

Fairview Elementary

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Principal DeAun Blumberg, Ed.D.

Fairview Friends and Families,

Welcome back. I hope that you and your family had a restful winter break. I also hope that over the last two weeks, you and your children had a chance to read and learn together.

Reading is the cornerstone for all other learning. At school, students read alongside their teachers, with their peers, and independently at their own level. Every grade has a block of time for literacy that is at least 90 minutes in length, but may extend to two hours. Teachers emphasize phonics, fluency, comprehension and active engagement in reading. But we still need your help.

Research shows that children who read with their parents have clear educational advantages. They control more sophisticated and extensive vocabulary. These children tend to have higher grades and test scores in *all* subjects. You can increase these advantages by focusing your reading on specific areas. Here's how:

1. If you do not know your child's reading level, contact the teacher. Ask for recommendations for books at the appropriate level and interest.
2. Ask the teacher if your child is decoding words, reading fluently and comprehending grade level text.
3. If your child needs assistance with decoding, practice sounding out words and mastering sight words. The classroom teacher can provide resources.
4. If your child needs assistance with fluency, try the following strategies:
 - a. Ask your child to read aloud. Help out with a word only when the child asks for help.
 - b. Whisper read with your child. Your child will try to match your pace and intonation.
 - c. Read poetry and song lyrics with your child.

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 5

School Resumes

Friday, January 15

Honors Assemblies

Grades 4, 5 and 6
11:30 - 12:20 pm

Grades 2 and 3
12:30 - 1:20 pm

Kindergarten and 1st
1:40 - 2:30 pm

Monday, January 18

No School – Martin Luther King Jr.

Thursday, January 21

Family Literacy Night
5:00 – 7:00 pm

Friday, February 12

No School – Staff Learning

Monday, February 15

No School – President's Day

Thursday, February 25

Black History Month Program
5:00 – 6:30 pm
Family Supper
6:30 – 7:30 pm



5. If your child needs assistance with comprehension, try the following strategies:
 - a. Read, cover, retell. (Read a short section together, cover up the text with your hand and ask the child to tell in his or her own words what was read.)
 - b. Ask questions about the text. (Who, What, When, Where, Why and How)
 - c. Encourage your child to ask questions about the text.
 - d. When your child comes across an unfamiliar vocabulary word, see if you can figure out the word from the context, or look it up in the dictionary.
 - e. For stories, ask the child to retell using the following characteristics: character, setting, first, middle, end, message or theme.
 - f. For informational text, ask the child to explain what the text is mostly about and what point the author is trying to make. (About/Point)

On Family Literacy Night on Thursday, January 21, we plan to focus on reading and the spoken word. Students will be performing poems, reader's theater, and speeches. We will also provide modeling for each of the strategies listed above. We know that with your help, we can help all of our students become successful readers...and successful learners.

As always, thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

Principal Blumberg

On the Road to Queeny Park Science Fair

Calling all young scientists! Check out the deadlines that are quickly approaching for Science Fair Projects.

February 1 – Topic/Title

February 12 – Research question and hypothesis due

March 1 – Materials and procedures due

March 21 – Written/typed report and log book due

April 11 – Judging of projects

April 11-12 – Science Fair Display Night 6:30 – 8:30 pm

April 26-29 – Queeny Park Science Fair



Supporting Our Community

JSD Community Cupboard

Second and fourth Thursdays every month at Jennings Education Training School, 6605 West Florissant. Fresh produce, canned goods, dry goods, and meat available for all Jennings residents.

Lost and Found

At this time of year, students have great difficulty keeping track of coats, hats, gloves and other clothing items. In the main building, we have a Lost and Found area in a stairwell just past the Kindergarten classroom. Items that have been left in the cafeteria or gym will be placed in the Lost and Found area outside of the Cafeteria.

Recycling

A barrel has been placed on the lower level past the library for *gently used* uniforms. If your child has outgrown uniform items, place in the barrel.

A second barrel has been placed in the same location for other used clothing items, including Halloween costumes. Recycle those items as a service to your community and as part of your regular Spring Cleaning.

