

Hermosa School

PO Box 27/11 4th Street, Hermosa SD 57744

<http://hermosaschool.weebly.com/> T: 605-255-4345

www.csd.k12.sd.us



Upcoming Events

From the Office:

- Please make sure your child has money on their milk/lunch account if you want them to purchase lunch/milk.
- If you haven't signed up for Parent Portal, please stop in the office, or call, and do so. You can view assignments, grades and pay lunch/milk balances all in one spot!
- If you would like to leave cough drops, Tylenol, aspirin, or any medication at the office for your child, please bring it to the office in the original container from pharmacy or store with your child's name on it and I will have you fill out the medical form we need on file to dispense the medication at school. The state of South Dakota does not allow schools to keep any medications for children on hand, yes, even cough drops. Sorry for any inconvenience.

From the Principal's Desk-Hello Hermosa Hornet Families,

Welcome back to school! We have lots of excitement surrounding our school. For the first time, we broke the 200 students mark!! Currently, we have 211 students. Of course, growth brings growing pains.

I'm sure you have noticed our modular building sitting in our parking lot. We are very thankful for the extra classrooms. Deb Smith (4th grade teacher) and Josh Hanson (5th grade teacher) have done an amazing job of making the modular feel like home. I can't thank them enough for the work they put into making it the best for students!! It is also exciting to hear our school board jump into making plans for our future. Good things are happening!

We also welcomed some awesome new people to our Hermosa School Family. Felicita Custer is our new school counselor. She has been wonderful with the students. Mrs. Row is our new middle school math teacher. Many students know her already from the time she was a para and her student teaching last year. Heidi Brisk is the 4th – 8th grade SpEd. teacher. Heidi brings experience and a positive attitude with her. Whitney Willis is our new kindergarten teacher. She greets students each day with a warm smile and many great lessons.

Other new faces around the building are Brandi Cook, para for 1st grade, Shelly Benson, 2nd grade para and lunch duty, Tiffany Kaiser, SpEd para, and Rebecca Keiser, suburban driver for Spring Creek, Shanelle Guy, salad bar, and Micheal Smith head lunch cook.

VOLLEYBALL

Monday, Sept. 18 Oelrichs @Hermosa 4:30

Tues. Sept. 19 Oelrichs @ Oelrichs 4:30

Thurs. Sept. 21 Hot Springs @ Hot Springs 4:15

Tues. Sept. 26 Douglas @ Hermosa 4:30

SEPTEMBER 20TH SCHOOL PICTURES

FOOTBALL

Thurs. Sept. 14 --7th/8th
Lead/Deadwood @
Lead/Deadwood 4:30pm

Saturday, Sept. 23rd 8th grade
Lead/Deadwood jamboree 10AM

Tues. Sept. 26th 7th grade-
Douglas @ Hermosa 4:30

Saturday, Sept. 30 7th/8th grades
Newcastle @Hermosa 9AM

We are off to a great start! Look for many awesome things to come!

Lori Enright, Principal

Classroom News

Kindergarten—Mrs. Neugebauer

We are officially 8 days smarter, as we would say at our calendar time in class. We have been in school for 8 official days as I type this note. Boy oh boy, are we working hard on figuring out what being a Kindergarten student looks like and sounds like too. ;)

We are working hard on writing our first names and starting to learn about the letter M and A in the alphabet. The numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been introduced and we have even learned one word "I". Oh how hard some of these concepts can be.

Next week Monday we will be doing our first round of NWEA testing which is district mandated and is completed entirely on the computer.....which leads me to saying how proud I am of my students learning how to operate the computer effectively.

