



Longfellow Newsletter

November, 2017

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Dreaming Big

Now that conferences are over, we can take time to think about our children's Hopes and Dreams and how they will lead to post-secondary success. I know it may seem strange for an elementary principal to be talking about post high school learning options, but this is a Hope and Dream I have for every single child at Longfellow. A child's post-secondary options begin with learning at the elementary level where we lay the foundation for all later learning. Not only do we set the corner stones for academic learning, but we also have a chance to build the walls by establishing healthy study and work habits and good attendance patterns. The house would not be complete without the roof and this comes with striving to reach our highest potential. Students today have more post high school options available than ever before; however, they have to believe they can attain this level of education and training. The beliefs begin with shaping how children think about the future. Their thoughts then become their words and eventually their actions.

Research has shown that parents who talk to their young children about post high school options have children who are more likely to pursue higher goals and related learning. So, when you talk to your children about the future be sure to include such comments as, "When you go to college . . ." or "How about putting some of your money in a savings account for technical college . . ." and so forth. There are scholarships and different types of financial aid that are available to students who qualify. It is never too early to start having these conversations; in fact, the earlier the better so our children truly believe that the sky is the limit.

The dream of each generation hoping that their children have a better life than those who came before them is still a reality, but only if we as a school and community do our part by instilling the belief!



Veteran's Day Program



You are invited to join the students and staff of Longfellow Elementary School on Friday, November 10, 2017 for a Veteran's Day Program. We will gather in the gym at **10:00 a.m.** for a patriotic program (doors open at 9:45). Join us as we sing patriotic songs and honor our nation's flag. Please extend this invitation to our Longfellow neighbors and area Veterans. Help us honor our heroes.

Scout parents: Please have your Boy or Girl Scout wear their uniform. The scouts will be flag bearers for the morning program. Thank you!

Start Your Day the Healthy Way! Breakfast is FREE for all Students at Longfellow



Feeling rushed in the morning? Too much to do in too little time? Are your students too tired to eat or just not ready to eat breakfast before they leave for school? Some days it's hard to get your students to school, let alone having enough time for a nutritious breakfast.

On the other hand, we all know that eating breakfast is critical to starting the day out right. Your student(s) might go 14 hours between dinner and breakfast. When students "break" their "fast" with a healthy meal, they pay better attention in school, behave better, participate more and perform better in the classroom.

Let us help get your mornings off to a smoother start. Breakfast is served at Longfellow from 8:20 - 8:40 and is **free** for all students. We encourage all students to eat a nutritious breakfast. In order for your child to have enough time to enjoy their breakfast please have them to school **NO LATER THAN 8:30.**



"Fall Back"

Daylight savings time ends on
Sunday, November 5th
Don't forget to turn your clocks
back!



Emergency Weather Information



The weather in Eau Claire and across Wisconsin is famous for its changing conditions. The Eau Claire Area School District, in consultation with Student Transit, will use a two-hour delay in school start times when inclement weather requires time to promote safer travel to school.

Decisions about whether to close school due to inclement weather or to use a two-hour delay are typically made by 6 a.m. If the schools are closed because of bad weather, all athletic, after-school, and evening events are also canceled. Announcements of these decisions are made by local television and radio stations, on the District's website, via the District's Facebook and Twitter accounts, and an email is sent to those parent(s)/guardian(s) who have provided email addresses.

When a TWO-HOUR DELAY is announced, the following changes will be made to the school day:

- Busses will run two hours after their normal schedule.
- Buildings will begin classes two hours after the normal start time.
- Cold breakfast will be served at all schools and school lunch will be at or around the normal time.

As we know, weather conditions can change rapidly. In the event that a two hour delay must be reconsidered, the decision to close schools for the full day will be made no later than 8 a.m. The same process will be used if bad weather or a peak energy alert develops after school has started for the day. You, as a parent, may decide that the weather is too severe to send your child to school (especially a younger child). The School District will respect your decision.

Be Aware, Wash With Care



There are many types of germs (viruses, bacteria, parasites, fungi) that cause many types of illnesses. These germs can spread easily from one person to another and have wide-reaching effects.

One of the most common ways people catch colds is by rubbing their noses or eyes after touching someone or something that's contaminated with the cold virus. Nearly 22 million school days are lost annually due to the common cold.

A study involving Detroit school children showed that scheduled handwashing, at least four times a day, can reduce gastrointestinal illness and related absences by more than 50%.

Handwashing with soap and water is the most effective and inexpensive way to prevent illness.

As winter season is approaching, remember the importance of handwashing. Please remind your children and model good habits.



Feed My People

Feed My People is hosting a mobile pantry on Wednesday November 22 at 4:00 at Banbury Place (800 Wisconsin St.). There will be both food and non-food items available. This is open to the entire community! Anyone in need of food assistance is welcome!!



Winter Weather is on its Way!

Here are some reminders about the change in the seasons here at Longfellow:

- * Dress warmly. If the temperatures are above zero we will go outside for the entire recess. If the actual temperature is 0 or below or the wind-chill reaches 10 degrees below zero, everyone will stay inside.
- * Boots and snow pants **MUST** be worn if you intend to play in the snow. Children without boots or snow pants must stay on the blacktop area. Hats and mittens/gloves are highly recommended to prevent frostbitten fingers and ears!
- * There is absolutely no snowball throwing, face washing or throwing of snow in general.
- * There is no "King of the Mountain" or walking on top of snow piles.
- * As a standard practice, children will not be let in to warm up during recess, that's why it is so important to come dressed for cold weather!



Learning at Home

Parents are a child's first and best teachers. The home environment is a great place to show kid's that reading/learning can be fun. Try to read books or magazines daily with your child and here are some other ideas of how to incorporate reading into their daily lives:

- Visit the library frequently
- Point out words on billboards and traffic signs as you drive
- Read food labels at the grocery store, on packages, mail, and letters
- Play word games.
- Set an example by giving your child a chance to see you reading and writing at home.

Tips for Helping with Schoolwork

- Show an interest in your child's homework. Ask questions that require answers longer than 1 or 2 words.
- Help your child organize homework materials before beginning.
- Establish a scheduled time with your child to do homework, helping to prevent procrastination.
- Find a specific place for your child to do homework that has lots of light, quiet, and plenty of work space.
- Encourage your child to ask questions, search for answers and take time to figure out correct answers.
- Practice school-taught skills at home.
- Relate homework to your child's everyday life.
- Be a role model by reading and/or writing while your child studies.
- Praise your child for both the small steps and big leaps in the right direction.



November, 2017



NOVEMBER 2017



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 • CLC	2 • CLC	3 • Kindergarten & 1st Grade Hearing Screening • Kid's Meals
Halloween Hustle Pledges due November 2nd—9th				
6 • CLC	7 • CLC	8 • CLC	9 • 7:00 ECASD Special Education PTA Meeting at Sherman • CLC	10 • 10:00 Veteran's Day Program • Kid's Meals
13 • CLC	14 • CLC	15 • CLC	16 • CLC	17 • 8:50 Grade 1 to Library & Mall for Reading Race • Double Kid's Meals
20 NO SCHOOL Staff Work Day	21 NO SCHOOL Professional Development Day	THANKSGIVING BREAK No School		
27 • CLC	28 • Longfellow's Dairy Queen Day—Birch St. • CLC	29 • CLC	30	