PES & LES News

February 2017

Reminder: Please send your children to school dressed appropriately for our changing Kansas weather!

Important Dates:

2/3: 4th grade Famous Kansan Wax Museum – 1:45 pm @ LES
2/8: NAEP testing for 4th grade students
2/10-17: PLES Book Fair @ LES
2/14: Valentines Parties: PES 12:45 – 1:45 pm LES: 2:00 – 3:00
2/15 & 16 PLPK Conferences – No School for PLPK students on 2/15
2/15 Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8 pm
2/16: Parent Teacher Conferences 2-8 pm
2/16 & 17: **NO School**
2/23: Parents As Teachers Play Group @ PES 6:00 pm
2/24: KAW DAY: Show your Kaw Spirit
2/27: PLES PTO @ PES 6:30 pm

In an effort to get a more accurate count to determine our actual needs for the 2016-17 school year, we need your help. If you have a child or if you know of a neighbor, relative, or friend who has a child that will be five years old on or before August 31, 2016, please contact Perry Elementary School 597-5156. USD 343 also provides an opportunity for 3 and 4 year olds to prepare for kindergarten through our Early Childhood Preschool program. Your child can improve his or her skills and have fun at school with other children. Morning and afternoon sessions are available as well as bus transportation. In order to qualify for this program, you need to meet a few requirements. Please contact Autumn Hale (597-5156) to pre-qualify for next fall '16 sessions.

Be a Happy Camper – come to our Book Fair

Please make sure you stop by the Scholastic Book Fair at Lecompton Elementary School. The book fairs will be open February 10th – 17th from 8:00 until 3:30 daily, as well as, until 8:00 during parent teacher conferences. Remember if you are not able to join us at the fair – the online fair is available and a great option with lots of book choices – the link to the online fair is: http://www.scholastic.com/bf/lecompton Don't miss the chance to help us build our community of readers. Every purchase from the book fair goes to help add new titles to the classroom libraries and to the school library. Teachers will have their wish lists up, students will have a chance to preview the library, and there will be lots of opportunities to win book fair dollars. The book fair is great fun – please plan on attending!

Love & Logic from Jim Fay: "Don't Set Too Many Limits": Children yearn for limits. Limits say, "I love you enough to show you how to have a responsible and happy life." Limits also say, "I love you enough to keep you safe." Limits also help us take good care of ourselves so we can remain loving. They keep us from feeling like doormats; therefore, they prevent us from developing resentment. So... if limits are so important... why did I title this tip, "Don't Set Too Many Limits"? When we try to set too many limits over too many things, we spread ourselves thin and lack the time and energy to enforce them. **Every limit we set, yet fail to enforce, erodes our relationship and reduces our credibility in the eyes of our children.** The stakes are very high. This is why Love and Logic teaches three essential rules for setting limits:

Rule One: Keep your limits simple and general. Many parents and educators have enjoyed great success by using just one generic limit in most situations: "I allow_____ as long as it doesn't cause a problem."

Rule Two: Describe what you will do... rather than what your kids must do. When we tell someone what they must or must not do, we are trying to control something we cannot. When we describe what we will do or allow, we are remaining focused on what we can control.

Rule Three: Never set a limit you aren't willing and able to enforce 200% of the time. It only takes a slight bit of inconsistency on our part for our children to begin viewing us like slot machines. If their limit testing pays off even to the slightest degree, they begin to think, "Our parents enforce limits most of the time, but there is hope that if we just keep playing them, they'll slip up and we'll hit the jackpot."

Homework Guidelines: Children have homework to reinforce previously taught skills and to teach them responsibility. Try to follow these guidelines:

- *set up a homework area that is free from distraction*
- *help only when your child asks and is responsive to you*
- *help only when there's an absence of anger or frustration*
- *move away from your child and let them work as independently as they can*
- *<u>reminder:</u> it is important for your child to read out loud to you for at least 10 minutes every night*

We look forward to visiting with you during Parent Teacher conferences this month. Thank you for your continued support!

Connie Thornton

PTO News: If you are interested in getting involved with 2nd semester events (conference meals, LES Book Fair, April Carnival check out PLES PTO Facebook page or contact Megan Baranski mfryett@gmail.com

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