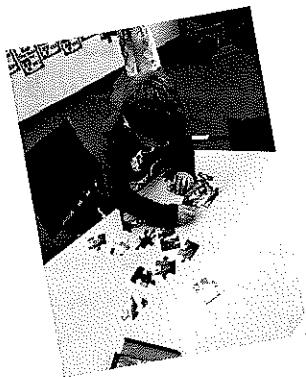
More another time, I guess next month right? ☺

Kindergarten—Miss Whitney Wills

Hello! My name is Whitney Wills, but my kindergarteners call me Miss Whitney ☺ I am thrilled to begin my 1st year teaching! I recently graduated from Black Hills State University with a degree in Elementary Education and an endorsement in kindergarten. I grew up in Alliance Nebraska, but have lived in the hills for a few years and absolutely love it here! In my free time I enjoy spending time with friends and family, loving on my dog Bliss, fishing, hiking, and reading.



Our first 8 days in kindergarten have been a success! Last week we learned all about the letter M and this week we are learning about the letter A. In reading the students were introduced to a new word wall word "we" and they are practicing reading "de-codable" books. In math we have been learning how to write our numbers 1, 2, 3 & 4 as well as exploring unifix cubes, pattern blocks, and snap cubes. We have been having so much fun in kindergarten and can't wait to see what the month of September brings! Here are a few busy kindergartners in my room!



First Grade-Mrs. Crown

Mrs. Crown's first grade class is off to a fantastic start to the new school year. The class is trying some new seating options to help them make good choices for learning.

First grade also would like to welcome Brandi Cook to our classroom. She will be working with students from both first grade classrooms. Brandi has two children Shayleigh who is in 6th grade and Bryson who is 4. We are so excited to have Brandi in our class!

First Grade-Mrs. Louder

We are off to a great start in First Grade. We are working hard to build our classroom community! First grade is lucky to have Miss. Brandi Cook helping us. She is a positive, upbeat person who is willing to do whatever it takes to help our kids succeed.

Students have started working with addition concepts in math. We have also started our reading rotations, which include handwriting and reading response work. During our science block, we learned how easily germs spread with a silly experiment. For September, we will be focusing on the seasons and the weather. I am so excited to be working with such a great group of First Graders!

Second Grade-Mrs. Lowe

We are finally getting back into the swing of things. We are learning new routines and trying to keep up with all the Second grade work. Please make sure your child is doing his/her night writers at night and that they are reading their homework books.

We are learning about how to write our numbers different ways in math. In science, we are going to start a unit on magnets and in reading we are learning about characters, setting, plot and main idea.

Special Education-Heidi Brisk

My name is Heidi Brisk. I am joining the Hermosa School team as the 4th-8th grade Special Education teacher. I am excited for the school year ahead, as this will be my third year teaching. I am coming from Canton, SD, but I am originally from the Black Hills. I am excited to be back home in the hills with my husband, son, and dog.

Counselor – Mrs. Felicita Custer

Hi! I am Felicita Custer the new counselor at Hermosa School! I have just moved to South Dakota from Okinawa, Japan, where my husband, Dave, was stationed for four years. I have been married for 19 years and have 3 amazing sons. My boys are David, 19, and in the Air Force stationed in Okinawa, Japan now, Aidan, 16, and Elias, 12. I previously served in the DC Air National Guard on active duty for 6 years and decided to get out and pursue my career, while taking care of my boys. I graduated from the University of Maryland with my Bachelor's degree in Psychology. After my degree, I enrolled into my Master's program in school counseling at Capella University. I look forward to getting to know your children and the families in Hermosa.

3rd Grade – Miss Snyder

Welcome Back!

Reading: We have started our Aesop's Fables stories. So far, we have read The Tortoise and the Hare, answered questions, and found the moral (lesson) of the story. We are working on our fables and other third grade reading material such as finding and citing evidence of other stories. The students have been working hard on their phonic sorts (spelling at their own pace). We have completed our in district test for NWEA (MAPs) and we all did wonderful.

Math: The first few days of school we worked on place value and recognizing numbers. We have now started in our Go Math books with finding patterns on our addition table and rounding numbers to tens and hundreds. Please work with your child at home on rounding numbers to tens and hundreds.

Science: We have read about the water cycle. We have also read how water can take three different forms (solid, liquid and gas). Now we are reading about Natural Hazards (all of the students related to Hurricane Harvey and Irma on the way). Please allow your child to listen to the news about Hurricane Irma so they can understand the strength of a hurricane.

