



Longfellow Newsletter



January, 2017

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Sarah Lynch, Principal
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Principal's Corner . .

Happy New Year! A new year always gives us the opportunity to reflect upon what we have done well and what we can do better. Have you been trying to figure out a New Year's Resolution? If the answer to the question is yes, I have a great suggestion for you! How about taking some small steps to help your child experience greater school success in 2017? Are you in? Great! Here are some ideas to be sure your child is successful at Longfellow:

Take Time to Chit Chat: I know when I ask my children how their day was, their typical reply is "Fine." If I ask "What did you learn today?" I usually get a response of "Nothing" or "I don't know." Sometimes it's like pulling teeth when talking to my kids about school! Instead, try asking your child these questions: "What made you laugh today? What was something that was tricky for you today? What was easy for you today? Did anything make you sad today? What made you smile today?" These questions will spark conversation and help you to get a window into your child's day. Listen closely to your child's replies to these questions and then ask more specific questions about your child's story. You will find out a lot more information this way and will help your child to practice his/her conversation skills.

Longfellow is the Place to Be! Your child cannot afford to miss a single day away from Longfellow. The more students are in school, the higher their achievement will be. Children cannot learn if they are not in school. Our teachers at Longfellow are fantastic, but poor attendance causes students to get behind in their learning and catching up can be very difficult when they return. In fact, poor attendance is often the first step to students being unsuccessful at school. Please make sure your children are at school, on time, every single day (unless they are sick, of course).

Notice. Praise. Repeat. Rewarding students for high grades is not as effective as rewarding them for their effort. Students are always trying their best and want to make you proud. Therefore, the best way to motivate further effort is to notice it, praise it, and repeat it. For example, notice and praise the effort involved in a math problem: "Wow, you really worked hard to think through all of those steps. You didn't even think about giving up! Do you think you can do that again on the next problem?" Praise children for the process of learning versus the end product.

January 2017 is here...What are you going to do to make this the best year yet? What is going well? What can be better? We have the opportunity to make this a great year for our kids, and I can't wait to get started. Happy New Year!



January 2017



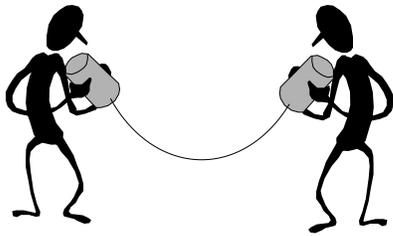
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	3	4	5	6 Kid's Meals
9 ♦ 6:30 PTA Meeting	10	11	12	13 Kid's Meals
16	17 ♦ Grade 4 Field Trip to Ice Age Trail ♦ 5:00 Northstar Moving Up Mtg. ♦ 6:30 Delong Moving Up Mtg.	18	19	20 Kid's Meals
Adult Crossing Guard Appreciation Week				
23 No School For Students STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	24 ♦ Longfellow's Dairy Queen Day	25	26	27 Kid's Meals
30	31			

The Eau Claire School District does not discriminate against pupils on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap in its education programs or activities. Federal law prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, religion or handicap.

Communication

If there are any changes as to how your child will go home after school, please take a few moments in the morning to communicate these changes with them and write the changes for their teacher.

Without a written note, students will be sent home their usual way.



Sick Child Guidelines

Although we encourage and expect regular attendance, in an effort to maintain the good health of all our students, please refrain from bringing your child to school if they are sick. This will reduce the overall number of illnesses among the students.

If a child exhibits any of the following symptoms at school, a parent/guardian/emergency contact will be notified to come and pick up the student:

- Temperature of 100.5° or more
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Persistent coughing
- Draining or spreading rash

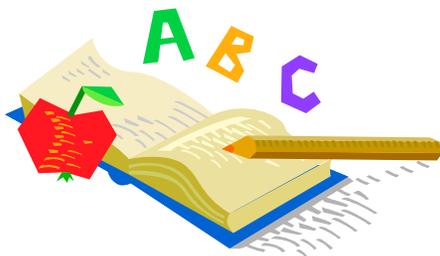
For this reason, it is very important that we have a **working contact number** for you on file. Please call the office if there are any changes to your phone number.

Please keep your child home if he/she currently has or has had these symptoms in the last 12 hours. Any questions please contact your child's school nurse for further direction.



CLC News

C.L.C. will start up on *Monday, January 30th*. All students currently enrolled in Longfellow's C.L.C. program are registered for C.L.C.'s winter/spring term. (New applicants will be reviewed based on teacher referral) If your child will not be attending C.L.C. or if there is a change in your child's dismissal routine, please contact Jen Wiltgen at 715-852-3807.



Winter Weather—Early Dismissal, Late Start, or School Closure

Now that winter is here, it is a good time to remind families about our procedures regarding winter weather. Depending on the severity and timing of the bad weather, a variety of options may be used.

