

February 7th,
2020

WWW.SPRINGBLUFFPIRATES.COM

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Pirate News

Early Dismissal Every
Friday @2:03 pm

Upcoming Events

Club 26 3:15-4:30 pm	2/10
STEAM (5-6) 3:15-4:45 pm	2/10
STEAM (7) 3:15-4:45 pm	2/11
STEAM (8) 3:15-4:45 pm	2/12
Freshman Preview Night 6:00 pm (Rescheduled)	2/12
Fine Arts Club 3:15-4:15 pm	2/13
Valentine's Day Class Parties 12:45-1:45 pm	2/14

This Week's Attachments

- ◆ Kindergarten Round Up Flyer
- ◆ Home & School Connection
- ◆ Middle School Years

Valentine's Day Parties are

February 14th

From

12:45-1:45pm



Congratulations to our 4th Grade Boys on winning
Consolation at the Washington Tournament !



February is Heart Month! Spring Bluff R-XV will be taking the Heart Health Challenge this month along with the Heart Association. Students will have the opportunity to collect donations to help save lives & participate in fun activities during PE! Envelopes will need to be returned by Friday, Feb. 21st.

School Board Recognition Week

February 9th-15th

Communities across the state will honor the dedicated service of members of local boards of education during School Board Recognition Week. The goal is to build awareness and understanding of the important function an elected board of education plays in communities and schools.

Currently, serving on the Spring Bluff Board of Education: Jill Wagner-President, Michael Lohden-Vice President, Jarrod Head, Jim Goodman, Jared Schmidt, Matt Montee, and Andy Bylo.

Ways to Stay Informed this Year:



@springbluffrxv



@springbluffpirates

Website: <http://www.springbluffpirates.com>

Pirate News

Spring Bluff Pirates

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Diana Wiese
K-8 School Counselor
dwiese@springbluffpirates.com

Inspiring students to
love **LEARNING**

A love of learning doesn't develop only at school.

To encourage enthusiasm for education when your child is at home:

- ◆ **Set the tone.** Show interest in your child's school day. Cheerfully attend school meetings and events.
- ◆ **Praise progress.** When your child learns a new skill, speak up! Help her link effort to feeling proud of her success.
- ◆ **Connect lessons to life.** Show your child how the skills she is learning can help her outside the classroom.



8th Grade Students with their parents on Monday, Feb. 3rd for Recognition Night.

Tips From Title I

Mid Term Reports will go home on Monday, February 10th. They will need to be signed and returned by Wednesday, February 12th.



Well I really can't believe that we celebrated the 100th day of school today! This year has been flying by and with all of the snow days we have had, I really do not feel like it could possibly be the 100th day already. Before we know it, Parent Teacher Conferences will be rolling around again along with MAP testing and all of the other year end activities. With that being said, please do not feel you need to wait until conferences to talk to your child's teacher or myself if you have a question or concern with your child. Please know that we are all here and that communication is a key component in your child's academic success.

"Substantial evidence exists showing that parent involvement benefits students, including raising their academic achievement. There are other advantages for children when parents become involved — namely, increased motivation for learning, improved behavior, more regular attendance, and a more positive attitude about homework and school in general."

~American Federation of Teachers



Go Pirates!



Sporting News & Events



Monday, February 10th

Monday, February 10th

Tuesday, February 11th

Saturday, February 15th

5G/6B/7G/7B @ St. Gertrude 5:30 pm

4B vs Cuba @ Home 8:00 pm (Make Up)

5B/6B/8B @ Borgia 5:30 pm

8B IC Tournament Begins TBA

Spring Bluff Pirates

SPRING BLUFF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The annual Spring Bluff Educational Foundation Dinner, Auction, and Dance will be held March 28th at the Sullivan Eagles Hall. This year's theme will be "NEW YORK, NEW YORK". Please join us for a night of fun while supporting our school.

Dinner Auction Tickets are \$40 each until Tuesday, March 19th (tickets purchased after the 19th will be \$50 each) and can be purchased through the office now through March 27th. Please make checks payable to the Spring Bluff Educational Foundation.