Social Studies: We are learning about different communities.

Homework: Please remember homework is important and keep encouraging them to choose one of their choices each night from their "un" homework menus. If you ever have questions about the homework please feel free to call, email, write me a note or message me on class dojo.

We have had a great start to the new school year, let's keep working hard and staying focused.

Miss Snyder

3rd Grade-Mrs. Zumpano

In Social Studies the third graders have been busy learning about urban, suburban, and rural communities. The students painted rural landscapes, constructed urban settings, looked at people who help us in our communities, and how they can lend a "Helping Hand" in their own communities.

Julie Zumpano
Third Grade Teacher



4th Grade – Mrs. Smith---Greetings from 4th Grade!

We're getting to know each other well, and building a strong community of learners here in 4th grade! Establishing a good routine and using our Hornet Habits on a regular basis is right on track! Ask them what "Habits" they came up with for our classroom! We will again use "Buzz Bucks" to reward students who are making good choices that follow our school-wide expectations of being respectful, responsible, and safe. Students will be able to "spend" their "Buzz Bucks" at the school store later this month. Other notes of interest: NWEA testing is underway to help us plan for instruction, Class Dojo is up and going, weekly spelling lists come home Mondays, with a test on Thursdays, and Go Math homework packets will come home to reinforce skills and content that we worked on during the week (students with finished packets are rewarded with bonus Dojo points). I'm looking forward to a "FanTazTic" year!

Best Regards,
Mrs. Deb Smith

5th Grade – Mr. Hanson

The year is under way in 5th Grade. For me personally, when I look back, 5th Grade was a year when I grew as an individual. It was a game changing year. It was a step in the right direction for me. I believe that it can be the same for each 5th grade student. It is my goal for the 5th grade class to grow in every sense of the word. Most importantly, I pray that God's blessing, favor, and guidance would be upon this class and this school. It is my prayer and goal that this year be founded upon truth, faith, hope, and love. May this class be a group that rises up and steps into the things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praise worthy.

Mr. Hanson

Middle School – Mr. Reeve, Dr. Ingram, Mrs. Row

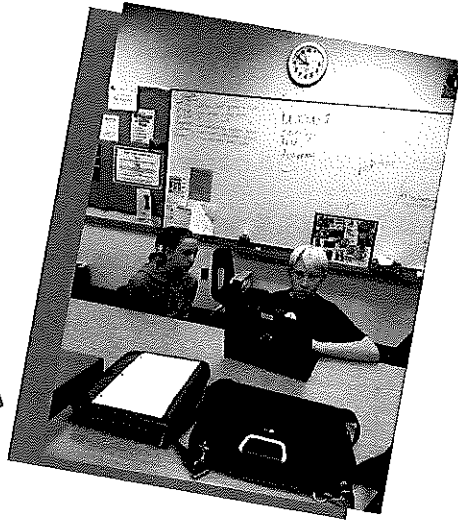
Dr. Ingram

Welcome Back!!! Happy new school year!!! It has been a wonderful summer, but it's exciting to once more get back to school. Our theme in English this year is, "*Getting our GRIT on*." I chose this theme because the power of passion and perseverance drives successes. When we learn to use and harness our GRIT, nothing will stop us from accomplishing anything we put our minds to. This year in middle school English, we will be studying biographies/family trees, poetry, fictional stories, and research paper writing. We will once again have our Weekly Words of the Week (WOW), weekly writing assignments, and English IXL (computer based learning). Students will also complete book reports based on books they read throughout the school year along with fun projects to highlight those books. In Geography, we will be studying the wonderful world around us-I can't wait to explore new cultures, lands, and people with our 7th graders.

As with previous years, we will continue NWEA assessment testing during our fall, winter, and spring times. We will let you know the dates as soon as they are assigned. Additionally, we will continue to have SMARTER Balance testing in the spring. Finally, we will once again be using an assignment calendar known as Plan Book. Parents, guardians, and students will be able to check daily for any assignments-so no surprises. Check my weebly for a direct link to the plan book. Just log on to: dringramscholars.weebly.com. Also, please check the parent/student portal for grades. This is where you will see grades and any missing assignment.

