



February 23, 2017

These warm winter days are a perfect time to spend quality outdoor time with your family. Just a reminder, our intent is for our new Fitness Trail in our Outdoor Lab to be used by the community. Tell your neighbors, bring your whole family! You are encouraged to come to Family Fitness Night this evening and check it out. Our wellness team is even working on a grant to add lighting for safe use by you and the community in the evenings!

Our PTEO is asking for your help with donations for the upcoming end of quarter 3 Bonfire Celebration. Please e-mail me or send the form at the bottom of the third page of this week's newsletter.

Next week begins the first round of testing for students in grades 3-8 in Indiana and at David Turnham Elementary. Students will be assessed in areas such as reading, writing, language, math, science and social studies. An actual schedule will be sent home by your child's teacher. Our students are prepared to do well! We have no doubts! But this can still be a stressful or nervous time for kids as schedules change and they want to do well. Please continue the good habits you have established and feel confident in your child's ability to give his or her best effort regardless of the outcome. A test score is meant to inform all of us about a child's strengths and weaknesses so that we can adjust to ensure success! We would also like to provide the following thoughts:

#### **ISTEP+ - Next Week**

Test. It's a word full of many different meanings. Important...something to care about...something that can mean so much we get apprehensive thinking about it. Tests are important, especially to school children. A test may measure a basic skill or give the school information to best support a child's learning path. So it's important to do well on tests. Like them or not, they are here to stay. Besides, the ability to do well on tests can help throughout life in such things as getting a driver's license, trying out for sports, or getting a job. Without this ability, a person can be severely handicapped.

#### **On Test Day**

- **Ensure your child eats a good breakfast** – Studies show that children perform better at school when they aren't hungry. It's important to give your child a good breakfast at home or ask your child's school about options for breakfast. As long as your child arrives before the bell, most schools offer breakfast and some schools offer breakfast in the classroom.
- **Help your child get enough sleep** – Your child will need to have a good night's rest to perform well on the test. Children ages 7 to 12 need 10 to 12 hours of sleep a night, while children ages 12 to 18 need 8 to 9 hours. Make sure bedtime the night before the test is early enough to provide enough sleep.
- **Dress your child in comfortable clothing** – Students will sit for long periods of time when taking tests, and it's important they feel comfortable in what they are wearing so they focus on the test rather than their clothing.
- **Prepare the night before** – Lay out clothes and school supplies the night before the test to create a smooth morning routine. It's important for your child to feel calm and organized as they prepare for a test.

#### **You can be a great help to your children if you will observe these do's and don't's about tests and testing:**

- Don't be too anxious about a child's test scores. If you put too much emphasis on test scores, this can upset a child.
- Do encourage children. Praise them for the things they do well. If they feel good about themselves, they will do their best. Children who are afraid of failing are more likely to become anxious when taking tests and more likely to make mistakes.
- Don't judge a child on the basis of a single test score. Test scores are not perfect measures of what a child can do. There are many other things that might influence a test score. For example, a child can be affected by the way he or she is feeling, the setting in the classroom, and the attitude of the teacher. Remember, also, that one test is simply one test.
- Meet with your child's teacher as often as possible to discuss his/her progress. Ask the teacher to suggest activities for you and your child to do at home to help prepare for tests and improve your child's understanding of schoolwork. Parents and

teachers should work together to benefit students. Test results shouldn't be a surprise.

## Important School Dates and Events in the Next Month:

- February 23 - Family Fitness Night TONIGHT!!!!!! 4:30-5:30
- February 27 thru March 3 - ISTEP+ Please avoid making appointments during this window; especially in mornings when we do almost all testing.
- March 10 - End of 3rd Quarter
- March 13-14 - IREAD testing for grade 3 only
- March 16 - STARS Program - Grade 1 presents at 1:45
- March 24 - Bonfire! End of quarter 3 Celebration!
- March 25 thru April 2 - Spring Break - No School

## School and District Information:

**Congratulations Optimist Speakers:** We would like to recognize the following students for participating in the Dale Optimist Speech Contest last Thursday at the Dale Library: Emma Klueh, Braxton Schaefer, Bryan Vallejo, Jeraldi Barrientos, Gabriela Perez

We would also like to congratulate the following students who placed!

