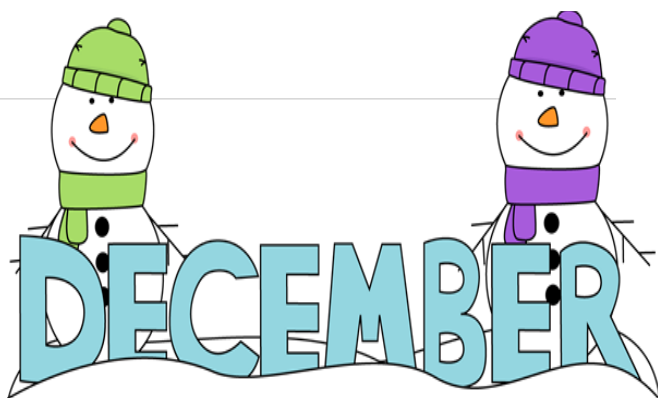
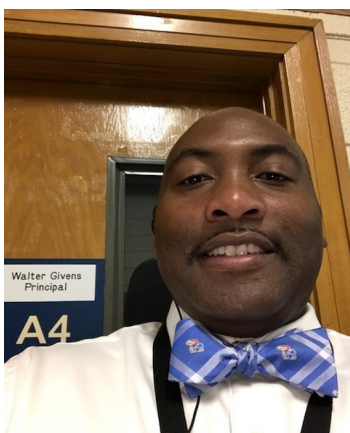


Principal's Newsletter



First Semester

December

4 Basketball
Tryouts

5 Basketball
Tryouts

7 Instrumental
Music Concert
6:30 - 7:30pm

15 - Jan. 3rd.
NO SCHOOL

It just seems like yesterday that I started my journey as the head principal. It has been a tremendous joy getting to know the students and staff and experiencing all of the fantastic things that make Pleasant Valley Middle School an outstanding place to learn. I've had the pleasure of meeting some of you and look forward to the opportunity to meet those that I have not encountered yet.

In the October edition of the Principal's Newsletter I extended an invitation of interest to begin a Pleasant Valley Middle School Parent Site Team by the end of January. I would like to have an introductory meeting on December 12th from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Come out and become a member. The next PVM Parent Site Team meeting will be on January 23rd.

The Winter Break will begin on December 15th for students. The second quarter grades will be posted on that date. I look forward to seeing the names of the students on the Principal's Honor Roll and Honor Roll. I will have those names published in the January newsletter which will not be released until around the 8th. Our second quarter testing is occurring now through December 13th. Please remind your child to do their very best on the progress monitoring tests. The information that we gather assists us in seeing what is working well and what areas that we still need to improve in, so that we can continue to provide the best educational experience for all of our students. The information will also have a strong influence on some of the classes that your child will be placed in for the next school year.

Winter Break Learning

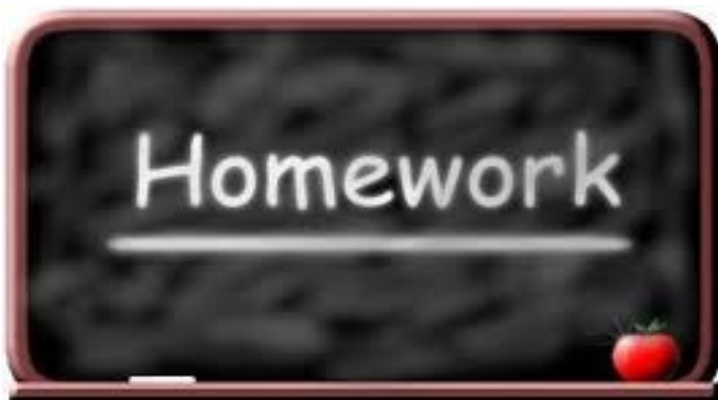
There will be nineteen days during the break that we do not have the opportunity to instruct your student. Therefore, it is important that your student spends just a little time everyday getting some type of academic learning completed. Reading a book for just 25 minutes a day is great way to keep their minds active and in shape to receive instruction on January 3rd.

Also, if you have access to the internet, it would be advisable for your student to log on Mathia. This is a terrific way for your student to stay on top of the learning that they have received in math class. It is like a free tutor. The site is user friendly and it is highly recommended that students log on at least 45 minutes a week.

We are the premiere Middle School in this district and I am proud to be a Royal !!