Again, welcome back! This will be a wonderful year and I am so excited to get started learning once more!

Dr. Mattie Ingram, 6th, 7th, 8th Grade ELA, 7th grade Geography, and 6th, 7th, and 8th Creative Writing Instructor
Don't measure the size of the mountain, talk to the one who can move it...getting students excited about learning!



Mrs. Row---6th, 7th, & 8th Math & 8th US History

We started out by doing some interest surveys to get to know each other. While I had been a para and sub in the Custer School District, this is my first year as a teacher. The students in all the classes made an acrostic poem using math words.

6th grade is investigating the relationships between rectangles and parallelograms while learning that the formula of base times height is true of both rectangles and parallelograms. They are starting to investigate the relationships of triangles and trapezoids to rectangles and parallelograms and will be learning the formulas for those shapes as well.

7th grade is investigating the relationships between the radius and/or the diameter of a circle to its circumference. They did some measuring of circles using string and dividing by the diameter to find that the ratio is pi (3.14). They are learning the formula for finding circumference of a circle and will be learning about the area of circles next.

8th grade is working on rigid motion transformations of shapes on a plane. They have used wax paper to make translations (slides), reflections (flips), and rotations (turns). In history, they have worked in groups to do some research on early Native American tribes. They made and presented their information using power point. The groups not presenting were working on listening skills and taking notes. They have done a wonderful job with this project.

This week we are working on the MAPS assessment. While this seems like it takes a lot of classroom time, it really is an important piece for their learning. The MAPS assessment allows us to find out a little more about what our students know and maybe where they have some gaps. This allows us plan so they can learn what they need to be successful. Looking forward to a year filled with curiosity and imagination that leads to the desire to learn while having fun.

PE—Mr. Trandem

We have modified eligibility process this year to hopefully make it easier for parents and teachers.

The cutoff for determining eligibility will be 8am THURSDAY morning. If a student has an F in any class or two D's in any class on Thursday morning, they will be ineligible for one week starting the following MONDAY. Ineligible students can still practice, but they cannot participate in any games. Even if their grades are caught up by Monday, they will still be ineligible for the week. They will still be allowed to play games that weekend if there are any games before Monday. So, if you find out Thursday that your student is ineligible, but there is a game that night, they will still be allowed to play that night. The ineligible week starts on Monday.

Title—Mrs. Hammer

I am excited to be back to school and for the opportunity to work with children.

In the Title room, we focus on skills in reading and math. We work to reinforce the concepts taught in the classroom and provide extra practice in the areas needed. We try to give students a variety of strategies to help them solve problems when reading or working on math. Sometimes this takes place in the classroom, but often is in small groups in the Title room. As always, extra practice at home helps to build on these skills.

Enjoy this special time of watching your child learn and grow!

Music/Band – Ms. Hansen

Welcome back! It has been a wonderful start of a new year with wonderful returning and new students!

Hats for Harmony is our new fund raiser for the Music Department this year! Once a month, plus 2 additional days, students who purchase a "Hat Pass" are allowed to wear their school appropriate hat all day! The students may purchase a year Hat Pass for \$10 or a monthly pass for \$1 for each individual Hat Day. Family year passes may be purchased for \$10 for the first child and \$5 for any other siblings. Please join us for the next Hat Day on Thursday, October 5. There is still time to purchase a year Hat Pass and support the students of Hermosa in their quest for education and fun!

Congratulations Jayden Carrier, Keilana Altman, Bailey Apa and Anna Hansen for being voted to lead the Music Council. Their positions are the voice for all the students in the school concerning things associated with Music. Congratulations ladies! Parents, please join our Hermosa Hornet Music Facebook page to see what is happening day to day in Music Class! To join, please search for Hermosa Hornet Music and request to join. It is a closed group for parents and family to enjoy watching our children grow and also be able to stay in touch with what is happening!

