



Elementary News

September 2018

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DATELINE

Monday	September 3	Labor Day - School Closed
Friday	September 7	Grandparents Social 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Friday	September 7	Library Field Trip
Tuesday	September 11	Patriots Day - wear red/white/blue <i>Non- Uniform Day! Blue jeans okay!</i>
Friday	September 14	Library Field Trip
Wednesday	September 19	3rd - 5th Grade Music Class
Thursday	September 20	K - 2nd Grade Music Class
Thursday	September 20	Open House 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. <i>(Bring your child with you)</i>
Wednesday	September 26	3rd - 5th grade Music Class
Thursday	September 27	K - 2nd Grade Music Class
Friday	September 28	Field Trip Tampa Bay History Center @ 9 a.m.

***Your child should come to school prepared each day!
They should have their backpack, homework,
water bottle, lunchbox.***

Fitness - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
(sneakers, extra water, and Fitness t-shirt)

Music- Wednesday & Thursday
(we will let you know when to start bringing recorders)

Library - Friday - wear your green polo and bring your library bag

Boost Your Child's Brainpower

Dr. Phil McGraw presents with a nine-point plan to make kids brighter and happier.

When it comes to your children, you want them to realize all of their potential and be the very best that they can be. When it comes to your child's intellectual functioning, are there things you can do as a parent to actually increase their mental ability?

To help your children boost their intellectual abilities, Dr. Phil has come up with the activities listed below. Take care not to let your children be intimidated by them. Make them fun - lots of fun. At the same time, avoid unrealistic expectations about what your children can accomplish. Pushing them into situations they can't handle will only frustrate them.

Point #1 - THINK POSITIVELY

Even very young children have a running dialogue with themselves. These private thoughts can be made up of positive or negative messages, including judging, assessing, praise, criticism, painting a rosy picture or sending messages of doom and gloom. Unfortunately, negative messages involving fears, doubts, worry and pessimism are all too common. A negative internal dialogue promotes failure: If kids think they'll do poorly on a test, they probably will.

If you suspect your child may be sabotaging himself in this way, you can work together to create a more

accurate and positive dialogue.

Point #2 - PLAY BRAIN GAMES

Playing games that stimulate the mind, particularly those that involve strategy and aren't based on chance, will build verbal skills, concentration, perception and reasoning. Chess, checkers, crossword puzzles, word jumbles and Scrabble are some brain-building games you can do as a family.

Point #3 - TALK ABOUT EVERYTHING

Engaging your kids in conversation helps build their vocabulary and language skills. No matter what your children's ages, you should discuss with them topics such as school, friends, their interests and activities, projects they create, trips you've taken together and current events. What eventually emerges from these conversations are children who feel valued and will be smarter, better adjusted and more intelligent.

Point #4 - KEEP ON READING

It's no news flash that reading to your kids helps nurture a love of language, which optimizes intellectual potential. The latest word, however, is that repeated exposure to a beloved book helps a toddler enhance his or her memory, improve attention span and builds vocabulary. Even if you're tired of that same old books, read with your kids as often as possible.

Point #5 - CREATE A STIMULATING ENVIRONMENT

There are many ways parents can provide a rich environment that will stimulate their children mentally. Singing lullabies to your infant stimulates the development of brain connections, particularly during the first

three years of life. Wordplay games in the form of rhymes or songs that you make up with your child encourage language development. So does using complex, multi-clause sentences, such as "I'm going to the grocery store because we need cereal for breakfast," as opposed to the simple, single-clause declaration "drink your milk."

At least once a week, take your children to the library to read on their own or attend a storytelling group. Go as a family to appropriate cultural events, such as plays and concerts. Travel to new places, including local museums. While on vacation, take them on tours of interesting sights even if they don't expect to like going. At home, limit their time on the computer - unless they're doing schoolwork - and limit television to 60 minutes a day for preschoolers and older kids.

Point #6 - INTRODUCE MUSIC AND RHYME

Children should be given opportunities for the constructive pursuit of things they show an interest in. If music is one of these, encourage it. Instruction in music also helps children develop in other areas, such as math and complex reasoning.

