

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **October 17-18**
Fall Break
- **October 22**
Jean Dean RIF
Run to Read at
Floral Park
- **October 24**
The President's
Own Marine Band
Performance 7:30
pm at the Center
for the Perform-
ing Arts at OHS.
Call 745-9717 for
ticket information
- **October 24-28**
Red Ribbon Week
- **October 25**
OCS Board of
Education Meet-
ing, 4:00 pm
- **November 1**
Parenting Involvement
Committee
Meeting, 4:00 pm
at Opelika Learning
Center

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Parenting Corner

The Importance of
Reading

Math Facts

MONEY MATTERS

Parenting Corner

As parents, most of us have the desire for our child to receive a good education and then get a job that will afford them a comfortable lifestyle. Often times, we do not realize that some early habits actually hinder them from this goal.

Research shows that attendance habits set in elementary school develop a pattern for their entire school career. It is important that we, as parents, show children that education is important by having them at school *on time*. When a student is late, it causes them to come into an environment where everyone else already knows what to do and is hard at work. This can lead to a child feeling confused and inferior. It is also important to have your child at school every day unless he/she has a fever. This also reinforces to the child that *education is important*.

What students are learning in the primary grades is the foundation for all future learning. It is important for students to learn these fundamental concepts to enable them to continue to be successful in school. Be sure to look over this newsletter for important concepts that your child needs to know.

The Importance of Reading

Reading is another of the essential components to school success. Reading does not come easy to every child. If a child is not a good reader, he/she usually does not want to read. It is important to help your child practice reading. In our hectic society, it is difficult for a parent to find the time to sit down with a child and read. However, in the primary grades, it is one thing you can do to help your child be successful in school. Take 15-20 minutes each night to read with your child. You read a page then have your child read a page. Or, let your child read to you while you are cooking, folding clothes, or some other household chore. Your child will love the time with you, *and* you will be helping build your child's ability for school success.



Our school system has recently implemented an automated calling program called School Messenger. This program allows each school to notify parents/guardians immediately in the event of an emergency such as inclement weather or early school closure. The system also allows each school to monitor school attendance and notify the parents/guardians of a student on the day the absence occurs.

All messages will be sent to the primary contact's home phone number. If your contact information has changed or if you would like to receive messages on a different number, please contact your child's school and they will make the change.

MONEY MATTER\$

Create a Piggy Bank

This is a fun hands-on activity that will give your child a chance to see how coins differ by size, design, and value while engaging their interest in **MONEY MATTER\$**

Materials:

Coins (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters)
paper (regular white copy paper)
crayons or map pencils
container with a plastic lid (a coffee can works well)
scissors
glue

Lay your coins out on a flat, hard surface
Place a sheet of white paper on top of your coins
(you may need some tape to secure them)
Lightly rub over the coins with a crayon or map pencil
Label each rubbing as shown below
(penny = 1 cent, nickel = 5 cents, dime = 10 cents, quarter = 25 cents)
Glue your artwork to your container
Cut a slit with scissors into the lid of the container

Voila! You have now adorned your container with a beautiful piece of artwork so you can **\$tart collecting and \$aving** your coins in your new piggy bank!

Look for **Money Matter\$** in our next issue where we will show you how you can help your children identify coins through the BINGO coin game using your new collection of **piggy bank coins!**

Title I Information

TITLE I

Parents, Opelika City Schools invites you to become a member of your school's Title I Parental Involvement Committee! We value your input and ideas as we plan for activities that will help maximize your child's academic achievement and personal success. All you have to do is contact your school or the Central Office to join!

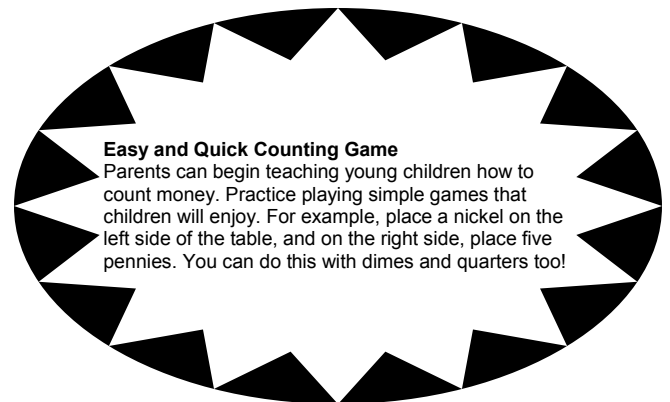
TITLE I 1% Set Aside

One percent of the district's Title I allocation is set aside to support the parental involvement activities at each school. All Title I schools receive a share of these funds—we want your input on budget planning and decision-making. See Table below for details.

\$1,608,815
X 1%
\$16,088.15
\$16,088.15
X 95% (required amount or more to schools)
\$15,283.74

Per Pupil Amount: \$12.14

Amount for school=\$12.14 x number of students



Math Facts

One statement that is often heard from intermediate teachers is that "they don't know their math facts." It is hard to think about graduation and college when a student is only in Kindergarten, 1st or 2nd grade. But, for a student to graduate from high school, he/she must complete four math credits in high school. To be successful in math for the next 10+ years, students must know their math facts. This gets back to memorization. To use an old cliché, practice makes perfect.

Make (or buy) addition and subtraction flashcards and practice with your child each night. You do not have to practice all the facts each night. Do five or six a night. If your child misses one, put it in the stack for the next night. Ask your child different facts while riding down the road. Or, put flashcards in the car for a sibling to use with your child. Math facts are not hard. They just require effort. So, help your child make the effort – it will benefit him/her for the rest of their school career.

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