Art- Ms. Kassube

Welcome to 2017-2018 Art in Hermosa Elementary. I am excited to get the new school year off to a great start! This year, we are going to focus on Art Portfolios instead of Art sketchbooks. The students are very busy painting their personal Art collection folders to place their work in as the year goes by. This is a South Dakota Visual Arts Standard, and I am excited to get the students going on this project. Most of the students will have criteria that will help them decide whether they will put their finished pieces in the portfolio, or take them home right away.

Art students will also be working on Homecoming banners to carry in the Homecoming parade. There are many projects to complete this month, to include National Dot Day. Around this time, we will read the book titled "The Dot", and celebrate creativity. This all takes place around September 15th.

Finally, the ever-popular surrealism artists will be back amongst the older grades to study. Artists like Rene Magritte, and Salvador Dali will return with some surrealist influenced Art works for the classes to study.

See you in October!

CUSTER & HERMOSA ELEM. SCHOOLS GR. K-5

MY LUNCHTIME CHOICES! LUNCH MENU - SEPTEMBER

Fruit & Veggie Bar & Milk Choices

Unlimited fruits and vegetables and choice of milk are included with the lunch meal everyday.



Each student is required to have 1/2 cup of fruits or vegetables on their tray.

Look for the Farmer's Market Logo on this month's menu for the featured Farmers Market selection.

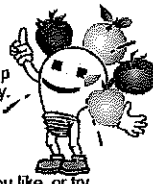


Learn more about this month's Selection on the poster in the dining area or at:

<http://server.lunchtimesolutions.com:81/farmersmarket.pdf>

Choose it - Try it!

Students MUST have at least 1/4 cup of a fruit or a vegetable on their tray. If you always skip the fruits and veggies - Don't fight it! - You'll learn to LOVE it! You have lots of choices for fruits and veggies every day, so choose something you like, or try something new! Benefits? A better lunch, more stamina for the day, and a healthier life!




Lunch Meal Prices & Extras

ES Lunch	\$2.80	Extra Entrée	\$1.55
Adult Lunch	\$3.50	Extra Milk	\$0.50
		Extra Specialty Pizza	\$1.80

Questions or comments:
Contact Sarah McCoy, Food Service Director at 605-545-2792 or S.McCoy@lunchtimesolutions.com

Applications for Free and Reduced Price meals are

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4  NO SCHOOL	5 A. Soft Shell Tacos B. Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Chili Lime Corn Carnival Cookie	6 A. Breaded Beef Patty and Dinner Roll B. Chicken Nuggets and Dinner Roll Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy	7 A. Taquito Grande B. Pizza BBQ Beans	8
11 A. Home-style Chicken Stew over Fresh Baked Biscuit B. Hot Dog Baked French Fries	12 A. Home-style Buffalo Chicken Pasta B. Cheesaburger Baked Beans Chocolate Chip Cookie	13 A. Chili Smothered Baked Potato & Dinner Roll B. Grilled Chicken Sandwich Mixed Vegetables	14 A. Mexi Tots with Dinner Roll B. Pizza Watermelon/ Cantaloupe Golden Corn Cinnamon Bread Stick	15
18 A. Chicken Fajitas B. Corn Dog Refried Beans	19 A. Homestyle Beef Chili with Crackers B. Chicken Nuggets Green Beans Frosted Cinnamon Roll	20 A. Home-style Chicken & Noodles B. Baked Breaded Beef Fingers Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy	21 A. Spaghetti with Meat Sauce B. Crispy Chicken Sandwich Peas Gelatin Dessert	22
25 A. Cuban Hot Dog B. Pizza Mixed Vegetables	26 A. Chinese Tacos B. Chicken Nuggels Steamed Carrots Pineapple Coleslaw Cinnamon Bread Stick	27 A. California Lasagna w/Garlic Bread Stick B. BBQ Pork Sliders BBQ Beans	28 A. Italian Dunkers with Marinara Sauce B. Teriyaki Chicken Sandwich Corn on the Cob Chocolate Chip Cookie	29

CUSTER & HERMOSA GR. 6-8

MY LUNCHTIME CHOICES! LUNCH MENU - SEPTEMBER

Fruit & Veggie Bar & Milk Choices

Unlimited fruits and vegetables and choice of milk are included with the lunch meal everyday.



