



# Parent Resource Newsletter

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

## Reports Cards Sent Home – End of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> and/or Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>

### 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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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](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 Franklin

You may have noticed we have some new faces at Franklin and one of those is **Miss Correne Ferry**. Miss Ferry was hired to our Franklin Title I program as a Title I Math teacher. This is her first position in Kent City Schools. She attended Kent State University, where she earned her undergraduate degree in Early Childhood Education and her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction. Prior to taking her new Title I position; she had been a substitute teacher at Kent Schools.

Correne lives in Mantua and has been a residence there her entire life. She is single and has a one year old puppy named Samuel. She enjoys traveling, being outside, working on crossword puzzles, genealogy, reading, movies and seeing new places. She loves reading fiction novels, especially series books.

Miss Ferry believes her close relationship with her mom and her younger school experiences played a major role in her decision to go into the education field. She enjoyed all subjects in school, but if she had to choose, she would say English and Science are her favorites.

So far, working with a large variety of abilities and ages of students has been her most positive teaching experiences in the Title I program. "Title I Math serves a diverse group of learners and helps relieve some of the pressure the classroom teachers may feel meeting all their needs", says Miss Ferry. She feels students in the Title I program can learn helpful strategies that will make math content easier and more understandable.

Miss Ferry feels the parent-teacher relationship is so important. "Parents are a vital piece of a student's learning experience that can bring cohesiveness between the school, student and home", states Miss Ferry.

She enjoys that everyday teaching is new, different and exciting and it has provided her some of her greatest pleasures in school.

We are so happy to welcome **Miss Correne Ferry** as a staff member in our Title I program at Franklin School. We welcome her and hope you take the opportunity to meet her personally.

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### 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)*



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plus  
Schools  
equals  
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