



ELEMENTARY

newsletter

Week of Dec. 2-8, 2024

volume 13

Dates to Remember

~Social post - Art, PE, and Music

- 2 - Motivational Monday - [Christmas Door Contest](#) begins (ends 12/11 at 4:30 pm)
- 3 - 2nd qrt progress reports due at 11:59 pm - Collect Kwik Trip Fundraiser paperwork and money (turn into elem office)
- 4 - Early Release PD (elem staff mtg) - PBIS Mtg 4 pm - McTeacher's Night 4-7pm - share 2nd qrt progress report grades in students' folders (students with a C or below should require a parent signature on report)
- 5 -3rd - 5th Gr. Christmas Concert
- 6 - Courier newspaper deadline for Xmas stories - Vision Screening for K, 1, 3, 5 grade

Strategy of the Week

- Watch the [student response strategy](#).
- Archerism (explicit instruction strategy by Anita Archer)
- "Learning is not a spectator sport"
 - ~Every student response strategy (YES or NO)
 - ~Thumbs up or down or head shake

Noteworthy Celebrations

It is so nice to have Jan S back half days. We have missed you. Thank you, Angie M, for covering and putting in the extra work.

The K-2 concert was fantastic! A huge shout-out to Jen & Bobbi for creating such a wonderful evening for our students and families. Thank you to Ms. Rita for organizing everything, and to Mrs. Sivertson for providing the beautiful artwork!

You MATTER. Together, we are stronger.

Growth Mindset and Well-Being

Growth Mindset: We LOVE a Challenge!

We uphold high expectations for our students! This month, concentrate on asking questions that engage a higher Depth of Knowledge (DOK) level. Implement collaborative projects and multi-step problems to encourage critical thinking. Create opportunities for productive struggle in your classroom.

Encourage extended thinking by prompting students with statements like, "Now that you've mastered that, let's try this next challenge..." Additionally, ask, "What was the most challenging question on the page/worksheet/test? Can you explain why?" This approach helps identify areas where students may require further information or support on specific questions or problems.

Well-Being: YOU are enough. You are valued. Your contributions are truly valued. We recognize your efforts and deeply appreciate all that you do. It's wonderful working with you.

Making Learning Visible

As we enter the holiday season, we approach one of the most challenging periods in the school year for maintaining student engagement in learning. Student engagement serves as "the glue that holds together all aspects of student learning and growth." It not only makes teaching more enjoyable and rewarding but also significantly impacts students and their learning outcomes. When students demonstrate high levels of engagement, they are more likely to excel academically, develop a stronger connection with their school, and experience improved social-emotional well-being.

Our Goal: Achieve 100% of students actively and purposefully engaged 100% of the time.

PeaceBuilders

Notice and Speak Up About Hurts I Have Caused!

Our words and actions hold significant power and impact. They are never stagnant; they can uplift others or, contribute to their distress. Often, our words can unintentionally tear someone down and disrupt their peace.

This month, we will focus on recognizing the effects our words and actions have on those around us. It is crucial to pay close attention to the reactions of others to understand if we have caused a hurt. We teach this principle to our students by first helping them to NOTICE when their words or actions have caused someone pain.

Examples include observing when someone cries, appears sad, or seems upset.

Once students learn to NOTICE the impact of their actions, we guide them on how to address the hurt they have caused. This process cannot occur without modeling and developing EMPATHY.

Empathy: "I see what you are going through, I understand, and I will show you kindness."

STRONGER
together

THANKFUL FOR EACH OF YOU.

Review these with your students throughout December.



Growth Mindset

We LOVE a Challenge.

- Use **GRIT** and **PERSEVERANCE** until you get it right.
 - When things get tough, I don't quit.
 - Just keep going.
- We value **HIGH EXPECTATIONS**.
- **PUSH** yourself to **GROW**.
- Have **EXCITEMENT** and **BELIEVE** that hard work helps to be successful.
- We **CELEBRATE** challenges because they help us **LEARN**.

PeaceBuilders Principle



NOTICE and SPEAK UP About HURTS I Have Caused

- What would a *sincere* **APOLOGY** sound like?
- **NOTICE** how a hurt make someone **FEEL**
 - Show **EMPATHY!**
 - "I see what you're going through, I understand, and I will show kindness."
- **NOTICE** when we have caused a hurt
 - What does it **LOOK** like?
 - Sad,...

SLANT

- **S - Sit up**
- **L - Look & Listen**
- **A - Ask & Answer questions**
 - Ask
 - Public question that helps all - hand straight up
 - Private question that pertains to only one student - hand on heart
 - Answer
 - We do not raise our hands
 - Quick as a class - teacher shows thinking and then puts hand out to have class respond together
 - Partner share
 - Partners 1 and 2
 - Look, lean, whisper
 - Teacher calls either student 1 or 2 in the pair to answer specific questions
- **N - Nod & Note**
 - Nod
 - Students agree by nodding their heads or show “agree” hand signal
 - Note
 - Students take notes
- **T - Track**
 - Students keep track of the teacher, eyes always following the teacher

“Give me a little SLANT!”



McTeacher's NIGHT

SUPPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THORP

**December 4th
4pm - 7pm**

McDonald's will pay our school 10% of all sales during the three-hour period.

Need a break from cooking?

Come join us at
**Thorp
McDonald's**
and be served by a school staff member!