Each student is required to have 1/2 cup of fruits or vegetables on their tray.

Look for the Farmer's Market Logo on this month's menu for the featured Farmers Market selection.



Learn more about this month's Selection on the poster in the dining area or at:

<http://server.lunchtimesolutions.com:81/farmersmarket.pdf>

Other Entrée Choices Available Daily:

C. Sub/Salad/Wrap Entrées

M,W Sub Sandwich Choice
 T Salad Choice
 Th Wrap Choice

Choices vary. See menu board for details.




Lunch Meal Prices & Extras

MS Lunch	\$2.95	Extra Entrée	\$1.55
Adult Lunch	\$3.50	Extra Specialty	\$1.80
Extra Milk	\$0.50	Pizza	
Bottled Water	\$1.30	Bottled Juice	\$1.30

Questions or comments:

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Volleyball is off to a great start! If you have not seen our Hermosa Hornets play yet, I encourage you to attend one of our home games. This season, we have 7 home games! Grades 5th – 8th play on the teams. Go Hornets!



Coach Leusink wants you to play a game called "Guess Who" (Hornets Addition). How well do you know our 8th grade volleyball players? Good luck!

Taylor Neugebauer

1. Kisses and hugs her two dogs every morning before going to school

Skyler Ludemann

2. The Chicken Whisperer.

Calli James

3. The biggest supernatural and Riverdale fan ever. Also a Dean & Jughead fanatic, of course.

Reace Guy

4. Was supposed to be taking a nap, but instead climbed out a window because they wanted to go outside

Sara Fischer

5. Incredibly obsessed with the Fast and The Furious movie series

Jayden Carrier

6. Almost got kicked out of daycare for biting too much

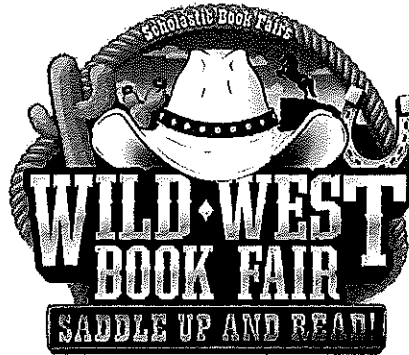
Audrey Mannie

7. Used to watch the "Little Rascals" movie, while eating pickles and singing 1 got 2 pickles, 1 got 2 pickles, 1 got 2 pickles, hey hey hey hey!

Tara Nelson

8. Loves reptiles, especially turtles! Even used to have a Horned Toad named Belle and a Lizard Named Y ☺

Answer Key: Jayden: 1, Sara: 2, Reace: 3, Skyler: 4, Calli: 5, Tara: 6, Taylor: 7, Audrey: 8



Dear Parents and Families:

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- Set the example. Let children see you read.
- Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.
- **Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.**

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

Book Fair dates: Monday, September 25th & Thursday, September 28th

Shopping hours: 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Special activities: Two Family Basket Raffles (Enter by attending your students' conferences).