TURKEY DRIVE

I want to thank you for all of your support in making this year's Turkey Drive a success. The generosity of the students and staff was shown by collecting enough money to buy 32 turkeys (\$347.48) and collecting 433 canned goods. Below is a visual display of the canned goods with representatives from the Student Council.



HOMEWORK HOTLINE

Have questions about homework? The Homework Hotline is here to help! The Wichita Public Schools is offering support for students at all grade levels. Students who have questions about their assignments, as well as parents who need support while helping their child at home, can call or email the Homework Hotline. There will be certified teachers who can answer questions on any assignment from kindergarten through high school.

The Homework Hotline is open Monday through Thursday from 3:30 – 7:30 p.m. Be sure to call our hotline at 973-4411 or email your questions to homework@usd259.net



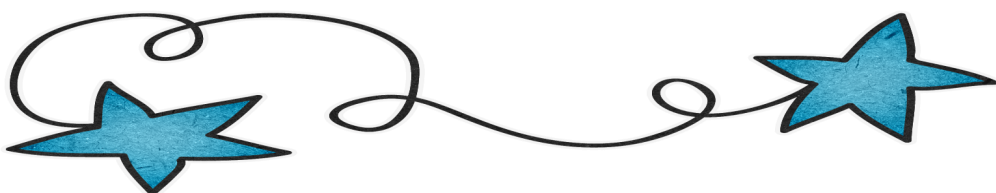
A.P.'s Chat & Chew

Asst. Principal Lisa Riveros: Words of Wisdom

This is my second year as an assistant principal at Pleasant Valley Middle School. Before working at PVMS, I was an assistant principal at North High. My role as an assistant principal includes student discipline. At Pleasant Valley, we view discipline as a tool to help your child grow and learn to make good choices. It is important to PVMS's staff to work with parents as a team when a child makes a choice that results in discipline. Kids can make mistakes and if we work together, we can help reduce those mistakes. I would encourage you to feel free to contact the school if you ever wish to discuss discipline.

Choices that result in discipline can have a negative impact on learning. Students who are disruptive in the classroom negatively impact their friends' learning. Students who get consequences, may spend time out of the classroom in a buddy classroom or to talk with an assistant principal. We don't want this type of impact on learning!

PVMS's goal is to reduce the number of discipline referrals that reach the assistant principals' office. To do this, students are supervised appropriately in the common areas at school, we communicate expectations to students, and teachers work hard to motivate students in the classroom each day with fun and exciting lessons. As of right now, we have about the same number of discipline referrals as we did at this time last year. Our goal is to reduce it by 10% before the end of the school year. Any class (6th, 7th, or 8th grade) that reduces the number of discipline referrals second quarter from first quarter, will be given incentives at recess.



Asst. Principal Joel Escarpita: Soothing Thoughts

Dear parents,

Remember that success breeds success! So, in an effort to prepare your students remind them daily to do their homework, study, go to bed early, and get them to school on time or in time for breakfast, so they are ready every morning to have a successful school day. It is our job to work together, to provide students with an environment and the resources that will aid them in meeting our high expectations. In addition, remember to motivate your students to achieve and encourage them to do great things. If your student is not a part of any extra-curricular activities encourage them to join After School Rec, After School Tutoring, National Academic League (NAL), or join a club or team outside of school. If clubs or teams do not interest your student, consider doing something as a family. Our teacher, Ms. Nickel recommends visiting <http://www.wichita.gov/ParkandRec/Pages/ActivitiesGuide.aspx> for information regarding activities to do as a family in our city.

We have a couple of weeks left before our winter break, let's make them count!

Exploratories

Vocal Music:

The first choir concert. ***The Sights and Sounds of Winter*** was held on November 30, 6:30 in the auditorium. It was a wonderful performance by the students. If you missed out, you missed a treat !! Ms. Prater, Mrs. Gardner and the accompanist were fantastic in preparing the students.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC:

Instrumental music students are preparing for the first concert on Thursday, December 7th. All students are required to participate as this is the equivalent of a final exam. The performance begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be held in the auditorium of PVMS. Student report time is 6:00 p.m. The required concert dress is a white tuxedo shirt with black bow tie, black dress slacks, black socks and black dress shoes. Practice and goal sheets are now required each week through the end of the year and are part of each students' individual grade. Please remember to pay the \$25 fee for concert apparel. This was due September 15th. Thank you.

Ms. Tuinstra

Technology:

Mr. Daniels Computer Technology:

8th Grade we are finishing up our Dragster Racers. Some of the Designs and decorations on the Dragster Racers were fantastic. We are getting into our Flight Unit with Flight Simulator. Students are enjoying flying their planes.

