



Parent Resource Newsletter

November....A Busy Month...
Report Cards, Conferences and
Thanksgiving

Reports Cards Sent Home – End of 1st 9 weeks

How to handle report cards:

- Talk with your child about each grade—calmly. Does she know why she got that grade? Can she explain it to you? What does she think needs to be done?
- Talk with the teacher to get her views on needed improvements and suggestions for ways to improve.
- Find out what help your school offers. Tutoring may be available or after-school classes on study skills.
- Consider getting outside help. Perhaps an older student will work with your child. A neighbor might be glad to help.
- Remember that grade cards report on only a few things. They can't tell about a child's dreams or ambitions or what the child will become in the future. Grades are not a measure of a child's worth, just a picture of current school performance.

Parent/Teacher Conferences; Nov 21st and/or Nov 22nd

How to get the most from parent-teacher conferences:

- Think about what you want to learn in the conference. Prepare some questions.
- Talk with your child. Ask what she thinks the teacher will say. Ask if she has any concerns. In addition, talk about likes, dislikes, problems, and successes.
- Ask the teacher to explain anything you don't understand. Special programs for children are sometimes referred to by their initials.
- Be prepared to talk and listen. Tell the teacher what you see at home. Talk about your child's interests. Tactfully talk about any concerns. And be sure to let the teacher know about anything that might affect your child's learning.
- Follow up. Stay in touch with the teacher. If you think of a question you didn't ask, write a note.

Resource: This information was prepared by Dr. John H. Wherry, President, The Parent Institute, "Education's #1 Source for Family Involvement Information," P.O. Box 7474, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7474, 1-800-756-5525.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO Helping Your Child Succeed in School

Family Literacy Day was celebrated in the United States on November 1st. Family Literacy Day promotes reading within the home. Even though it has past, it is not too late to engage children and adults alike in reading through the following Family Literacy Day activities below:

Read-a-thon

- Plan to set aside a day without television or computers in your home. Each family member spends their time reading during the evening and discussing the books read. Encourage children to summarize and retell the story they read. Make the reading event festive by piling pillows on the floor and preparing special reading snacks such as popcorn or homemade trail mix.

Book Clubs

- For families with children of various ages, look for book clubs for younger children that read books on a middle school or elementary school reading level. Look for book clubs for children and adults in local bookstores and at public libraries.

Word Games

- Spend Family Literacy Day playing word games that rely on the vocabulary built through reading. Younger children can do word searches while older children and adults can play games such as crossword puzzles, crossword board games such as Scrabble and word-find games such as Boggle.

Resource: Read more: Activities for Family Literacy Day | eHow.com
http://www.ehow.com/info_7845427_activities-family-literacy-day

Did You Know ?



Thanksgiving (USA)

Thanksgiving, or Thanksgiving Day, is a traditional North American holiday, which is a form of harvest festival. The date and whereabouts of the first Thanksgiving celebration is a topic of modest contention, though the earliest attested Thanksgiving celebration was on September 8, 1565 in what is now Saint Augustine, Florida. Despite any scholarly research to the contrary, however, the traditional "first Thanksgiving" is venerated as having occurred at the site of Plymouth Plantation, in 1621. Today, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday of October in Canada and on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States.

TITLE I NEWS

Getting to Know Your Title I Staff at Davey

You may have noticed we have some new faces at Davey and one of those is **Mrs. Dana Gregrow**. Mrs. Gregrow is new to our Title I program; however, she is not new to teaching. This is her fifth year as an educator. Mrs. Gregrow had been a long term substitute teacher at Franklin School in 2008 and is very happy to be returning to Kent City Schools. She attended Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio, where she earned her teaching degree.

Mrs. Gregrow is married to husband Eric and they have a nine month old son name Carter. She grew up in Rootstown but lives now in Cuyahoga Falls. She enjoys baking, shopping, playing board games and spending time with friends and family. She enjoys all kinds of music and seeing movies, especially comedies and prefers children's books. She is actually re-reading the Harry Potter series of books right now.

Her parents were such a positive influence in her life. They taught her so much during her childhood and Dana states she has been very blessed.

Mrs. Gregrow's love of working with children prompted her to go into teaching. She wanted to be able to do that everyday. One of her favorite subjects in school was Math and she always liked working with numbers.

Her most positive teaching experience so far in the Title I program has been meeting all of the wonderful students. What she has liked most about being an educator in the Title I program has been working with small groups of students and getting to know them and how they learn. "Every student learns in a different way and at different paces and I love that Title I allows for that," says Mrs. Gregrow. What she feels is the most important thing her students should learn in her classroom is, "To never give up. It may not be easy but the reward at the end is greater". She is most satisfied when she sees a child realize his/her potential and works hard to be successful.

Mrs. Gregrow also believes the parent-teacher relationship is so important. "The parent is a child's first teacher. The parent/teacher relationship is key to getting the strongest gains from the child so the child knows education is vital," says Mrs. Gregrow. She feels parents can stay involved in their child's learning by making homework a priority and also keeping the lines of communication open at all times. She keeps parents involved by sending home newsletters and making phone calls for both her student's successes and struggles. She also is open to communication back from parents through emails, phone calls or notes. Whatever works best for the parents.

We are so happy to have **Mrs. Dana Gregrow** as a staff member in our Title I program at Davey School. We welcome her and hope you take the opportunity to meet her personally.

Site Review

Resources available for Parents and Families:

Website for learning and fun—for kids and parents together-- This month's website to see is:

Read To Me

For kids who want to hear one more story...visit the Read to Me website where kids 'push play' to watch videos of favorite stories like *Chrysanthemum*, *Lily's Big Day*, and *Fancy Nancy*, being read aloud with enthusiasm and charm by a variety of celebrities. The site also includes lesson plans filled with discussion questions, writing prompts, and activities for exploration and creativity. There's also a phone service where kids can access stories anytime.

Website: <http://www.readtomelv.com/>

Kids' Corner - Family Activity

Create a Thankful Tree

Want a fun way for you and your family to display all that you are thankful for?? Make a Thankful Tree!!

Materials

- Flowerpot
- Art sand, small pebbles, rocks or marbles
- Bare tree branch
- Colored card stock or construction paper (fall colors)
- Scissors
- Permanent marker
- Large ornament hanger, straightened paper clip or colored yarn.



Instructions

- Fill a flowerpot with sand/or pebbles and set in a shapely bare tree branch.
- Next, cut a pile of leaf shapes from colored paper.
- As your guests arrive, have them take a leaf and, with a permanent marker, write their name and the date on one side and something they're grateful for on the other side.
- To decorate your tree, push ornament hanger or paper clip through the stem of each leaf or punch a hole and tie with yarn and hang it in place.

Here are the 2011-2012 Title I Contacts for our Title Program at Your School:

Consultant, Mrs. Jeanie Hiestand:

Davey School (330-676-7462)
Walls School (330-676-8300)

Consultant, Mrs. Katrina Kelling:

Holden School (330-676-8433)
Longcoy School (330-676-8350)

Principal, Todd Poole:

Franklin School (330-676-8450)

Parent Involvement Coordinator,

Ms. Pam Bose: All Schools (330-676-7425)

Federal Grants Coordinator, Mrs. Lori

Slattery, Director of Instructional Program:
All Schools (330-676-7600)



Parents
plus
Schools
equals
Success