

The LongView of Things

February 2012

Principal's Portion

Have you ever had difficulty getting your child to talk about school? Have you ever asked the question "So what did you do in school today?" and received a blank stare or the response "Nothing"?

Communicating with your child about school is so very important. It not only provides you with valuable information (*like upcoming field trips, good or poor grades, etc.*) but just talking with your child about their school day shows them you believe school is important in their life. Studies show that when parents show their children they care about school, those children are more likely to succeed in school and less likely to drop out of school later. The opposite is true as well. Studies show that if a child senses his parents don't put a lot of value in education (*or if parents talk negatively about their child's school*), those children tend to perform below average academically.

Here are two easy ways to start conversations with your child about school, as well as keeping communication open between home and school.

1. SET ASIDE TIME EVERYDAY TO GO THROUGH YOUR CHILD'S BACKPACK. This 2. allows you the time to go over your child's papers with her. Help her feel proud by making a specific comment about something

she's done. Have your child talk you through the math problems they completed that day.

2. TALK ABOUT SCHOOL AT THE DINNER TABLE. I've written in previous newsletters about how family dinner time is a lost art. It's sad, but true. At the dinner table ask your child to tell you one thing they learned in school that day. Show them you're interested in what they are studying. Ask follow-up questions so he doesn't figure out that if he gives a general 2-word response he's "off the hook" for the rest of the meal. You'll be amazed at how much these conversations will mean to your child.

Working with you for our children,

John R. Black



**No School for
Students**

**Thursday,
February 9th**

**Professional
Development for
Teachers**

Student Council

Student council would like to announce the members for 2nd semester.

3rd grade - Jordan Seymour, Elexiz Vang, Emily Her, Ayendy Betances, Leng Yang, Lily Little

4th grade - Chee Yang, Lindsey Lanham, Danielle Stewart, Jailen Howell, Hunter Deal, Logan Miller

5th grade - Macie Benge, Erika Lara Flores, Kaitlyn Dang, Vuong Trong, Jasna Avery, Olivia Grise

Congratulations and work hard this semester!

Our main service project this semester is Pennies for Pasta. We will be collecting spare change for the month of February. All money collected will go to the Leukemia Society. The classroom who collects the most money will receive a pasta lunch from Olive Garden. Please send in spare change to your child's classroom to help them win the Olive Garden Lunch. Thank you for your help and support.



PTA Rents Space on Thrifty Lion Marquee!

Here's your chance to be on the Thrifty Lion's marquee on 1st Avenue! Rent one line with up to 25 letters and/or numbers for one week for \$10! Share your congratulations, personal messages, birthday greetings, and more!

Sale at the Thrifty Lion!!

The Thrifty Lion will begin selling spring and summer clothing items on March 1. Prior to that we will be greatly discounting all remaining clothing in the store. For the entire month of February ALL CLOTHING will be 75% off. What a great opportunity you will have to get terrific items at terrific prices.



Board Meetings

Tuesday: February 7 and March 6 at 4pm in the library. All parents and teachers are invited to attend.

PE Corner News

Congratulations! The following students came in first place during the Hoop Shoot Competition at Longview Elementary School: age 8-9 year old winners were Kashawn Thomas and Kyndal Bryant. Age 10-11 winners were Kayla Soublet and Deaunte McCombs. Age 12-13 bracket winner was Cierra Hayes. These students were eligible to compete in the Hickory Elks Lodge Hoop Shoot competition held January 21, 2012 at Lenoir-Rhyne College.

Parents: thank you for your continued support to the PE Dept. Parents are welcomed to participate during PE classes with their children. Below are some upcoming events where volunteers are needed:

February 18 "Day of Dance": event to be held at the Hickory Foundation YMCA and presented by Frye Regional Medical Center.

February 15 through March 21: Fitnessgram Assessments

For further information on upcoming events, please contact Ms. Chislom by email Chislomph@hickoryschools.net or call (828) 327-2070 ext.580.



Our Terrific Kids program is sponsored by the Hickory Kiwanis Club and Chick-Fil-A. Each month 2 students from each class are selected based on 4 factors: good attendance, being on time, respecting others, and always trying to do their best. Terrific Kids are honored at an afternoon assembly.