Point #7 - NOURISH YOUNG MINDS

The importance of giving your children a nutritionally balanced diet cannot be overstated when it comes to supporting their mental capabilities. When you fail to feed your kids wholesome foods, instead serving overly processed foods high in sugar and fat, it can potentially affect IQ.

One of the most effective ways to motivate your children is to be active yourself. Children rely on role models in their lives - and that's you. Be someone who sets the right example.

Point #9 - LOVE MATTERS

There's one more piece to all of this that cannot be measured, scored or counted, yet it must be taken very seriously by every parent: the love and nurturing you bring to everything offered here. Children who grow up in a secure and loving relationship with their parents tend to be smarter and more resilient. You can play all the word games you want, spend money on music lessons, but none of it means much unless it happens with the right spirit, the spirit that says you love and value your children and believe in them. When children feel this, they flourish.

**Kindergarten/First/Second
Grade
Mrs. Amy Slutz**

Welcome back to school! As the 2018-2019 school year begins, I would like to welcome all new and returning students. The K/1/2 students are off to a great start. They are working hard to establish their daily routines and become better acquainted with one another.

We've kicked off our curriculum with the theme "Life Skills," which focuses on responsibilities, manners, emotions, friendships, conflict resolutions, nutrition and body awareness.

One major goal for K/1/2 students is to gain independence and more confidence in their abilities. Once the student planners arrive, your child is responsible for bringing it to you each day for review and signing. Help your child create a daily chart/checklist to remind them of the supplies needed each day for school (backpack, lunchbox, kindle/iPad, water bottle, fitness t-shirt, library bag).

If you haven't already done so, please download the following apps on your child's tablet: RazKids and IXL. We will use these apps daily in class. Any unfinished classwork will be sent home the same day as homework to be completed and returned the following day. Please feel free to contact me with any questions that may arise.

As a final note, please refer to your monthly calendars and reminder notices to be sent home occasionally, regarding upcoming events/activities.

**Multi-age Class
3rd - 5th Grade
By Mrs. Maggie New**

We have begun using our new daily planners! Please check and initial your child's planner daily, you will find new messages from the office, extra paper work and notices in the red folder in the back pack. Homework will be written in the planner as well as incomplete work that needs to be finished.

Science will be at the forefront of our classroom activities this month. We will begin to chart our daily weather and use the internet to predict the weather.

This month we will read aloud Jack Drake Bully Buster and Frindle both by Andrew Clements. We will be assessing students reading fluency and comprehension levels throughout the month. Reading at least 15 minutes each day is an essential part of your child's homework.

From August to January our class will be learning about the geographic region of the U.S. Please download a geography game onto your child's tablet it will help them learn the states and capitals.

On September 28, we will visit Tampa Bay History Center to learn more about the area we live in.

Multi aged students need to assume responsibility for their own belongings as well as help pack their own lunches. Students should have a protein, carbohydrate, and a fruit or vegetable and a small healthy snack daily. Every student needs his or her own water bottle as well.

GARDENING



Gardening this year has started off with a little bit of silly fun. We made Grass Heads. We took some cups, felt, googly eyes, panty hose, grass seed and soil and made some pretty interesting characters that hopefully soon we will be giving some haircuts to as the grass grows from the top of their heads. Also, we are seeing how mint in a can and mushrooms in a box work. We'll keep you posted!

Outside gardening will start when it cools down a bit. With 95-97-degree days and Gardening right after Fitness I need to ensure their safety first so they do not overheat.

We will be filling the gap with fun projects and classroom education I have prepared for them. Stay tuned!

Gardening Instructor

Coach Mike

FITNESS / LEADERSHIP

The school year is off and running! A special thanks to our little warriors that have been here in years past for exercising good leadership and helping our new warriors get settled in.

In Fitness we have been working on the basics of baseball and some conditioning while being mindful of and safe with the heat. As the weather starts to cool off we will start to ramp up the intensity a bit more.

Please remember to keep them hydrated and check their Fitness folders daily. Homework, when we have it, is given on Mondays and due on Thursdays. Please work with them, have them try and do their best, I am just trying to see if they are understanding what we are learning in class.

Thank you all for your continued involvement in their development. It remains my pleasure to be their Coach.

Fitness/Leadership Instructor

Coach Mike