In order to reserve a table (must be 8-10 people), all tickets must be paid in full at the same time.



CLASS BASKET THEMES

Kindergarten—The Great Outdoors (items for kids to play with outside)

1st Grade—Gardening

2nd Grade—Keeping It Local Gift Cards

3rd Grade—Camping

4th Grade—Outdoors (Hunting & Fishing)

5th Grade—Summer Fun

Middle School—Bass Pro Aquarium & Museum Package

Office—Homemade Goodness



Spring Bluff Kindergarten ROUND-UP

We are rounding up all Spring Bluff children who are eligible to attend kindergarten for the 2020-21 school year. Children must be 5 years old prior to August 1, 2020.



When: Thursday, March 12th @ 6:30 p.m.

Where: Spring Bluff School

Spring Bluff staff looks forward to working with you as your child prepares to begin his/her new journey. We will have a brief informative meeting with parents as your child explores the kindergarten classroom. Appointments for kindergarten screening will be made which will be held on March 24 and March 25.



We look forward to seeing you and your kindergarten student.

Home & School

CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

February 2020

Spring Bluff R-XV School
Mrs. Jeannie Jenkins, Superintendent



SHORT NOTES

Measure up

Who can make the longest “inchworm”? Your child will practice measuring with this game. Take turns rolling a die. Using a ruler, measure a “worm” out of clay to match the number rolled (roll a 2, make a worm 2 inches long). Add to the worm on every turn. The player with the longest worm after five rolls wins.

Make time for family meals

Research shows that family meals can improve your youngster’s well-being and help him do better in school. Look over your schedules each Sunday to find times when everyone can eat together. If one parent is working late on Wednesday and can’t make dinner, for instance, plan to meet for a nice breakfast instead.

DID YOU KNOW?

Asthma is a leading cause of school absences. If your child has asthma (or another chronic medical condition), talk to her doctor and the school nurse about ways to ensure good attendance—and good health. Examples might include avoiding triggers like dust and mold and taking medication as directed.

Worth quoting

“The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.” *e. e. cummings*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: How many letters are in the alphabet?

A: Eleven (t-h-e a-l-p-h-a-b-e-t).



We respect each other

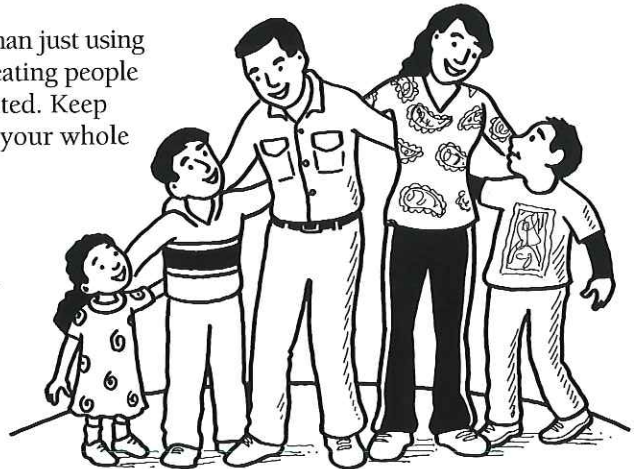
Being respectful is more than just using good manners—it means treating people the way you want to be treated. Keep these ideas in mind to help your whole family focus on respect.

Use peaceful tones

It’s a fact that shouting often leads to more shouting. Ask your child to speak in a normal tone to show respect for the person he’s talking to—and for everyone around him. If he starts yelling, speak to him in a whisper. He’ll likely lower his voice to match your volume. Or if he shouts from another room, wait until he comes to you so he learns that you don’t respond to yelling.

Avoid making assumptions

Your youngster can respect others’ feelings by giving them the benefit of the doubt. For example, encourage him to rephrase an accusation like “Who took my water bottle?” Instead he could ask, “Has anyone seen my water bottle?”



That’s more respectful because it won’t make anyone feel accused or defensive.

