

# Parent Resource Newsletter

**Encourage mental math to  
strengthen problem-solving skills**

**Tips Families Can Use to Help Your Kids Do  
Better In School**

Your child may be learning math in different ways than you did. The strategies taught today are designed to help students better understand the concepts behind the computations.



Doing *mental math*—working out problems in their heads—helps kids practice using these strategies to solve problems.

To help your child with mental math in the early grades:

- **Start with the basics.** Give your child a number and ask, "What do you get when you add 1 to this number?" Then have him add 2 to his answer, then add 3 to that answer, and so on. Later you can ask him to take away 1, then 2, etc.
- **Practice "skip counting"**—counting by twos, threes, fives and tens. This helps your child add faster and lays a foundation for multiplication.

Later, as your child progresses:

- **Work with money.** Teach your child the values of coins. Understanding that there are 100 cents in a dollar, and that a quarter is worth 25 cents (or 25 percent, or one-fourth of a dollar) helps him get comfortable with easy combinations (75+25=100), fractions and percentages.
- **Challenge your child** to do quick calculations. "I have to figure out a tip. What is 20 percent of this bill?"

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*"The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph, but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered, but to have fought well."*

*Olympic Creed*

**WHAT PARENTS CAN DO  
Helping Your Child Succeed in School**

**Resolve to Have a Healthy and Safe Life**

The **New Year** offers opportunities to start anew. Make resolutions and commitments that can help improve the quality of your kids' lives. Involve your children in healthy decisions as part of the New Year.

Dr. John Beckerman, pediatrician at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington, Ill. says making resolutions together is a chance for parents to teach good habits. "I like to tell moms and dads that it's a good thing to pick a few – not all of them – and post them on the refrigerator, in their bedrooms or on the mirror in the bathroom the kids use," he says. "It's a chance for you to reinforce healthy habits after the holiday season passes."

**Here are a few simple ideas for your kids:**

- \* Encourage children to brush their teeth twice a day and wash their hands after coming in from play, going to the bathroom and before eating.
- \* Drink more milk
- \* Drink less soda pop and fruit drinks
- \* Find a sport or activity they can do two to three times a week
- \* Always wear a helmet when bicycling
- \* Wear their seat belt every time they get in a car
- \* Remind drivers to wear their seatbelt and not to text while driving



**For older kids; have them resolve:**

- \* To eat two portions of fruits and vegetables each day
- \* Take better care of their physical self and be more active
- \* When making a difficult decision, encourage them to talk with an adult about their choices
- \* Encourage them to volunteer their time in the community
- \* Eliminate negative talk
- \* Don't use a cell phone or text message while driving

"Making New Year's resolutions with your kids can be fun and exciting. But remember to re-evaluate the resolutions every few weeks," Dr. Beckerman says. "You want this to be a positive experience for them, and if they experience a setback, just start fresh the following week."

**Did You Know ?** The **2018 Winter Olympics**, officially known as the **XXIII Olympic Winter Games**, is a major international multi-sport event scheduled to take place from February 9th to 25th in **Pyeongchang County, South Korea**. These will be South Korea's second Olympic Games and its first Winter Games; Seoul hosted the Summer Games in 1988. Pyeongchang will be the third Asian city to host the Winter Games; the first two were in Japan, at Sapporo (1972) and Nagano (1998).



**TITLE I NEWS**



Returning to Longcoy School as a **Title I Reading and Math Tutor** is **Mr. Dayne Steele**. This is Mr. Steele's second year of teaching in our Title I program at Longcoy School. Dayne obtained his teaching degree from Kent State University. His favorite subject in school/college was Math because he stated; "He loves manipulating numbers".

Mr. Steele is unmarried and currently lives in Cuyahoga Falls. His hobbies and interests include listening to music (Rap and Hip-Hop is what he prefers), spending time with family and friends, eating, and watching the Steelers play football. He loves movie comedies and likes reading sport related books.

"The Title I program is important because it gives those students who need extra support the time to learn and develop certain skills", says Mr. Steele. He also believes it gives them the opportunity to do that at their own pace. He values individual learning and strives to give his students strategies they can take into their classroom learning. What has been most satisfying for him teaching in the Title I program has been seeing student growth.

The parent/teacher relationship is very important to him. He tries to keep parents informed by newsletters, homework logs, emails, phone calls and notes back and forth. He wants to encourage parents to read with their students at night, or play reading and math games with them to reinforce skills. He believes keeping parents informed by sharing student progress and keeping parents involved, helps in their kids learning.

We are happy to have Mr. Steele continue his teaching in our Title I program here at Longcoy. We hope you take the opportunity to meet him personally. ☺

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*We have an excellent staff serving our Title I students. They come from diverse backgrounds in education and bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to Longcoy. These persons serve as liaisons between the Title I education program and our parents. We hope by getting to know them better; it helps in building a strong foundation for parental involvement.*



**Kids' Corner**

**Winter Olympics Craft**

The **2018 Winter Olympics** will be held at **Pyeongchang, South Korea**. There will be 102 events in 15 sports, with an estimate 100 nations taking part. And we can't wait to join in with the excitement! To start; here is some 2018 Olympic Trivia for you - Pyeongchang's mascots are **Sooorange** and **Bandabi**, a white tiger and Asiatic black bear. The white tiger is considered Korea's guardian animal, and is closely related to Korean mythology. The mascot represents trust and protection and the strength of the athletes. Bandabi, the bear; is a symbol of strong will and courage.

To get in the mood for the Winter Olympics; search the internet or library for craft ideas or here's one to get you started!

**Ice Skate Bookmark**

**You will need:**

- Needle
- Embroidery thread-any color
- Felt
- Large paperclip

**Instructions:**

1. Fold your felt in half and cut out a boot shape slightly narrower than the paperclip and with the base of the boot along the fold.
2. Slip one side of the boot through the paperclip.
3. Using a neat running stitch, sew around the outside of the boot with one strand of embroidery thread.
4. Sew along the bottom at the top of the paperclip so it stays in place. The same color thread as the felt was used for stitching.



*Here are the 2017-2018 Title I Contacts for our Title Program at your School:*

**Literacy Coach; Mrs. Rachel Yohn:**

- Davey School (330-676-7409)
- Longcoy School (330-676-8379)

**Literacy Coach, Mrs. Kristin Garner:**

- Schoolwide Holden School (330-676-8400)
- Walls School (330-676-8300)

**Family Engagement Coordinator,**

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

**Federal Grants Coordinator, Mrs. Karen**

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

**Site Review**

**Resources available for Parents and Families:**

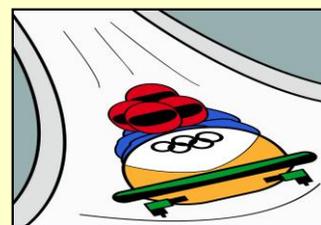
*Website for learning and fun—for kids and parents together-*

Has your child ever asked you a question like, "What are baby penguins called?" Well, National Geographic Kids has the answer! Kids can watch videos, play games, and best of all; learn about animals, nature and the world around them. You know, in case you don't know *everything!*

**CHECKOUT Website: National Geographic's for Kids**

**<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>**

They teach kids about the world and how it works, empowering kids to succeed and to make it a better place.



**Parents plus Schools equals Success**