7th Grade we are done with our Gliders and again the decorations on the Gliders was fantastic. We are in our Simple Machines and Rube Goldberg Unit and hope to have some really cool Rube Goldberg machines up and running.

6th Grade we are going through several Photo Shop lessons with our Fuzzy Pictures, Animations, and Tessellations. The student's projects are looking very good. The students in 6th grade will be making a PowerPoint on all the projects they have done this 9 weeks.

Physical Education:

Mrs. Linn Girls P.E:

The girls have been working hard on Basketball skills the last couple of weeks preparing for Basketball tryouts.

Permission slips have been handed out for our skating unit to finish up the year, please have your student return the slip and fee by December 8th.

7th Grade Avid:

On Tuesday, December 5th, our class will have some special visitors that will watch our students participate in Tutorials. They need to wear their AVID shirts to show our PVMS pride. Students are pretty excited and nervous since they get to model what they do best. In class, we are working on public speaking. Students will be preparing speeches on a topic of their choice and they will be graded by their peers and myself. Hope you all have a great Winter break.

Michelle Everhart

7th grade TEAM :

Magnificent 7- Each month the 7th Grade teacher team selects seven students who they agree demonstrate ROYAL PRIDE by being **Punctual, Responsible, Inquisitive, Determined, and Engaged.** Students will be honored with a certificate, a few small prizes, and having their picture taken and displayed on the school TVs.



8th Grade Team

Eighth grade social studies : Social Studies students just wrapped up the ever-important DBQ writing project and are now focused on the National History Day Project that is due in late January. The NHD project is a classroom AND at home project that focuses on people or events from history that dealt with conflict and compromise and is worth a vital amount of points. Stay on top of the work students!

Language Arts with Mrs. Busch and Ms. Turner : Students in Language Arts will begin working on our Conflict Unit and will expand their understanding of **Conflict** as a driving force in fictional works. They will analyze and reflect upon conflict in a variety of fictional and nonfictional texts. Students will also have the opportunity to respond orally and in writing demonstrating ways that promote positive resolutions to conflicts. Please continue to remind your child to consistently be reading at home as well as at school. Reading is such an important part of our students' academic success. The second Book Project for this quarter is due December 8th.

In 8th grade science: Science student will be learning about potential and kinetic energy as we wrap up the semester and will be building roller coasters out of pipe insulator to do so! Make sure to ask your child about their shaker table towers they built when studying waves and earthquakes. Also, please make sure to remind your child to make up work when absent.

Math:

With flu season upon us, the 8th grade math teachers could use some Kleenex for their classrooms. Please send some if you can. Students, your notes are improving, continue to review and revise notes at home! Then you can come with questions if something is unclear. We have our AVID visit December 5th and would like 8th grade math to pop with excitement in the binders. How is homework going? You should be seeing it Monday through Thursday.



Counselor's Note

North and Heights High School will be completing the enrollment process with our 8th grade students through the core math class on Tuesday, January 23rd. In addition, North will be available in a corner of the PVMS library on Friday, January 26th to enroll any absent students and answer questions from students, parents and staff.

In preparation of enrollment, please plan on attending the Open House of your child's next school. Attached is the complete high school open house schedule and enrollment information to help ease the transition from middle to high school!

The information that is provided in the next four pages will be useful for you and your student to go over during the break to prepare for class choices for next year.

FRESHMEN CLASS CHEAT SHEET!



Introduction to Art – In this course, students will study art concepts and apply design principles in art production activities. This course provides a survey of art philosophy, history, aesthetics, and criticism. ***Art projects and history.***

Sculpture – This course promotes creative expression through 3-dimensional works. Could include wood, plastic, paper, natural materials, clay and found objects.

Drawing and Painting 1 - Development of skill with drawing and painting media. ***Drawing and painting.***

Ceramics & Pottery - Development of basic ceramic skills. Working with clay as well as kiln firing and glazing techniques.