The Terrific Kids for the month of January were:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Jordon Carter | Uriel Arteaga-Tovar |
| Cierra Hayes | Dale Wescott |
| Jacob Icard | Pheng Yang |
| Danielle Stewart | Eric Moreno Palacios |
| Omar Harden | Kierra Payne |
| Aracley Rios | Devin Propst |
| Emily Her | Jonathan Salgado |
| Jordan Canipe | Jasmine Flores |
| Kashaun Thomas | Kirsten Thorneburg |
| Shelby Barlow | Evan Hamrick |
| Jorge Cisneros | Yolanda Whitson |
| Janice Torres | Anthony Rodriguez |
| Logan Walsh | Oscar Resendez |
| Bella Snider | Alan Adame-Garcia |
| Camila Ochoa | Gwenevere Wallace |
| Dillon Vang | Yesly Diaz Medina |
| Jason Houser | Samantha Skees |
| Shelly Velasco-Hernandez | |

Math Websites!

The Longview Math Committee would like to tell parents about a few great math web sites for use with your children. Some of the new sites we have found are:

www.mathplayground.com
www.primarygames.com/math
www.ixl.com/math
www.sheppardsoftware.com/math

Enjoy some of these math games and interactive sites with your children!



Accelerated Reader

- Mrs. Brown

Each month your child will have a chance to earn certification levels. Students are recognized at the monthly Terrific Kids program.

Ready Reader - Read and test to accumulate 5 points. Students can read with someone or even have the book read to them.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Jasna Avery | Keyonna Avery |
| Shelby Barlow | Sydney Fuller |
| Katelyn Sain | Michael Sanchez |
| Kiersten Smith | Lewis Yang |
| Shelly Velasco-Hernandez | |

Independent Reader - Read and test on 3 books, 1.2 level or higher, on their own. Accumulate 10 points.

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Evan Hamrick | Luis Juarez |
| Aaron Scott | Jordan Seymour |
| Jykiri Wallace | |

Rising Reader - Read and test independently on 3 books, 1.6 level or higher and worth 1 point or more.

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Uriel Arteaga-Tovar | |
| Gavin Powell | Jedidiah Skees |
| Zasha Wallace | Leng Yang |
| Cody Young | |

Super Reader - Read and test independently on 3 books, 2.0 level or higher and worth 1 point or more.

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Jordon Carter | Rosendo Arguero |
| Jauhlik Morrison | Jedidiah Skees |

Star Reader - Read and test on 3 books of grade level 4.0 or higher and worth at least 4 points each.

Eli Little

Classroom News



More at Four Pre-K

-Ms. Icard
-Mrs. Galit

The Lion Cubs (Longview Pre-K) have been learning to count, our alphabet, and much more while discovering kings and queens. We had a great time learning and concluded with a Royal Feast. We are now learning about pets. We hope to have many animal friends visit in the next few weeks. Please do not miss a day. We will not be having a valentine party, but will exchange valentines with the class. A class list will come home with your student. We continue to grow more and more independent each week as we prepare for kindergarten. Look for kindergarten information to come soon.



Kindergarten

- Ms. Wadsworth
- Mrs. Mackey
- Mrs. Roberts

We are very busy right now in Kindergarten. In reading, we are working on many different things. One of those things in beginning letter sounds. Please be sure to help your child with this as you read to them at home. Reading to them at home encourages the concepts they are learning in class. Please be sure to review all alphabet letters with your child, ensuring they know the sounds of each letter and a word that begins with the letter sound. Continue to work on sight/spelling words as they are going to help form reading skills that are crucial at this time.

Write, write, and write. You've heard it said: the more you write, the better you become at it. Little words are where we begin!

Our upcoming themes will include Valentine's Day, Hibernations, Teeth, and Presidents, along with other winter related ideas.

In math, continue to help your child with patterning, the days of the week, and using numbers. It is crucial that your child is practicing using, reading and writing their numerals 0-30. Practice this daily with your child. Take advantage of all opportunities that arise: at the grocery store, in the car, or at play. Many outside activities you are involved in with your child provide tremendous opportunities for learning to take place, use them!

We have two field trips coming up. Kid Sense on February 22 and the Science Center on March 7. Please make sure to have \$10 (\$5.00 for each field trip) ready to send to school with your child when permission slips come home.