Accept different opinions

With your child, role-play ways to respect opinions that are different from his own. He might start a sentence with “That’s one way to look at it, but I think...” or “A lot of people would agree with you. In my opinion...” If a conversation is getting heated, he could simply say, “Let’s agree to disagree and talk about something else.”♥

My studying tool kit

Developing strong study skills now will help your youngster throughout elementary school and the rest of her school career. Suggest that she add these tools to her studying tool kit.

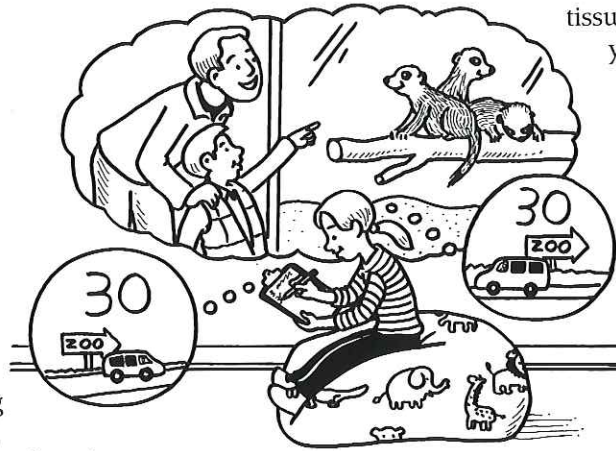
- **Color:** Let your child use highlighters to color-code her notes for easy reference. Perhaps she’ll highlight dates in yellow, people’s names in pink, and vocabulary terms in blue.
- **Recordings:** Encourage your youngster to record herself asking questions about the material. She can hit “play” to hear the questions and “pause” to give each answer.
- **Sticky notes:** Your child could write a one-sentence summary of each textbook section on a sticky note, then use the notes to bookmark the section.♥



Here's how I use math!

Give your child real-world reasons to use math—she'll see connections between what she's learning in school and what she enjoys in everyday life.

Do a craft. Maybe your youngster would enjoy knitting or making friendship bracelets. In each case, she'll count and work with patterns. Or she could explore shapes and symmetry with



tissue-paper mosaics or origami. Let her tell you about the math in her project.

Examples: "The pattern for this hat is knit 2, purl 2, knit 2, purl 2." "My mosaic has hexagons, right triangles, and trapezoids."

Plan an outing. Whether you're running errands or going to the zoo, your child can use math to plan your schedule. Say you have three hours for a zoo trip. Your youngster wants to see the parrots, and her brother wants to visit the meerkats. Ask her to calculate how

long it will take to drive to and from the zoo, then figure out how long you can spend at each exhibit. Remind her to allow time for walking from one area to the next.♥

ACTIVITY CORNER



A vivid vocabulary

"Draw a *magenta* bird with a *plethora* of polka dots and a *quirky* tail playing a *harmonica*." Would your youngster know what to draw if you gave him those instructions? Try this fun art project to help him learn new words.

1. Together, flip through a book or magazine and pick out words that you each think look interesting.

2. Write the words on separate slips of paper, and mix up the slips in a bowl.

3. Take turns pulling three words from the bowl and using them to describe something for the other person to draw. *Note:* Check a dictionary if you don't know what a word means.



4. Let your child describe his finished picture to you—he'll practice using the new words.♥

PARENT TO PARENT

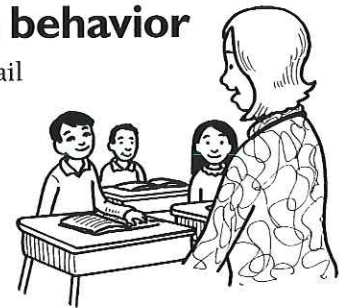
Good classroom behavior

Yesterday I received an email from my son Simon's teacher saying she had to move his seat because he talks too much in class. I replied to ask whether there should be a consequence at home, too.

Mrs. Roberts said she emailed me because she wanted Simon to know that she and I work together to help him succeed. She wasn't asking me to punish him, but she suggested that I might speak to him.