German 1 – This course is designed as an introduction to German language and culture. It acquaints the students with listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while looking at German culture and geographical aspects of German-speaking regions. ***German culture and language.***

Spanish 1 – This course is designed as an introduction to Hispanic culture and the Spanish language. It acquaints the students with listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while looking at Hispanic culture and geographical aspects of Spanish-speaking regions. ***Spanish culture and language.***

Spanish 2 – You must have completed Spanish 1B in middle school to take this course. This course is designed to continue the listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural activities. There will be an emphasis on reading, writing, and culture. ***More Spanish culture and language for those who already took Spanish 1A and 1B in middle school.***



Spanish for Natives 1 – This class is designed for students already possessing fluent oral language, but desiring to improve their reading and writing skills in their native language. ***Spanish for students who can already speak it but want to learn to read and write better.***

Chinese 1 – This course is designed to introduce the Chinese language and culture. It acquaints students with listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and aspects of Chinese culture. ***Chinese culture and language.***



Interior/Textile Design – Topics include exploring cycles, trends and style as well as the techniques in coordination, promotion, display and sales of interior and textile items. ***Fashion, fabrics, and sewing.***

Career and Life Planning (7605) – Course concepts include career and lifestyle management, goal setting, decision making, problem solving, time management, energy and stress management, conflict resolution and coping strategies. ***Career explorations, making life goals.***

Parent and Childhood Development – Students study human growth and development and the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development. ***Child care and development.***



Culinary Essentials – Course topics include sanitation and safety procedures, nutrition, and dietary guidelines, food preparation, quantity food production, and meal planning and presentation. ***Food safety and preparation.***

World of Children – Students will observe and practice lessons in art, music, storytelling, and play appropriate for preschool children. ***Child care and development.***

Family Studies – Students will study social, emotional, and physical growth during major life stages.

Nutrition & Wellness – This course focuses on personal health topics such as nutrition, stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, and disease prevention.



Apparel Production – Students will demonstrate basic use of equipment and procedures needed to sew a garment.

Culinary Essentials – Students will cover topics including sanitation and safety procedures, nutrition and dietary guidelines, food preparation, quality food production, and meal planning and presentation.

Baking & Pastry 1 – Baking experiences include yeast breads, quick breads, cakes (and cake decoration) and other baked desserts, product outcomes using various flours and storage methods.



Sports and Entertainment Marketing – Coursework will cover a variety of marketing activities relating to sports and entertainment. ***Marketing with sports and celebrities.***

Business Essentials – This course gives an overview of business, marketing, and finance careers.

Computer Essentials – This course explores a wide range of applications, including word processing, spreadsheet, graphics, and database programs, and they may also cover the use of electronic mail and desktop publishing. ***Microsoft Word, Power point, and Excel.***

Computer Graphics – Students will explore the capability of the computer to produce visual imagery and to apply graphic techniques to various fields such as advertising, TV/video, and architecture. ***Computer models, graphics and short videos.***

Computer Animation – The course emphasizes the development of digitally generated and/or computer enhanced media, including 2D and 3D spatial elements, graphic representation, arrangement of movement, environmental representation, recording media, and distribution tools and methodologies. ***Videos on the computer***

Web Page Design – Students are instructed how to design web sites by introducing them to and refining their knowledge of site planning, page layout, graphic design, and the use of markup languages. ***Making websites***

YEK – It provides students the opportunity to learn the basic concepts of small business ownership with an emphasis on economics and finance. ***Learn how to run your own business.***

Intro to Transportation – Students gain an overview of transportation industry skills and career opportunities, as well as the education required to acquire each career. ***Intro to Automotive.***



Intro to Industrial Technology – It is designed to instruct students in the basic skills necessary for industrial, manufacturing and automotive occupations. ***Intro to Welding.***

Automotive Information – Provides students the opportunity to learn practical car maintenance skills.

21st Century Journalism – This class promotes the development of the skill set needed today and in the future in the field of journalism. ***Newspaper articles, interviewing, and videotaping interviews.***

Audio/Visual Production – Topics include analyzing the pre-production, production and post-production process, as well as exploring the equipment and techniques used to develop a quality audio video product. ***Recording and making videos.***

Fundamentals of Graphic Design – Topics include analyzing the design elements and principles, exploring industry tools, software and equipment and learning composition techniques to develop a quality product. ***Intro to graphic design.***



JROTC – Students will gain knowledge and develop skills in oral and written communication techniques, reading comprehension, leadership, physical fitness, first aid and health, map reading, citizenship, history, and math skills. ***Leadership, physical fitness, and first aid.***

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) – Application Needed.

Leadership Skills – Students will study the various qualities which enhance leadership capabilities. Community service is a mandatory requirement for a passing grade in this class.

Exploring Social Justice -- Students will be presented with the ability to understand and analyze struggles and inequities associated with ability, age, gender, sexuality, racism, ethnicity and class.

