

## **BACKPACK MAIL**

September 2, 2010

We had a terrific Open House last night at Madison! It was wonderful to meet so many parents and hear the classroom overviews from teachers. Several parents took advantage of the opportunity to sign up for iParent. If you haven't signed up please follow the link on our homepage.

As you all know Madison has had an increase in student enrollment. This has increased the amount of traffic on and around our campus. Many parents choose to transport their children to our campus and we have a pick up and drop off lane designed to accommodate our parents. Unfortunately many parents do not use the designated areas in favor of parking across the street at the park on Moon or they simply park on Moon in the bike lane. Both of these parking behaviors place the children at our school at serious risk. There is no crossing guard on Moon. Students who use the crosswalk cannot see oncoming traffic because of cars parked in the bike lane. Students whose parents park at the park often cross outside the crosswalk for convenience. Neighbors who live by the park are concerned because they cannot get in and out of their driveways due to the heavy parking and the traffic. We are a neighborhood school and we all need to be good neighbors. I have driven the pick up/drop off lane during peak times and it took under 5 minutes. I think 5 minutes is a small price to pay for student safety. Let's work together to make sure our children are safe!

We have received many items from parents for student delivery recently. While we try hard to track down students it is not our first priority. We simply don't have the manpower to deliver missing homework, forgotten lunches, PE clothes, musical instruments, tennis racquets and all the other things that students forget. Students need to be developing personal responsibility skills and we ask you to reinforce this by letting them suffer the consequence for poor planning. While items like balloons and flowers are sweet gestures they are truly a disruption to the learning environment and a storage nightmare.

Enjoy the MAGIC!