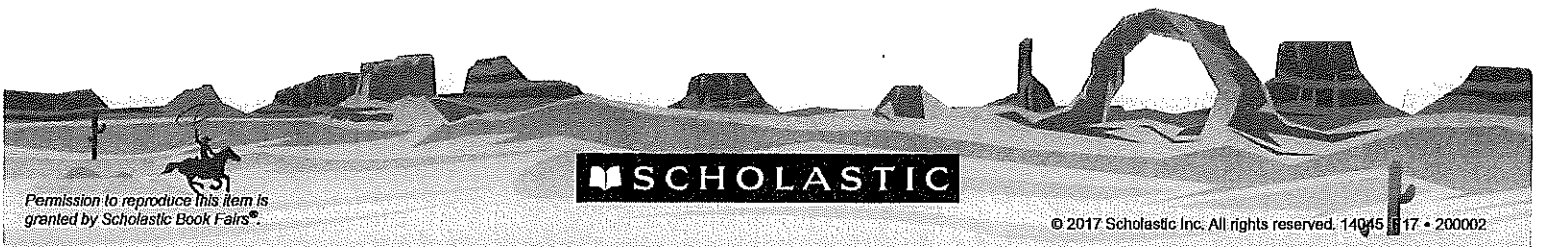
If you are unable to attend the Fair in person, we invite you to visit our online Book Fair at scholastic.com/fair. Our Online Fair is available from September 29th to October 4th.

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair! Remember, all purchases benefit our school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne Leusink".

Jayne Leusink
Ed Tech/Media Specialist



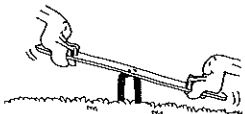


Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION[®]

Hermosa Elementary School
Ms. Lori Enright, Principal



SHORT NOTES

Excellent attendance

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or PE class. Explain that he can be absent only if he's sick or if there's a family emergency.

DID YOU KNOW?

Children who regularly eat meals with their families tend to do better in school and avoid risky behavior.

Eating dinner together is great, but other meals count, too. If you work at night, maybe you could make time for a family breakfast. Or on a weekend, try a picnic lunch.

Celebrate progress

Suggest that your youngster create a fun reminder of all the things she has accomplished. Let her cover a box with construction paper and label it "I did it!" Then, she can write each success ("I learned to add fractions") on a slip of paper and put it in the box. If she's feeling discouraged, have her read the slips.

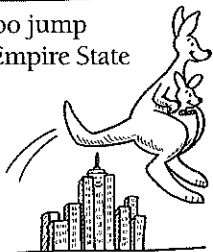
Worth quoting

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up!"
Mark Twain

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Empire State Building?

A: Of course. The Empire State Building can't jump!



Conversations about school

When you think of parent involvement, do you picture moms and dads volunteering in classrooms? That's one way to help—but research shows that supporting your child's education at home is even more important. Here are conversations starters that will help you stay involved.

"Let's see what you brought home."

Look at completed work to find out what your youngster is learning and how well she's doing. You could comment on her math work or social studies project, for instance. ("You know a lot about our state's history!") Also, respond to notes from her teacher, and sign her weekly folder or daily planner if required.

"Show me what you have for homework."

It's your child's job to do her homework, but you play a role, too. Make sure she knows what she's supposed to do by having her explain the assignments to you. After she finishes her homework, glance over the work to see that it's complete.

"Describe a book you enjoyed today."

This gives you an idea of what your youngster prefers to read. Then, build a daily reading habit by asking what she'd like to read tonight. Encourage her reading and listening skills by reading aloud to her and letting her read to you.

"Tell me what you learned that you'd like to know more about."

Use her interests as jumping-off points for activities to share. If she likes geometry, you might hunt for

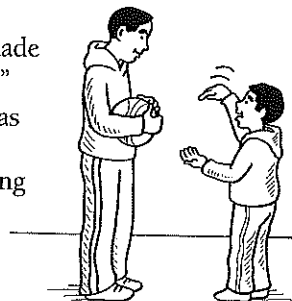


shapes together. If she's fascinated by how animals adapt to winter, take her to the library to research the subject or to the zoo to see live animals.♥

After-school questions

Asking "How was school today?" might not get you far. Instead, ask questions like these for a better picture of your youngster's day:

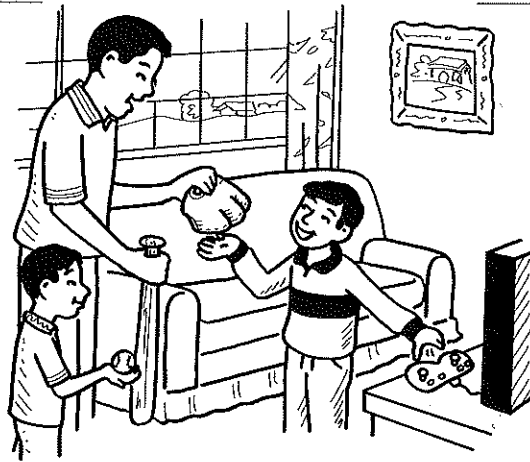
- "What's the coolest thing that happened? What wasn't so cool?"
- "Pretend you're the teacher. How would you describe the day?"
- "What made you laugh?"
- "What was the most creative thing you did?"
- "How were you kind or helpful today? Was anyone kind or helpful to you?" ♥



What does respect look like?

Your youngster's daily dealings with adults and kids alike will be more pleasant if he speaks and acts respectfully. Try these tips for helping him learn about respect.

Respectful replies. Think about something that you and your youngster disagree on (say, whether his video game time should be limited). Model having a respectful discussion about it. You might say that his brain and body are growing and that he needs to run and play to stay healthy. Then, suggest a respectful response, such



as, "I want to be healthy, but I love video games." Have him brainstorm other situations where people have different opinions but still speak to each other with respect.

Everyday acts. When you mow the lawn or clean up after your dog, you can teach your child about respect for neighbors. Explain that keeping your

neighborhood clean and neat makes it nice for everyone. Ask him to think of other respectful things neighbors should do. If you share an apartment laundry room, he might say that you respect neighbors' time by removing your clothes when they're done so others get to use the washers and dryers.♥

A reading challenge

By reading more complex books, your child can learn new words, facts, and ideas. He'll also be exposed to more complicated plots and will grow as a reader. Share these suggestions:

- Knowing something about the topic or setting makes a tougher book easier to comprehend. If your youngster is reading a novel set in China, he could talk to someone who has been there or look up the country online (try a children's site like kids.nationalgeographic.com).



- Encourage your child to look at a simpler book on the same subject. A picture-book biography about Harriet Tubman may help your youngster better understand a textbook chapter on the civil rights movement, for instance.

- Suggest that your child read complicated material with pencil and paper in hand. He can jot down questions, words to look up, or facts he wants to learn more about.♥



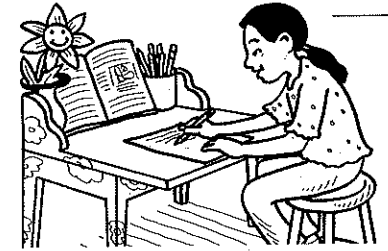
Strong study habits

Q: My third grader has to spend more time studying this year. How can I make sure she studies effectively?

A: Set your daughter up for success by helping her find a distraction-free study spot. Also, have her come up with a study routine. For instance, she could reserve time each evening to review her textbook and notes in the days leading up to a test.

Also, many students find it helpful to jot down a purpose each time they study. Your child might write: "I will learn the definitions of all the boldfaced words in chapter 7, section 1."

Finally, encourage her to experiment with study strategies to find what works best. She could close his eyes and imagine how a word is spelled or draw a grid with 9 squares to solve 3 x 3. Or she might find it helpful to spell or recite math facts aloud in rhythm or to a familiar tune.♥



Talking to kids about money

My children were always asking to buy things like dress-up shoes or new games. They didn't seem to understand that these items weren't in our budget.

I wanted them to learn about how we spend our money—and that it is limited. So I got a spiral notebook and labeled it "Family Spending Journal." I explained that for two weeks, everyone would keep a record of what they spent money on. I listed items like my

subway fare, the electric bill, and food at the grocery store. The children wrote down expenses such as school lunch, soccer cleats, and field trip fees.

After a few days, they were surprised by how many things we needed money for. Our kids had no idea, for example, that we paid for taxes on our income, several types of insurance, and membership in our homeowners' association. Sometimes they still ask to buy too many things at the store, but when I say no, at least they understand why.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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www.rfeonline.com

ISSN 1540-5621