Feel free to talk to us if you have any questions or concerns about ways to help your child improve in his/her class. We are beginning to pick up the pace as we are half way through the year. It is important to ensure that you and your child are keeping up with us. Thank you for all the hard work and support you are providing as you transition through the first year of school with your child.

Be sure to stay involved in your child's education. Find out what your child is learning and how you can help them more at home. We look forward to seeing you!



1st Grade

-Ms. Baker
-Mrs. Streamer
-Ms. Jarrell

First grade has been working so hard with reading, writing, and math. We have just finished our mid-year assessments and will be contacting parents where conferences are necessary. We are so proud of their growth so far! Literacy First has helped your child become more successful in sound identification (phonemic awareness) and phonics (letter and sound relations).

We have been, and will continue learning about winter. There are many animals that need this cold weather, and many who will sleep through it

We will be celebrating many events in February, including Black History month, National Dental Health month, Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, and President's Day.

We are heading to the Catawba Science Center on Friday, February 10th to participate in the "Body Connections" program. Please sign the permission slip and send back \$2.00 with your child to cover the bus ride. We'd also like to give you advance notice of our big field trip in March. We are going to the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro, NC. Please know that this will be unlike any field trip your child has ever attended. We will be leaving right after attendance is taken and will not be returning until 5pm that day. You will need to arrange transportation home for your child, as there will be no/limited transportation that day. The cost for this field trip will be \$7.50 (this includes transportation, lunch, and admission). Please start saving for it now. We are already discounted some with help from PTA and a community donor. This trip would be *much* more without their help so we thank them greatly!!!

We'd like to pass a few reminders on to you: Please remember to listen to your child read each night and sign his/her reading log. Your child will use part of his/her recess to read if it is not completed at home. Many children have also gotten out of the habit of doing their homework nightly. It is imperative that your child do his/her homework each night it is assigned. Homework is used to reinforce the learning your child does at school. It is also one of the ways we assess our students in knowing that they understand what was taught. Your child will have a silent lunch and miss part of recess to make up work that is not completed at home.

***Note that your child has sight words he/she should be practicing everyday at home. We practice in school, but it is very important that your child is practicing at home, as well. These sight words help make your child a better, more confident reader. We've had several sight word lists to date. If you have lost your list(s), please contact us and a new list will be sent home.

Thank you so much for working so hard with your child and with us to give him/her the education he/she deserves. When we all work together, the rewards are endless.



2nd Grade

- Mr. Rothenberger
- Mrs. Graves-Gore
- Mrs. Childers

February is a very busy month. We have numerous fun activities, interesting special dates, and math concepts we will be learning about this month. **Groundhog's Day** is **February 2** and we will be watching to see if Queen Charlotte here in North Carolina sees her shadow or if the famous Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. The whole month of February will be reading books about different Famous Black Americans celebrating **Black**

History Month. Stop by your local library and check out some books about famous African Americans. The week of **February 7** we will be learning about the Underground Railroad using **Show Way, Follow the Drinking Gourd** and other books talking about the Underground Railroad. The week of **February 14** we will be learning about time using **The Grouchy Ladybug** along with different books about time.

The **Science Center** will be our destination for a field trip on **February 16** to learn about the three types of matter and their properties. Our classes will have the opportunity to learn about caring for each other as classmates on **Valentine's Day** this February 14.

We continue to work hard in our Literacy Stations for Literacy First. Students are practicing their research skills, retelling skills, sequencing skills, and writing skills. Ask your child about the work they are doing in stations and look for their work to come home each week. They are working hard and becoming great independent learners.

In Social Studies, we will learn about **Abraham Lincoln**, the 16th President of the United States, and celebrate his birthday on **February 12** the week of **February 13**. Parents, ask your child why people consider Lincoln to be the greatest President to ever hold that office. February finds us learning about the United States' 1st President, **George Washington**, and celebrating his birthday on **February 22**. Have your child tell you the story about young George, a cherry tree, and an important lesson about honesty. Learning about these great men in history leads us to our celebration of **President's Day** on **February 21**.

