

The Old Tappan PTO presents . . .

The Great Pumpkin Decorating Contest!

Now that October is here, pick out the perfect pumpkin and get it all dressed up for the season! The Old Tappan PTO is holding a contest for the best decorated pumpkin, just in time for Halloween!

-- The Rules --

1. The main part of each entry must be a pumpkin or a member of the pumpkin family.
2. Pumpkins may not be carved or hollowed out.
3. Pumpkins may not be larger than 2'x2'x2'.
4. Pumpkins, objects and materials used to decorate pumpkins may not be reclaimed until after the contest, under any circumstances.
5. Objects, paper and materials of any kind may be pinned or glued to pumpkins. Participants may also draw or paint on their entries or dress them up. **Again, do not carve or hollow out your pumpkin.**
6. No electrical device may be used as part of any entry.
7. Each entry must have a title.
8. The Old Tappan PTO reserves the right to dispose of any pumpkin that starts to rot during the contest period.
9. Pumpkins shall be picked up at the school library no later than Friday, November 2nd by 3:00pm.
11. There is to be **minimal parental help** decorating the pumpkin.
12. All entrant's should write their name, grade and homeroom teacher on the **BOTTOM** of the pumpkin in a permanent marker.
13. No pre-purchased pre-decorated pumpkins will be allowed to enter the contest
14. One entry per student only.



-- Judging Categories & Prizes Awarded --

Each grade (Kindergarten through 8th grade) will have 3 winners.

First place - \$20 Dairy Queen gift certificate

Second place - \$10 Morning Glory gift card

Third place - \$5 McDonald's gift card

Bring your pumpkin to the school library (depending on which school the child is in) **October 23rd-30th**. Judging will take place on October 31st.



-- Entries will be judged according to the following criteria --

- * originality
- * ingenious use of inexpensive materials
- * quality of the work
- * suitability of the title
- * quality of the work in light of the participant's age

-- Some Helpful Tips --

Keeping your pumpkin in good shape	Some decorating tips
Choose a firm pumpkin, with no blemishes, and make sure the stem is firmly attached.	Use acrylic paint if you wish to paint your pumpkin.
First wash your pumpkin under running water.	To engrave or carve designs into your pumpkin, use a knife for cutting leather. Never puncture your pumpkin.
Store your pumpkin in a cool, dry and well-ventilated place, protected from frost.	Use a glue gun and straight pins to attach decorations to your pumpkin.