Simon complained that his friends start the conversations. I pointed out that he didn't have to respond, and I asked him what he could do next time. He said he will keep his eyes on the teacher or his work and talk to his friends at recess.

I'm glad his teacher told me what was happening. Now she and I will stay in touch to help Simon behave better in the future.♥



Q & A

Your child's IEP review

Q: I have a meeting next month to review my daughter's Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

Any tips on how to get ready for it?

A: The first step is knowing what's in your child's IEP. Ask for a copy if you don't have one. There's a lot of information in there, so before the meeting, try to read over her goals and her accommodations (tools and strategies to help her). Jot down

questions about anything you don't understand, and ask for explanations during the meeting.

Also, write down what you want to tell the IEP team about your daughter. Perhaps she struggles with certain subjects at homework time or sometimes has meltdowns.

Finally, plan to take notes during the meeting. That way, you can refer back to what you wrote and follow up with your child's teachers.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated

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Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Stay informed

Want to connect with your child's school on social media? Make sure to select the official page so you'll know the information is trustworthy. Click on social media icons on the school district's website, or contact the office to ask for links.

Special siblings

A youngster with disabilities can require extra time and energy from parents. To help your other children feel important, too, try to give them some undivided attention each day. For example, you might play a board game in the evening or have a one-on-one talk before bed.

A taste of learning

Encourage your middle grader to "chew on" information he learns—just like he would a tasty snack! For instance, rather than simply memorizing the First Amendment to the Constitution, he could mull over ways he has used his right to free speech or to "peaceably assemble." Perhaps he wrote a letter to the editor or went with you to a rally.

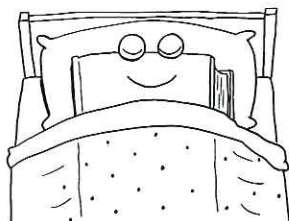
Worth quoting

"It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan." *Eleanor Roosevelt*

Just for fun

Q: Where do books sleep?

A: Under their covers.



Ways to manage stress

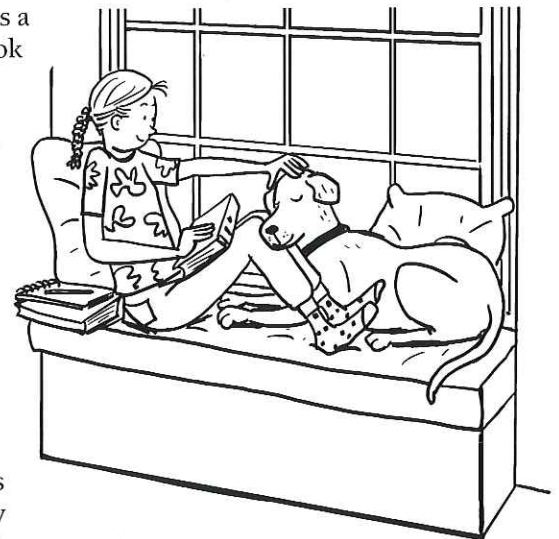
Anna, a typical middle grader, has a lot on her plate: schoolwork, yearbook committee, and sports. While she gets stressed from time to time, she uses strategies like these to cope—and your tween can, too.

Reduce triggers

Encourage your child to make a list of what stressed her out this week. *Examples:* "taking a pop quiz," "preparing for the student council meeting." Suggest that she identify what's behind the stressors (being unprepared, leaving things until the last minute) and plan ways to overcome them. She could review her notes each evening or start getting ready for meetings sooner, for instance.

Offer ideas

Share ways you deal with stressors such as a train delay or a computer problem. Maybe you look at a photo of a loved one or picture a peaceful scene like falling snow. Then ask your tween to name ways she could work through her stress, like taking deep breaths or snuggling with her dog.



Turn to others

Let your middle grader know that she can come to you when she's stressed. Also have her think of other people she could turn to, such as friends, her school counselor, or her coach. She can talk about what's bothering her and learn strategies for dealing with it.

Note: If stress seems to be interfering with your child's daily life, talk to her pediatrician. 👍

A+ attendance

The first step toward doing well in school is to show up! As the school year continues, encourage your child to keep up good attendance with these tips.

