

THE HALDANE HERALD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2012

<http://haldane.weebly.com>

SOCIAL CONTRACT RATING

Important Dates

Bucket Week	10/29
1/2 Day	11/2
Sweatshirt Day	11/2
Dahlem Center Field Trip	11/2
Popcorn Friday	11/9
Conferences	11/12
Book Fair Starts	11/12
Picture Retakes	11/13
Pizza Monday	11/19
Half Day	11/21
Jean Day	11/21

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Sign up for conferences if you have not done so already.
- The book fair begins **November 2**, not the **November 12** as previously stated.
- A canned food drive begins during **Bucket Week**.
- Our field trip will be **November 2 at 9:00**.

Part of having a Social Contract is the act of rating our "performance" on the items it contains. For the month of October, we have been focusing on "Do your best," "Use manners," and "Listen Carefully".

Listen carefully is manifested in SLANTing (Sit up straight, Listen attentively, Ask questions, Nod to show you understand, Track the speaker).

"Do your best" is evidenced by the occurrences (or lack) of redirections, repeated directions, or corrections administered to the class.

"Using manners" is noted by the general use of "please" and "thank you" as well as courtesies such as waiting your turn to speak and holding the door for friends.

Raters are chosen each week based on the Moral Focus grades from the week before. Students who exhibit the ability to exceed the expectations for these Social Contract items are chosen to rate us each day on our behavior (as a class). We use a 5 point scale, 1 being the lowest and 5 being nearly perfect.

We graph the raters'

scores each afternoon before we dismiss for the day. During this time, we discuss the ratings given and I make suggestions for the following day.

There have not been any real data trends yet, except that we have consistently stayed below "great" (score of 4) in "Do your best" and "Listen carefully."

Please encourage your child to do his or her best every day. These kids are great. I want their greatness to shine through every day in all they do.

Thanks for your support!

CONFERENCES (Last reminder)

It is difficult to overstate the importance of attending conferences. Most families have signed up for a time, but there are still a few missing. Please contact me ASAP if you have not scheduled a conference yet. Those not scheduled

by Wednesday will be scheduled for you. This will happen by randomly signing students up for whatever times are still available.

MAP reports will come home before confer-

ences. We will discuss scores and related information at conferences. I plan to discuss the daily performance of each child, too.

Thank you in advance for making this a priority.