Happy Fall! It's so hard to believe that we are half way through the first grading period. Many of you are now in the process of having a conference with your child's teacher. Teachers will have plenty of data to share with you. Think about and prepare some questions you may want to ask, inquire how you may be able to assist with your child’s learning. It's important to keep the lines of communication open and be united to foster academic success.

Thank you to everyone who has helped support our fall fundraiser. If you are still interested in looking at the catalog or ordering items, go to www.FundsRUs.net with code 651208018.

Check out our new K-3 primary playground. Crew members have been busy with the installation and should have it completely installed by next week!

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and guidelines for social distancing and no large group gatherings, we will have to cancel our character book parade. Instead, teachers are working on creating STEAM activities to do in the classroom and decorating a class pumpkin as a character from a book. More details will come out in the next couple of weeks.

-MaryJo Stover, Principal
We had a fantastic turnout during our Start with Hello Week (9/21-9/25) as part of the Sandy Hook Promise initiative. Students and staff participated in purposeful activities to promote inclusion and build positive relationships. Mrs. Schamell's 1st grade class won Friday's contest with the most creative “game plan” for welcoming new students into their class. However, the lasting effects and message from the week left all those who participated victorious. We are so proud of everyone’s collaborative efforts to break down barriers of social isolation, Carrollwood Elementary will continue to build upon the progress started during the SWH week throughout whole year. We are all in this very unique school year together!

Mrs. de la Portilla, School Social Worker  
Ms. Kreisher, School Counselor  
Mr. Sorondo, School Psychologist

I have enjoyed seeing everyone this last month!! So far, the bullying lessons have gone well. Students learned to recognize, report, and refuse bullying. They learned that bullying is when someone keeps being mean (over and over) to another person on purpose and the person it is happening to isn’t able to make it stop. Bullying is unfair and one sided. In October, the character trait of the month is respect and empathy. Students will learn what respect and empathy and get an opportunity to practice them with scenarios. The student services team will be talking with 4th and 5th grades how to stay mentally healthy and safe, how the school can help students, and how to find support if needed. I am looking forward to another great month of working with outstanding citizens who work together, love learning, and show self-control!

Veronica Kreisher, School Counselor

One of the greatest ways we can impact student achievement in reading, is to read with or to our children daily. Students should be reading at home for at least 20 minutes each day. Not only does this practice lead to increased fluency and comprehension, it helps to foster your child’s curiosity and love of learning. Allow your child to choose books that interest them during this time. You will be amazed at the incredible impact that reading daily has on your child’s academics!
The following three members of our staff have been nominated in Excellence of Education and will represent Carrollwood for the 2020-2021 school year.

Nominated for Teacher of the Year is Sarah Masters. Ms. Masters teaches our Advance Gifted Program and has been a teacher at Carrollwood for the last 3 years. She serves on our STEAM committee, organizes our Green Team, and currently is our Safety Patrol Sponsor.

Kyla Burd was chosen to represent Carrollwood for the Ida S. Baker Diversity Educator of the Year. Ms. Burd is our ESE Specialist and has called Carrollwood her home for the last 27 years. Ms. Burd oversees our Exceptional Student Education program, schedules staffings and develops individualized education plans along with providing support to her team and our students.

Representing us for the Instructional Support Person of the Year is Stephanie Sanborn. Mrs. Sanborn is no stranger to many of you, in fact she is usually the first person who greets you in the front office. Mrs. Sanborn started as a parent volunteer at Carrollwood before being hired on as a Secretary in the office.

We would like to congratulate these three well deserved nominees for the honor they received for putting our students first and for their dedication to our school.

We are celebrating Hispanic Heritage here at Carrollwood! We have many students whose heritage is from a Hispanic country. We are celebrating all of the wonderful things they have shared with us from their culture. We enjoy their foods, music, art, and contributions to science here in the United States. On our morning show we will be highlighting our students through Carrollwood’s first Hispanic Heritage Poster Contest. The theme this year is...Hispanics: Be Proud of Your Past, Embrace the Future. Students are to use this theme to create a poster and each grade level will have one student’s poster selected to be featured on the show. We will also feature some of the most famous Hispanic-Americans and learn about their contributions to us as well as some of the great bilingual books that our Carrollwood library offers. I am excited to see all the creative posters!

Selina Llewellyn, ELL