December 2019
Responsibility

Teaching responsibility for children is a shared task between parents and teachers. Last year, I discussed teaching children responsibility at home. Some of the activities that help children develop responsibility include chores, modeling responsible behavior, and having a pet. While teaching this type of responsibility seems straight forward, teaching children to accept responsibility for their actions is more complex. One of the first steps is to help children connect the dots between cause and effect. Parents can model this by using examples from their own lives and make it into a game where a parent says a cause and the child comes up with the effect.

Another tool is for us adults to keep cool when expressing our dissatisfaction about poor behavior. It is important that children know that everyone makes mistakes and that telling the truth is more important. If a child is afraid that the adults in their life will become enraged when they tell them the truth, they will avoid telling the truth. Sticking to the rules and being consistent is important. If a child can get away with arguing, being charming, or pleading to persuade you not to enforce a consequence they learn that they do not have to take rules seriously. In order to be accountable children need to learn to accept the consequences of

their words, actions and decisions. This will only happen if the adults in their lives are consistent with rules and consequences.

For children who continually blame others, it is important to help them keep track of how often they blame others. This can be done with a dry erase board on the fridge. The adult can track the number of times they blame another for their actions. If the child can make it under a certain number or beat their record from the previous day, or week, they can earn some incentive. This will help the child to replace the unwanted behavior of blaming others with the wanted behavior of being honest and accepting responsibility. Whenever we want to replace a behavior it is important to praise the child when they are demonstrating the appropriate behavior.

December Calendar & Upcoming Events

December 3rd - Candle Kitchen Money and Order Forms Due
December 5th - Name that Tune Contest Begins
December 6th - WHBN Flagpole Ceremony at 8:50 am
December 10th - 2nd-5th Grade Vision/Hearing Screening
December 10th and 11th - Hour of Code during specials
December 13th - WHBN Donut Day for December 6th award winners during lunch
December 13th - Canned Food Drive ends
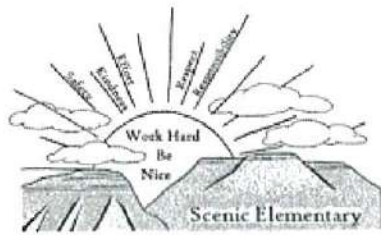**December 16th-18th** - Holiday Gift Shop in Library during specials
December 20th - Classroom Christmas Parties for K, 1, 2 and 3 from 9:00-10:00 am
December 20th - School Movie for K, 1, 2 and 3 from 10:15 - 11:45 am
December 20th - 4th and 5th Grade WHBN Celebration at Get Air from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
December 20th - All School Sing-A-Long in the gym from 1:30-1:50 pm (Parents and Families are welcome to join us)
December 23rd-January 7th - No School

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WHBN!

Holiday Gift Shop

We are excited to be holding a Holiday Gift Shop this year! Your child either brought home before break or will be bringing home today a letter for the gift shop. Students will be coming to shop in the Library on December 16th and 17th during their specials time. We will have one make-up day on December 18th. Please keep in mind that this is not a fundraiser for our school or PTO.

For us to make this event successful, we need volunteers to come help out with the shop. A Sign-Up Genius page is available at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044aa9 ac2ea0fc1-holiday1. If you are available, please take a moment to sign up. If your child would like to keep their purchases a surprise, you might consider signing up for a spot that is not his/her class. Please help us make this a fun event for your child! If you have any questions or need additional details, please contact the front office at 254-6370. Again, thank you for all you do to help our amazing school community!

LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found is overflowing and items are looking for their owners. If you could help remind your child to check for any lost items, that would be greatly appreciated! It is getting cold and we want to make sure kids have their jackets. These items want to come home! Lost and found is now located in the front office area as you walk in the front door of the school. Small items are in a drawer in the office. Thank you for your help with this matter.

Scenic School Food Drive-Help Us Make a Difference for Families in Need

We are still collecting canned and dried goods to donate to the Salvation Army and Sara's Pantry. The school who collects the most healthy non-perishable food items will earn $1000 for their school from Burton Orthodontics, "Take a bite out of Hunger" campaign. Please help us feed hungry families in our community. The food pantries are asking for nutritious canned and dry goods. Donations will be collected each morning in your child's classroom. The classroom who collects the most non-perishable items earns a pizza party. The Food Drive ends December 13th.

Pablo's Pizza Night

Thank you to all who enjoyed Pablo's Pizza. Because of you, Scenic raised $700.00.

Hour of Code

On Tuesday, December 10th and Wednesday, December 11th, Scenic will join hundreds of thousands of other schools in the hour of code. Every student at Scenic will spend an hour learning the fundamentals of writing computer code using the site Code.org. This will take place during your student's specials time. Learning about computer science and coding help improve problem-solving skills, logic, and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation to be successful in any 21st-century career path.

Parents and family members can join us on Tuesday and Wednesday during your child's specials time in our computer lab/library to code with your student if you would like.