- Girls: 1st Place - Grace Keller, 2nd Place - Hannah Bolin, 3rd Place- Allie Wetzel
- Boys: 1st Place - Elliott Fischer, 2nd Place - Yordy Sandoval, 3rd Place - Blake Duttlinger

**Math Bowl Team:** Congratulations to our 1st EVER Math Bowl Team and their coaches Mrs. Keller and Mrs. Meyer who will compete tonight at Lincoln Trail. Team members include: Bronson Pund, Andersen Smith, Jace Duttlinger, Kendra Hagedorn, Jobe Quinn, Aiden Mattingly, Sawyer Wahl, Alaina Greenwood, Savannah Gogel, Braden Pruitt, Ben Pulley, Grace Hopper, and Logan Callahan.

**Our DT Family:** We would like to extend a sincere thank to Mrs. Janet Marshall for her time in Mrs. Souder's room while Mrs. Souders was home on maternity leave with her new baby. Mrs. Marshall has been wonderful, and our first graders have continued to learn and grow tremendously under her care. Mrs. Souders will return next Tuesday.

**Message from Mrs. Wetzel, our school social worker:** We will once again be taking students without dental insurance to the USI dental clinic this spring. Students will travel to USI on a North Spencer activity bus during the school day on either March 23 or April 5, 2017. Parents will receive a sealed envelope with the results of the checkup. There are 12 slots available for each trip. Please return the form on the bottom of the third page of this newsletter. Slots will be filled in the order received.

### Construction Update:

CRAZY big change this week! Our main entry student and adult restrooms have been eliminated. It has been noisy, but exciting progress. Crews were motivated to get the destruction complete knowing next week is ordered silence for state testing. Even with the testing interruption we may have our restrooms when we return from Spring Break!

### Conscious Discipline Weekly Parent Tip:



### Visual Schedules:

As spring approaches, so do busier calendars for us with active school age kids. Consider making a visual schedule to help reduce stress for your child and the whole family. I borrowed the information below from <https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/pages/using-visual-schedules-a-guide-for-parents>, for more information and ideas just follow the link.

A visual schedule tells your son or daughter what is going to happen and the order of events. Some of you may have children that are able to memorize a sequence of events. The problem with this is that (especially as they get older) most things in life do not happen in the same order or at the same time every day. This can then lead to behavior problems when unexpected changes occur. Using a visual schedule can develop a positive routine of looking for information and thus increase flexibility and the ability to cope with life's ups and downs in the future.

As the research has shown, an additional positive aspect of using a visual schedule is that it can increase your son or daughter's independence. They can learn to move from one activity to another using the schedule rather than relying on someone else to lead them or verbally prompt them to the next activity.

## Community News and Events:

- **Patriot Volleyball for Grade 5 & 6:** Forms in this week's folder for interested 5th & 6th grade girls. Forms and payment due back at DT office by Thursday, February 23, 2017.
- **CASA Volunteers Needed:** Please join Judge Jon Dartt along with CASA volunteers, board members and staff to learn more about the needs of Spencer County children and how you can help. Flyers in school office with more information on 3/9/17 - 6:00-8:00 pm - Rockport Library AND 3/23/17 - 6:00-8:00 pm - Dale Library.

Thank you for sharing your kids with us! Together we can change the world!

Jen Jazyk, Principal

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## BONFIRE Volunteer and Donations

**Parent:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Child:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I could volunteer for the morning shift on March 24.

\_\_\_ I could volunteer for the afternoon shift on March 24.

\_\_\_ I may, or may not be able to volunteer on March 24, but I still want to help celebrate all the hard work and learning kids did in the third quarter.

Thanks for your support!!!!

It takes a lot of supplies to make s'mores for over 300 people! We can use the following donations:

- 1.55 oz. Hershey Milk Chocolate Bars
  - Large marshmallows
  - graham crackers
  - Or just make a \$ donation and we'll do the shopping. Send cash or make a check to the DT PTEO!
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## USI Dental Clinic

Please send this slip back to school by March 10 if you would like your child to attend.

Name of Child/Children \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name and Phone \_\_\_\_\_