



## Parents Make A Difference!

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A note from:

**Mr. Wade**  
Elementary Principal

This month I would like to discuss the responsibilities that come along with being a parent.

I believe most people would agree that on average the majority of parents do an adequate job making sure their children have the necessities of life. We make sure our children are clean, have good cloths and maintain a healthy diet, etc.

A lot of parents go further than that by providing their children with much more. These are the parents that go the extra mile to insure their children are well taken care of in a multitude of ways. They make sure their children have nice things, are involved in character building activities and have an overall healthy standard of living.

But is that still enough? Many would agree that too many forget an important part of their responsibility as a parent. A big concern is a large number of parents, when it comes to raising their children, do not have "school" as a top priority. For some it is not even in the top ten.

This is a major concern when you look at the fact that the amount and type of education a person receives will be the leading factor to determine the quality of life the same person will experience.

That is why it is imperative for parents to insure their children are doing their best in school and receiving the education they need to acquire success.

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Here are five parenting tips to insure your child stays on track when it comes to education:

1. **Communicate** with your child. Investigate by asking your child how things are progressing in school. Ask them about specific assignments, tests and projects. Be involved and know what is going on when it comes to your child and school.
2. **Communicate** with the school. It is not enough to attend Parent-Teacher Conferences twice a year. Parents need to communicate regularly with their child's teacher to find out how they are performing. Develop a system to communicate with your child's teacher on a weekly or even daily basis. Ask detailed questions and find out what you can do to help. If possible, check your child's grades using PowerSchool. ([www.commercetigers.net](http://www.commercetigers.net))
3. **Study-** Make sure your child studies and does their homework each night. Take time to go through your child's folder/bag to check graded papers and stay current on how your child is doing in school. Take time to look over your child's returned papers and assignments. Help them to understand the material being covered.
4. **Plan-** Help your child plan for the future. Talk with them about the importance of school and getting a good education. Visit with them about their future and discuss the many wonderful career opportunities they will have to choose from if they work hard in school. Help them plan for success.
5. **Encourage** your children to always do their best at all things. Give them praise and tell them how much you love and care about them. Show them by staying involved in everything they do. Insure they are doing their best in school so their dreams may be fulfilled.

Being a good parent is work that seems to never end. Let's make sure we are covering all bases by keeping school as a top priority.

**“Being a parent is easy, being a good parent is the hard part.”**

# OCTOBER

End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter- Friday, October 7

Support Appreciation Week Begins!- Monday, October 10.

Grade Cards Go Out- Tuesday, October 11

PK to Right Choice Pumpkin Patch- Friday, October 14. Leave 8:00AM Return 3:00PM

Kipp/Wright's Kindergarten Trip- Monday, October 17 to the Miami Fire Department.  
Kipp: Leave at 8:45AM  
Wright: Leave at 12:15PM

McQuigg Kindergarten Trip- Tuesday, October 18. Leave at 8:45AM

First Grade Field Trip- Tulsa Zoo on Wednesday, October 20. Leave at 8:10AM

Fall Break- No School  
Thursday and Friday October 20 and 21

Halloween Parties- Monday, October 31.  
Parade begins at 1:00PM

Third Grade Field Trip- George Washington Carver National Monument- Tuesday, November 1. Leave: 8:30AM Return: 2:30PM

PK Springfield Zoo Trip- Friday, November 4.  
Leave: 8:00AM Return: 5:00PM

Daylight Savings Time (Fall Back)- Sunday, November 6. Set your clocks back 1 hour.

Progress Reports- Wednesday, November 9.

Thanksgiving Break- November 23, 24 and 25.



Ava listens quietly when her teacher talks. Ben claps for each performer at his Christmas Program. These children show respect for others. Here's how you can encourage your youngster to do the same.

### **Demonstrate**

Your child will learn respectful behavior by watching the way you treat others. When she makes a mistake, for instance, gently tell her what she's done wrong—and out of earshot of others. Also, let her see you respect ideas and beliefs that are different from your own. For example, point out that you're happy a friend is voting in an election even though you each favor a different candidate.

### **Notice**

When you see your youngster acting respectfully, let her know that you've noticed ("I like the way you asked your sister before borrowing her sweater"). Your words and attention will encourage her to show respect in the future.

**Tip:** If you see disrespectful behavior on TV (a girl rolling his eyes or talking back to a parent), tell your youngster that isn't okay in real life. Then, ask her to be on the lookout for respectful actions by characters. How many can she spot before the program ends?