In math, we will be learning about the concepts of telling time to the hour, half hour, and 5-minute intervals. 2nd grade will also learn about fractions, creating Venn Diagrams & pictographs, and creating & describing numerical & geometric patterns. We will also continue working on adding and subtracting 2- and 3-digit numbers with regrouping and borrowing.

To help your child be successful in 2nd grade, please find a quiet spot for your child to read every night and work on homework. Homework is extremely important to complete to practice the concepts they learn in the classroom. Also, send a warm jacket to school with your child during these cold months. Thank you for working with us to ensure your child reaches their full potential as learners.



3rd Grade

- Mrs. Miller
- Ms. Phifer
- Mrs. Snider

Welcome to a new semester of third grade! Your child will be working hard to prepare for our End of Grade test and will be receiving new class work assignments, chapter book work, and homework to help them better prepare for these tests and fourth grade. We are excited to begin learning about fairy tales, folktales, and biography projects in reading. We are also beginning a new unit in Science on the Solar System and the Earth's relationship with the moon. Your child will create moon phases and constellations during science class. In social studies, we are continuing to learn about different places around the world and other cultures. We just talked about China due to their New Year's celebration--it is the year of the dragon! In math, we are extremely busy as we begin more study of times tables, division facts, graphing, shapes, and fractions! We have a lot of work to do! Mrs. Daniels will be working with us this nine weeks for Health and nutrition through a grant with North Carolina State University. We will be making healthy snacks and investigating food, nutrition labels, healthy diets, and food choices. We are working on writing letters, using complete sentences, paragraphs, and making our writing make sense. Students need to continue reading for their

Accelerated Reading goals and we remind all parents to check planners each night for important notes about both behavior and academics. Our next field trip will be March 8th to the North Carolina Raptor Center. More details will come home. Please come eat lunch with your child at school starting at 11:15!

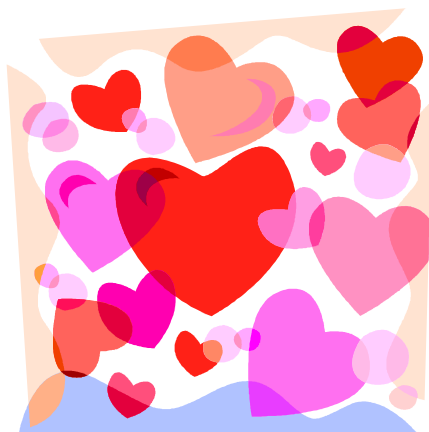


4th Grade

- Mrs. March
- Ms. Jackson
- Mrs. Craig

The Fourth Grade hall is hard at work with math and literacy first! We are currently working on multi-digit multiplying and long division in math. In health this month, we will be talking about Hygiene, while in Social Studies we are learning about Pirates and how they affected the economy in the past and how they still affect us today! Fourth grade also has a new passion in saving the Big Cats from becoming extinct!

Happy Valentine's Day!



Spelling Bee

A big congratulations to the following 3rd-5th grade students, who won classroom spelling bees and participated in the Longview Elementary Spelling Bee:

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jamie Lewis | Cecelia Shoup |
| Camdyn Abee | Rosendo Arguero |
| Ayendy Betances | Desiree Wescott |
| Omar Harden | Santiago Agreda |
| Lindsay Lanham | Noah Griffin |
| James Freeman | Ashanna Danner |
| Macie Bengé | Zakiyah Williams |
| Nicholas Stewart | Olivia Grise |
| Niy'Gel Carson | Kaitlyn Dang |

And a special congratulations to the winners of the school bee, who attended the district bee at Northview Middle on **Thursday, January 12th**:

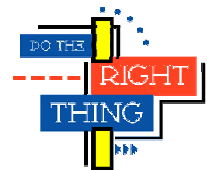
| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| First place | Nicholas Stewart |
| Second place | Noah Griffin |
| Third place | Kaitlyn Dang |

We're so proud of all of our spellers!



Our school character education motto is: **Do the RIGHT Thing**. The word 'right' stands for:

- R** - responsibility
- I** - integrity
- G** - generosity
- H** - honesty
- T** - together



"Together" implies that we as adults need to "model" these and other character traits. By doing so we are setting a good example for the children. And we adults should also have good character simply because it's the "right thing" to do.