March 2022

Northport Family Newsletter

One town
One school
One family

Mustang
STRONG

A note from the principal

March - what's the old antage?...in like a lamb and out like a lion? I don't know much about that, but I can say that our students and parents are doing a great job - and it's more than just luck of the Irish...it's because we are all working together as ONE - one town/community, one school, one family. We are Mustangs and we show how STRONG we are together on a daily basis. With March comes changes! The Mask Mandate will lifted in the schools on March 11th @ 11:59pm instead of March 21st. This means on Monday, March 14th when our students return to school - masks will no longer be required - only optional. We have started to prepare our students to be understanding of student or staff choice to continue to wear masks if they feel more comfortable in doing so. We want to be respectful of their personal choices. I'd appreciate your help in this matter, as well. Please remind your child(ren) that it is a personal choice for one to make if they so choose. What we don't want is for anyone to be bullied because of their choices - to include staff vs. student or student vs. staff or even staff vs. staff or student vs. student. We have a lot to look forward to in the months ahead - let's end this year Mustang STRONG! Safe, Trustworthy, Respectful, Responsible, Resilient, as ONE community, school, family, Nurturing, and Growing.
I look forward to working with you all in the upcoming months! Enjoy your families! ~ Dr. Hunt

ATTENDANCE

Facts

- Participation in early education programs, like preschool and Head Start, lead to better attendance in kindergarten.
- Starting in kindergarten, missing 10% of school (or just 2 days every month) can make it harder to learn to read and cause children to fall behind in school.
- Good attendance, whether class is held in person or remotely, can help children do well in school, and eventually in the workplace and in college.

Attendance Works
Advancing Student Success By Reducing Chronic Absence
March is Reading Month!
10 tips to keep reading fun:

1. Keep the topic interesting - encourage your child to read about what they are interested in!
2. Read aloud - children of all ages like to be read to aloud. Don’t stop reading to them when they can read!
3. Set a good example - let them catch you reading! Read for pleasure, talk with your children about how much you love reading, have books available, make reading a fun and special activity at home, not just for them, but also for you.
4. Make a special spot for reading - Create a space that is well-lit, organized and inviting where kids can find the right book and curl up to enjoy it quietly.
5. Visit your local library!
6. Have a read in! Leave on your pajamas, build a blanket fort in the living room and snuggle up with a good book. You could go a step further and have a book-themed day, with “Green Eggs and Ham” for breakfast and a viewing of a movie like “Charlotte’s Web” that is based off a book to end the day.
7. Be flexible! Help your child find a time to fit reading in that works well for your family. Look for pockets of time such as the drive to school, waiting for ballet class or on the bus ride home where kids have some down time and might be able to read a little. Avoid having hard and fast rules about reading as this is a time that should be fun and not a punishment.
8. Reward wisely. Avoid the temptation to offer screen time as a reward for reading.
9. Reading is reading….Worried that your child isn’t reading novels, but prefers sports magazines? Rest assured that reading really is reading! Let your child select their own reading material. It is OK to let your child select magazines, graphic novels or other material outside of a traditional book.
10. Books are a special gift! Helping your child grow to love reading is an amazing gift. Reading opens a world of imagination to your child. Make an effort to keep reading a priority in your home; a family activity that is fun, engaging and something you do together, every day.

https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/march_is_reading_month_10_tips_to_keep_reading_fun

Daylight Savings Time Begins March 13, 2022
Strategies and Suggestions to help make the transition easier!

- Start waking them up earlier - by 5-10 minutes each day until March 14th arrives!
- Put them to bed a few minutes earlier…dim the lights an hour before bedtime and limit electronics.
- Run them like rabbits! Keep them active and wear them out!
- Remember - we will spring forward 1 hour…start early to compensate! ;)

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**Did you know?**

March 2 - Read Across America Day!

The end of the 2nd Trimester is Friday, March 11th. It is a half day!

St. Patrick’s Day - March 17th

Parent/Teacher/Student led conferences are March 18th.

March 21st - Student 2nd Trimester Awards

March 23rd - SAT testing day

COVID Vaccination Clinic Every 3rd Saturday of the month beginning Saturday, 2/26 from 10-1pm in the library for anyone interested. No appointments necessary.

High School March athletics (dates subject to change)

3/17/22 - Track & Field Jamboree: Valley Christian @ 3:30pm

3/22/22 - Baseball and Softball vs. Wellpinit @ home 2:00pm

3/26/22 - Baseball and Softball vs. Springdale @ home 12:00 noon

3/29/22 - Baseball ONLY vs. Odessa @ Odessa @ 2:00pm. Bus leaves at 9:45 am.

**Spring Sports**


Junior High (grades 5-8) Spring Sports

A parent meeting will be held soon - time and date to be announced - watch your email for more information. Practices will begin ...

March 21st - Track

April 11th - Baseball and Softball

**Elementary and Middle School**

After School Tutoring Available (contact your child(ren)’s teacher for more information)

Tues. - Thursday 3:00 - 4:30

**High School Study Hall**

Mon. - Thursday 3:00 - 4:00

**Mask and Face-Shield Policy**

According to the guidelines set forth by the DOH and OSPI, all students 5 years old and older, staff, volunteers, and guests must wear face coverings in K-12 settings.

Mandate will be lifted March 21st - more information to come!

If your child is sick - stay home! A fever is 100.4 degrees.