



Parents Make A Difference!

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Get a Great Start to Make Your Child's Year a Success

Parents as Partners: Parents often ask how they can best support their child at school. There is a plethora of recommendations, checklists and advice available from a variety of sources on this topic. Here are five things that while simple, make a huge difference for parents and children alike.

ONE: Read together! Fiction or non-fiction, comics or graphic novels, newspapers or magazines. If you find a good read to share with your child you will be modeling your values about learning and schooling. It is by far the single best (free!) investment you can make. If you can only do one thing, this would be the one. From kindergarten to grade 8, this applies to all students!

TWO: Get a plan and stick to it. Set aside "quiet time" during the week for homework or general reading and involve your child in setting this up. A routine with clear expectations and outcomes is easier to commit to and invariably means greater success. Keep in mind that breaking or changing the schedule from time to time is good also...but the long-range commitment means returning to the routine and the work. Help your child to arrive to school on time, with all the necessary materials and ready to participate. Make no excuses, set high and realistic standards. Focus on encouraging and/or require your child to do the best they can.

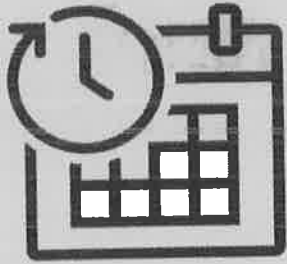
THREE: Light a fire, start a conversation. Don't give the message that school or homework is a boring chore. Children who do well enjoy learning, children who enjoy learning do well. Find out what they are learning. Asking "How was school today?" will usually result in a monosyllabic answer. Some other ways to get a conversation going might be:

- What was the silliest/craziest thing that happened today?
- Tell me two things that you learned today in _____.
- You have just started learning about _____. What do you already know about this?
- If you came in late/were absent today, what would you have missed?
- What/with whom did you play at recess/lunch?
- I think you have been getting better at _____. What do you think?
- Let's think of 5 questions about your _____ unit that you would like answered.
- Let's take a look at your class newsletter/planner together. You can explain to me what some of the posts are about.

FOUR: Encourage independent growth: Eventually a child must take charge of their own learning. This means that it is important for you to "let go" when your child chooses to do it their way. If your child does not meet a due date for a project, it isn't the end of the world. It is a learning opportunity about time management, commitment and tenacity. At elementary school, children are learning about learning.

FIVE: Work with the school. Get to know your child's teachers and what they expect. Read the newsletters and check your students planner. If you have a problem with the teacher or school, don't discuss this in front of

your child. Meet with the teacher to discuss your concerns. Children bring to school the attitudes about schooling that they learn at home.



September & October

Labor Day- No School/Daycare- Monday, September 6.

School Pictures- Thursday, September 9th.

Please refer to hand book if needed...No shirt/blouse with inappropriate writing or picture, shoulders must be covered...No revealing or low-cut blouse/dress and Skirts/dresses must be knee length or longer...No flip-flops, sandals, Crocs, etc....No shorts...No leggings unless worn under a skirt/dress...Jeans must fit appropriately and not have tears or holes.

Girl's Volleyball Starts-

Monday September 13, 4:00pm at Bartlett w/Meadow View
Thursday September 15, 4:00pm at Mound Valley w/Thayer
Saturday September 18, 10:00 am at Southeast Tournament
Monday September 20, 4:00pm at Oswego w/Altamont
Monday September 27, 4:00pm at St. Paul w/Altoona & Thayer
Monday October 4, 4:00pm at St. Pat's vs. Chetopa & Mound Valley
Thursday October 7, 4:00pm at St. Pat's vs. Parsons Middle School
Monday October 11, 4:00pm at Edna w/Elk Valley
Saturday October 16, TBD Tournament

Parent/Teacher Conferences- September 28th and September 30th. (More details coming soon).

No School- Friday, October 1

Fall Picture Retake- Thursday, October 7

End of First Quarter- Friday, October 15th

Teacher work day-No School – Daycare OPEN – Monday, October 18th

First Quarter Honor Roll Assembly- Friday, October 22nd

All Saints class parties- Friday, October 29th

Tax Credit program for all Parishioners: Join us in supporting Catholic schools by participating in this 70% tax credit program called Support for Catholic Schools. Due to favorable legislation passed last year in our state, St. Patrick Catholic School will now benefit from these funds. We encourage all parishioners to watch this short video and then to participate in this diocesan sponsored program. <https://youtu.be/RdG3pe65WE8>