■ **Set expectations.** Weave comments into your conversations that make it clear how important you consider attendance. ("I scheduled your dentist appointment for 3:30 p.m. so you won't miss anything in 7th-period science.")

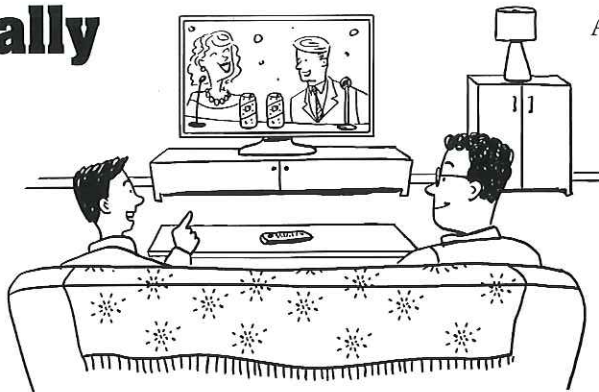
■ **Know school policy.** If your middle grader misses school because he's sick, use the policy to help you decide when he can return. For instance, if he has been fever-free for the required amount of time and feels better, he could go back to school. 👍



Think critically about ads

Evaluating advertisements is an important part of being a critical thinker and a savvy consumer. Share this advice with your middle grader.

Product placement. When you and your child watch TV or movies, try to spot brand names. Maybe the judges on his favorite talent show always drink a certain brand of soda.



Ask why he thinks that is. Do all the judges just happen to like it? Maybe—but the soda company pays the show to feature the product. Can your tween figure out the unstated message? (If famous people drink it, maybe he should, too!) He'll learn that ads aren't always obvious and start to think more critically about them.

Targeted advertising. Did your tween ever look up a sports team online, then see an ad for game tickets on another site? Web browsers use “cookies” to determine who gets which ads. Your middle grader should consider who the advertiser is (perhaps a ticket reseller), why he's seeing the ad (he's a fan of the team), and what isn't stated (how much tickets are marked up). 👍

Q & A Changing friendships

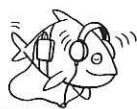
Q My daughter seems to have a different best friend every week. Is that normal for this age?

A Friendships can change frequently in middle school. It's typical for kids to out-grow relationships and to feel closer to one friend than to another as their interests and maturity levels change.



Let your daughter know that no matter who her “best” friend is, she can remain friends with many people. Mention the various social circles in your own life, such as your book club friends, work buddies, and college roommates.

Also, remind your child to treat everyone kindly, including classmates she may have grown apart from. Remaining friendly will leave the door open for spending more time together in the future. 👍



Practical writing

Writing isn't just something your tween does in school—it's important in daily life, too. Encourage her to practice different types of writing at home with these activities.

To inform

Your child could interview relatives about their jobs. What does a typical day on the job look like? What do they like best about their work? She can write and share a “Who's Who” to help family members learn more about each other. *Example:* “Aunt Cora is an optometric assistant, which means she works alongside eye doctors. Her favorite part of her job is helping patients pick out glasses.”



To entertain

Suggest that your middle grader write a script for a silly skit. She can include dialogue and stage directions (notes that tell actors what to do). Encourage her to consider her audience—if her skit is for younger siblings, what will they find funny? Then, she and her friends could practice the skit and perform it for their audience. 👍

Parent to Parent Take pride in your work

This year, my son Aidan started rushing through his assignments and making careless mistakes. I wanted him to take pride in his work like he did when he was younger, so I had an idea.

I pulled out a storage bin full of papers and projects we'd saved from Aidan's elementary school years. We took a nice trip down memory lane as we

admired stories he'd written, pictures he'd drawn, and tests he'd done well on. Seeing his old papers made Aidan realize how nice it feels to be proud of your work.

Now Aidan has started saving his middle school work, too. I'm not seeing as many careless errors—I can tell he's trying harder. I know we'll enjoy looking through his collection when he's in high school! 👍



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