



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 Longcoy

You may have noticed we have some new faces at Longcoy and one of those is **Miss Holly Kear**. Miss Kear was hired to our Longcoy Title I program as a Title I Reading/Math teacher. Miss Kear attended Kent State University, where she earned her teaching degree and made the Dean's List. This is her first position in Kent City Schools.

Miss Kear is single and lives in Akron. Besides teaching, Holly is also a high school swimming coach in Hudson. In her free time she enjoys shopping, watching football (OSU is her favorite team), kickboxing, running, hiking and riding her bike on the trails.

Miss Kear had many great/influential teachers and amazing learning experiences while growing up. She believes that is what prompted her to go into teaching. "I wanted to be a part of providing that same thing for other children", says Holly. She enjoyed Math, Psychology and Social Studies in school, but many of her professional education courses were her favorite in college.

She feels the Title I program is important because it gives the student more focused one-on-one/small group experiences reinforcing their classroom learning. She enjoys how eager all of her students are to improving their learning. Miss Kear states, "It is amazing to see the strides in their learning. I also like providing both students and teachers with the extra support". She feels it is important for students to care about and spend time on their learning in both Reading and Math. Another importance for students is to focus a great deal on going back and checking their work.

The parent-teacher relationship is so important to her. She believes parents need to see what goes on at school as well as students to see parent-teacher communication. "This allows parents to reinforce what is important at school", says Kear. She feels parents can stay involved in their child's reading or math education by checking graded papers, reading for 10 minutes daily with their child, asking questions about their child's learning and communicating any concerns with their teachers.

Her most satisfying aspect of Title I is seeing the moment of clarity in a student's learning followed by their academic growth. Her greatest pleasure in teaching is seeing her students proud and excited about their work.

We are so happy to welcome **Miss Holly Kear** as a staff member in our Title I program at Longcoy 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