Drama 1 – In this course, students will study the broad areas of acting, stagecraft, theatrical history, stage movement, costumes, make-up, lighting, play form, and pantomime.

Learning about plays and acting.

Men/Women's Chorus – Performance experiences will include concerts, musicals, solos/ensembles, some of which are mandatory. ***Choir***

Band 2 – Performing experiences will include parades, field marching, concerts, assemblies, festivals, musicals, and solos/ensembles, some of which are mandatory. ***Must have successfully completed middle school band.***

Orchestra 2 – Performing experiences will include concerts, assemblies, festivals, musicals, and solo/ensembles, some of which are mandatory. ***Orchestra, must have successfully completed middle school orchestra.***



WICHITA HEIGHTS FRESHMAN ENROLLMENT 2018-2019

REQUIRED CLASSES – Check (✓) one class from each department.

English

_____ 1211-12 English
_____ 1213-14 Honors English

Physical Education

_____ ✓ _____ 9211-12

Science

_____ 4251-52 Biology
_____ 4253-54 Honors Biology

Advocacy

_____ ✓ _____ 9133-34

History

_____ 3451-52 World History
_____ 3453-54 Honors World History

Math Course # _____ Course _____ (Middle School Recommendation)

* If the math choice is not the middle school recommendation a waiver will need to be submitted, which can be obtained from alpha counselor.

ELECTIVE CLASSES- Please select 6 electives to complete your schedule. Mark your choices in rank order, numbered 1-6. Course descriptions can be found in the Program of Studies. Courses numbered with 5 numbers indicate a yearlong class.

Business _____ 5711 21 st Century Journalism & _____ 5712 Fundamentals of Graphic Design (Newspaper) _____ 5793 Animation _____ 5744 Audio/Video Production Fundamentals _____ 6720 Business Essentials _____ 5735 Computer Essentials _____ 5741/2 Computer Graphics _____ 5747/8 Computer Programming (pre-req-Algebra 1) _____ 5700 Interactive Media _____ 5765 Network Security Family and Consumer Science _____ 5833 Apparel Construction 1 (Sewing) 1 semester _____ 5834 Apparel Construction 2 (Sewing) 1 semester _____ 6732 Culinary Essentials _____ 6729 Baking & Pastry 1 (pre-req-Culinary Essentials) _____ 7820 Family Studies _____ 5759 Interior & Textile Merchandising (Fashion)	Family and Consumer Science _____ 7823 Nutrition & Wellness _____ 7600 Parenting & Child Develop. (Prenatal-3 years) _____ 7900 World of Children (4-6 years) Fine Arts _____ 8511/2 Band 2 _____ 8311/2 Ceramics/Pottery 1 _____ 1111/2 Drama 1 _____ 8251/2 Drawing/Painting 1 _____ 8556/7 Men's Chorus _____ 8721/2 Orchestra 3 _____ 5715 Photo Imaging _____ 8623 Piano Keyboarding _____ 8561/2 Women's Chorus JROTC _____ 9241/2 JROTC	Language Arts _____ 1011 Debate 1 _____ 1251 Forensics 1 _____ 1731 Speech 1 Social Studies _____ 3621 African American History _____ 3903 American Women in History Technical Education _____ 7511/2 Cabinetmaking & Furniture Design 1 (Woodworking) _____ 7041/2 Intro to Engineering Design _____ 7517/8 Production Welding Processes 1 World Languages _____ 5411/2 Spanish 1 _____ 5421/2 Spanish 2 _____ 5485/6 Spanish for Native Speakers 1
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The above selections will be scheduled on my behalf for the 2018-2019 school year. I understand that all schedule change requests must be made in writing to my alpha counselor (contact information below) no later than Friday, May 4, 2018.

Student Signature _____

A-G Ms. Doile 973-1422 tdoile@usd259.net
 Q-Z/AVID Mrs. Magennis 973-1424 smagennis@usd259.net

H-P Mrs. Ybarra 973-1423 hybarra@usd259.net
 Dept. Chair Mr. Regehr 973-1421 wregehr@usd259.net

2017-18 HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS

NORTHEAST MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, December 5th, 2017

7:00 pm at NE Magnet Auditorium

Application deadline is Friday, December 15, 2017

5550 N. Lycee, Bel Air, KS

For questions call 973-2300

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE OVERVIEW MEETINGS

See <http://www.usd259.org/EastIB> for a current list of meetings.

