



Making the Connection

From School to Home



December 2020

Franklin County School District Title I Monthly Parent Newsletter

Valerie H. Durrell, Parent Coordinator

Dates to Remember



Franklin County School District

December 3 Regular School Day
(No 60% Day)

December 16-22 2nd 9-Weeks Test

December 23, 2020-January 5, 2021
Christmas Holiday (no school)

January 6-7, 2021 Staff Development

January 8, 2021 STUDENTS BEGIN
SECOND SEMESTER

From Across the Globe



December is...

National Human Rights Month

December 7 Pearl Harbor Day
December 9 International Children's Day
December 15 Bill of Rights Day
December 21 Winter Solstice

Show your child how to give meaningful gifts that are free

Many people exchange gifts over the holiday season. While kids enjoy receiving gifts, they also enjoy being able to give gifts. Giving gifts can give your child a sense of pride.

Does your child know that the most meaningful gifts don't have to cost money? They take time and come straight from the heart.

Share a few of the many ways your child can give gifts this holiday season. He can:

- Offer to do chores for an elderly neighbor.
- Record himself reading a book for a younger sibling to read along with.
- Make a list, such as "My 10 Best Memories with Grandpa."
- Do a chore for an entire month without whining.
- Play a favorite game with a family member or a neighbor who is home-bound.
- Record an audio or video message for a loved one who is far away.
- Bake cookies and deliver them to someone who may not receive many homemade gifts.
- Create a calendar for 2021 and decorate it with personalized artwork, one drawing for each month.

Reprinted with permission from the December 2015 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2015 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. Source: B. Taylor, *What Kids Really Want that Money Can't Buy: Tips for Parenting in a Commercial World*, Warner Books.



Focus on four areas as you help your child develop character

You want your child to develop her best qualities and share them with the world. You also want her to connect with other students and thrive in the classroom. Your child can build the strong character she needs for school success if you teach her to:

1. **Take responsibility.** We're all accountable for our actions. Encourage your child to tell herself, "I can't control others. But I can control my choices and actions."
2. **Be flexible.** Model compromise and negotiation by listening to others' opinions. Encourage your child to do the same. Remind her that having her way is not as important as doing the right thing.
3. **Show empathy.** Teach your child to imagine how others might feel. This will help her make better decisions.
4. **Be respectful.** Talk to your child about what respectful behavior looks like, at home and at school. For example, she can show respect at school by raising her hand before speaking in class. She can show respect at home by helping out with chores.

Reprinted with permission from the December 2015 issue of *Parents make the difference!* © (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2015 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. Source: K. Ruskin, "How to Raise a Child of Character," Psych Central, niscw.com/elem_character.



Worth Noting

If you want your children to turn out well, spend **twice** as much time with them and **half** as much money." —*Abigail Van Buren*

~~~~~

## Persistence can lead your child to success in school and in life

It's wonderful for students to be talented and smart, but research shows it's just as important for them to be persistent.

Pushing forward—even when it's tough—is a key to success. Whether your child is naturally persistent or gives up easily, it helps to:

- Discuss persistence. How has persistence already helped your child? Maybe he learned to ride a bike or play an instrument. What new challenge can he tackle now?
- Break big goals into small parts. If your child is determined to get an A in math, support him by discussing steps and helping him develop a reasonable plan.
- Focus on the process. Sure, it feels great to see an A on a report card, but it also feels great to study hard and do well on a test. Even better, it feels great to learn! Talk with your child about his accomplishments and what makes them worthwhile.
- Compliment your child's hard work—not just the end results. If he falls short of a goal, that's okay, as long as he tried.

Reprinted with permission from the December 2015 issue of *Parents make the difference!* © (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2015 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc.



### **\*\*Final Reminder\*\***

Please stay safe.....

\*Wear Your Mask

\*Practice Social Distancing

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

