



# January Newsletter

## Elementary Newsletter

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back! We hope you had an amazing winter vacation and are ready to make 2024 the best year ever! We are excited to continue to help your children grow and learn in all ways. The possibilities are endless!

As the cold, winter months are upon us, please remember that it is important for our students to get fresh air and exercise. Therefore, students will be going outside for recess as long as the feels like temperature is at least 20 degrees. To ensure your child can enjoy outdoor activities, please send your child with appropriate outerwear each day. This includes jackets, snow pants, boots, hats, and gloves. Your child will thank you! In addition, January is a good time to check in with your child to make sure that they still have enough school supplies such as crayons and pencils. It may be time to replenish the supply! Thanks for your continued support - it makes all the difference.

### START THE SCHOOL YEAR RIGHT

- Start the year off FRESH with instilling positive attendance habits.
- Set specific goals
- Deliver genuine praise often
- Set up a study area
- Establish a consistent homework routine
- Get to know your children's teachers- stay connected

### IMPORTANT DATES

- January 2- Classes Resume
- January 9- BOE Meeting
- January 14- FFA Pancake Breakfast 8am-12pm
- January 15- MLK Jr. Day- No School
- January 26- End of MP 2-Report cards sent home
- January 26- Character Ed Assembly 1:15

# Honor You, Honor Me

Give honor and value to ourselves and others.

*This month, we're focusing on respect, which comes in many forms: respect for life, for property, for parents, for elders, for nature, and for the beliefs and rights of others. **Respect includes being courteous and polite, as well as respecting yourself by avoiding self-criticism.** We can model respect for our children regarding how we speak to and treat them. Respect is not only an important character trait, but it can also be a source of real joy! Respect implies a certain appreciation, which makes us more aware of other people's needs and feelings.*



## 1 ENGAGE: Honor Each Other

As a family, create an Honor Board where family members and friends can write affirmations to the person of honor. (Make sure each family member gets to be the honoree.) The Honor Board can be made of construction paper, poster board, or a blank piece of paper. Once the board is complete, encourage the family member to display it so they can see it often and remember the great things others see in them.



## 2 EMPOWER: Practice Forgiveness

Everyone makes mistakes. Ask each family member to share a story about a time they made a mistake (at school, work, home, etc.) and discuss what lessons they learned. Share this quote: "Mistakes don't define us, but how we respond to mistakes will." Ask, "How can we show honor for each other, even when we make a mistake or disagree?" Process each person's response and thank everyone for their willingness to share. Challenge each other to respond to mistakes this week with love and respect.



## 3 EXCEL: Honor Those Who Serve

Celebrate members of your community who lead through service to others. Write "Thank You" notes to someone that has helped or served your family. Consider people in your community like veterans, teachers, nurses/doctors, ministers, bus drivers, police officers, firefighters, mail carriers, etc. Deliver these notes with a special treat.

## Conversation Starters

- ♥ What is the biggest lesson you learned last year?
- ♥ What is something you want LESS of in the next year? Why?
- ♥ What is something you want MORE of this next year? Why?
- ♥ What makes you feel respected? Disrespected? Why?