Application deadline is Thursday, January 18th, 2018

For information or to shadow call 973-7289

HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Monday, January 8th, 2018

6:00-7:00 pm at Heights High School Auditorium

For questions call 973-1400

SOUTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL BUFFALO BLITZ

Monday, January 8th, 2018

6:30-8:00 pm at Southeast High Auditorium

For questions call 973-2700

NORTH HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Monday, January 22nd, 2018

6:00 pm in the Auditorium

For questions call 973-6320

NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Monday, January 29th, 2018

6:00-7:30 pm at Northwest High School Auditorium

For questions call 973-6000

SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Monday, January 29th, 2018

5:30-7:00 pm—Meet at the front entrance of South High School

For questions call 973-5450

WEST FEST

Friday, April 6th, 2018

Come & Go 5:00-7:00 pm—Look for the VIP Tent

For questions call 973-3600

EAST HIGH OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, May 2nd, 2018

6:30-8:00 pm at East High Auditorium on the 2nd floor

For questions call 973-7259

More Tips from the Counselor's



Keep Your Child Engaged In Learning Over The Holiday Break!

The holiday season has arrived, and winter break is right around the corner! While rest, relaxation, and some good old-fashioned fun are certainly in order for your child, it's important to think about strategies to keep them learning as well. Especially for younger children still establishing foundational skills like reading, writing, and basic math, two weeks can be a long time to go without practice. Luckily, there's no shortage of ways parents can keep their children's brains engaged and have fun in the process! Start with these five learning-focused winter break activities!

1. Get lost in a good book

Reading is truly exercise for the brain—and its impacts are broad and deep. Regular reading helps young kids understand the structure of language, develop vocabulary, improve concentration, and even build new neural pathways in the brain. And of course, it's a great way to pick up a new skill, become an expert on a new topic, explore a different city (or time), or simply dive into a thrilling, chilling, amusing, or inspiring story. Whether it's spending 20 minutes with your child each night at bed time enjoying a book together, or encouraging your independent bookworm to curl up in their favorite chair for the afternoon, reading is one of the best ways to keep your child sharp over break.

2. Plan a family field trip

Field trips are always a highlight for kids when school is in session, so why not translate that excitement to their time at home over break? If you live in a large urban area, art, science, and children's museums are always a great choice. If that's not an option for you, look into others like local historical societies, nearby state parks (many have outstanding educational visitor centers), or simply drive to a nearby town. Your kids will love the chance to explore something new, and you'll gain the satisfaction of having tamed the indoor chaos and cabin-fever (at least for one day).

3. Have a game night

Lots of family-favorite games also offer a great chance to practice skills including math, logic, reading, spatial reasoning, and drawing. Think about it—card games like blackjack and cribbage focus on counting and probability; word games like Scrabble, Boggle, and Bananagrams stretch vocabulary, and Pictionary is all about making connections between words and images. Take advantage of time off around the holidays to dedicate a night to enjoying these games—and helping your child brush up on some learning as well.

4. Hire a sous chef

There's no shortage of food around the holidays, and all of that cooking can be a prime opportunity to expose your child to a little everyday math and science. So, when the time comes for you to make some holiday cookies or prepare dishes for a big family potluck, request your child's services as your "sous chef". Ask them to help you read and follow the recipe you're working on, and practice their fractions by carefully measuring out ingredients. Along the way, take the time to explain some of the basic science behind cooking, like how oil and water separate, and how different baking ingredients come together to make the delicious holiday treats we all get excited for.

5. Say thanks

At its core, the holiday season is really all about gratitude. Writing thank-you notes together is a great way to cultivate that sense of thanksgiving and appreciation in your child, while giving them a chance to practice their writing and penmanship. Encourage your child to write a thank you to each person that they receive a gift from over the holidays, challenging them to make each note heartfelt and personal. They'll walk away a stronger writer, and having taken valuable time to appreciate the people in their lives and the gifts they received this holiday break.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

“I Earned It Pass”

Below are the three winners for December

6th grade– Stephanie Solis-Carranza

Paloma Garcia Hernandez

Tatiana Lopez

7th grade– Jarrett Rampy

Hailey Thomison

Landon Phillippi

8th grade– Esteban Ruiz

Anthony Thomas

Alejandro Banuelos

“I Earned It Pass” school partners: Botanica, Exploration Place, Old Cowtown Museum, Sedgwick County Zoo, and the Wichita Art Museum.

Students can attend, along with up to four of their family members, any or all of the special partner programs during the assigned month for free!

