Prior to the weekend's events, the annual PTA Fall Festival will be on Friday, October 30 at 2:15 PM in the School District of Mondovi Multi-Purpose Room. The public is invited to come and watch the costume parade and the afternoon's activities. Be safe!