- ◆ **School may be closed early.** Regular bus transportation would still be provided. For students who do not ride the bus, we will follow the procedure you listed on the “emergency closing” form at the start of the school year. If we close school early students would be dismissed at 1:40.
- ◆ **School start may be delayed by two hours.** In this case, if you have children who ride the school bus, they should plan to be picked up two hours later than the normally scheduled time. If your children walk or get a ride to school, they should plan to arrive 2 hours later. A cold breakfast will be served at 10:20 and school will begin at 10:40 a.m.
- ◆ **School may be closed for the entire day.**

How will you know if school is closing early, starting late, or closed?

Tune in to your preferred local media (radio, television, district website) to receive updates on the status of school. Decisions about late start or school closures will be made by 6:30 a.m. Decisions to close school early will be made by 11:00 a.m. **Please contact the office if your Emergency Closing Plan has changed from what you stated at the beginning of the school year or if it changes at any point in the future.**

Pick-Up and Drop Off

Please help keep our students and staff safe by picking up and dropping off students on the playground, not in the front of the building before and after school. Thank you ahead of time for your help.



Upcoming 5th to 6th Grade Parent Orientation Night

Who: For parents of students who are presently in 5th grade

What: A meeting to help acquaint families to middle school

When: Tuesday, January 17th

Northstar
5:00-6:30

Delong
6:30-7:30



From the Nurses Corner. . .

Whether winter brings severe storms, light dustings or just cold temperatures, the **American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)** has some valuable tips on how to keep your children safe and warm.

What to Wear

Dress [infants](#) and [children](#) warmly for outdoor activities. Several thin layers will keep them dry and warm. Don't forget warm boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat.

The rule of thumb for older babies and young children is to dress them in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions.

Hypothermia

Hypothermia develops when a child's temperature falls below normal due to [exposure to colder temperatures](#). It often happens when a youngster is [playing outdoors](#) in extremely cold weather without wearing proper clothing or when clothes get wet. It can occur more quickly in children than in adults.

- As hypothermia sets in, the child may shiver and become lethargic and clumsy. Speech may become slurred and body temperature will decline in more severe cases.

If you suspect your child is hypothermic, [call 911](#) at once. Until help arrives, take the child indoors, remove any wet clothing, and wrap him in blankets or warm clothes.

Frostbite

[Frostbite](#) happens when the skin and outer tissues become frozen. This condition tends to happen on extremities like the fingers, toes, ears and nose. They may become pale, gray and blistered. At the same time, the child may complain that his/her skin burns or has become numb.

- If frostbite occurs, bring the child indoors and place the frostbitten parts of her body in warm (not hot) water. 104° Fahrenheit (about the temperature of most hot tubs) is recommended. Warm washcloths may be applied to frostbitten nose, ears and lips.
- Do not rub the frozen areas.
- After a few minutes, dry and cover the child with clothing or blankets. Give him/her something warm to drink.

If the numbness continues for more than a few minutes, call your doctor.

Winter Health

If your child suffers from winter [nosebleeds](#), try using a cold air humidifier in the child's room at night. Saline nose drops or petroleum may help keep nasal tissues moist. If bleeding is severe or recurrent, consult your pediatrician. Cold weather does not cause [colds](#) or [flu](#). But the viruses that cause colds and flu tend to be more common in the winter, when children are in school and are in closer contact with each other. Frequent [hand washing](#) and teaching your child to sneeze or cough into the bend of her elbow may help reduce the spread of colds and flu.

Children 6 months of age and up should get the [influenza vaccine](#) to reduce their risk of catching the flu.

Winter Sports and Activities

- Set reasonable time limits on outdoor play to prevent hypothermia and frostbite. Have children come inside periodically to warm up.

From the Nurses Corner. . .

Head Lice in Schools

Head lice can be a nuisance, but they have **not** been shown to spread disease.

Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice.

Transmission of head lice usually occurs through direct contact with the **head** of another infested individual.

Lice cannot hop or fly; they crawl. Nits (eggs) are attached to the hair shaft with a glue-like substance and are very unlikely to be transferred successfully to other people. In school transmission is considered to be rare.

When live head lice are found on a student, the parent/guardian will be notified by phone. The student will remain in the classroom, and a letter with treatment information will be sent home with the student at the end of the day.

When nits (eggs) are found on a student, the student will remain in the classroom, and a letter with treatment information will be sent home with the student at the end of the day.

Parents are asked to treat for head lice and remove all nits (eggs) before sending their child back to school. Most lice treatments do not kill nits, so it is important to remove all nits to prevent them from hatching into live lice.

Treatment for lice is **not** recommended unless the child actually has lice. Parents are encouraged to make checking for head lice a part of routine hygiene, as lice is present in the community at all times of the year.

Lice cases are tracked, and letters to parents notifying them of lice in the classroom will be sent out on an as-needed basis as determined by the school nurse and administrator.

ECASD procedures for head lice management are based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of School Nurses, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and the ECASD Medical Advisor.

