



TLJATIMES

A newsletter for Timothy L. Johnson Academy parents and families.
Timothy L. Johnson Academy 4615 Werling Dr., Fort Wayne, In 46806 (260) 441-8727

Happy February to each of you!!

Dear TLJA Family,

It is so hard to believe that it is already February. We have just completed our middle of the year testing. Our students have shown growth from the start of the year. Please be sure to ask your child about how they did. Students are taking an active role in their education. They know their personal data, they set goals for themselves, and work hard towards achieving that goal. We are very proud of them.

We are setting similar goals for ILEARN. We will have incentives for students and classes that reach their goals. TLJA will make a positive mark on this crucial test. Stay tuned for further details.

We are looking forward to an early Spring. Thank you for all you do for your students.
Dawn Starks, TLJA School Leader



We are here to serve you and your family! If you have any questions, please contact the school office at 441-8727.



Breakfast & Lunch

All students attending TLJA will receive free school meals. Timothy L. Johnson Academy has been approved to implement the Community Eligibility Provision for breakfast and lunch. This means that parents will not need to fill out the long meal application.

No School for students on Friday, February 5th due to Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Box Tops

We are in need of your box tops for our school. They will help raise money for equipment and technology for our building. Have your student bring them in to the school office.

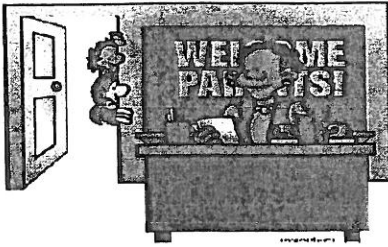
Dress Code for Elementary Scholars

TLJA students are to be in dress code every day.

- **Shirts** must have a collar and be **light blue, navy, black or white**. Shirts must be solid color with no stripes, prints, or labels.
 - **Pants, shorts, and skirts** must be **khaki, navy, or black**. Students are not to wear jeans, denim, leggings, or sweats. No sagging allowed!
 - **Belts** are to be worn if necessary.
 - **Sweaters and hoodies** worn inside must be light blue, navy, black, or white and have no prints or logos. Students are not to wear outdoor jackets and coats inside.
 - **Shoes** should totally enclose the student's foot. No sandals or backless shoes.
- Any questions regarding the dress code should be referred to the school office or your child's teacher.



Please be sure to read with your child at least 20 minutes every night!! Please make sure students are getting eight hours of sleep every night.



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

On February 5th, we will be having our next Parent/Teacher Conference day. Please plan to either speak with your student's teacher by phone or Virtually. You will be able to hear how your student has progressed and what you can do at home to help continue the learning process.

When you receive a notice from your teacher requesting a time to meet with him/her on-line or with a telephone conference, please return it as soon as possible. Teachers look forward to speaking with you and your student on-line or by a telephone call on Friday, February 5th.

Middle School parents will meet all their student's teachers on-line in the Middle School Cafeteria. You will be able to sign up with a time to visit your student's teachers on-line. Teachers will then return your call, and all teachers will be available at your prescribed time for your Virtual conference.

Remember, there will be no regular classes for students on February 5th.

SNOW DAYS

&

2-HOUR DELAYS

Should school be closed due to weather, students will be able to log on and counted as an eLearning Day. Teachers will run their day just as if the scholars were here at school.

Please listen to the radio and watch television if there is incimate weather to see if Timothy L. Johnson Academy is listed, or named, as a school that either has a 2-hour delay or is closed for the day.

If there is a 2-hour delay, and your student rides a bus to school, then the bus will pick students up two (2) hours later than they usually get on the bus.

Important Dates to Remember and mark your calendar:

February

5 Parent/Teacher Conferences
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

March

12 Snow Make-up Day

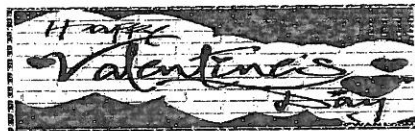


WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

Litworld founded World Read Aloud Day (WRAD) in 2010 because reading aloud is a powerful and transformative act. Every February, schools around the world celebrate WRAD in creative and exciting ways.

Mrs. Kay Clabaugh, Media Clerk, has offered to bring books to classrooms to read to students any day during the class's library time if the classroom teacher requests her to do so.

She will either choose a book to read, or the teacher may request one that would reflect what they are studying.



With Valentine's Day only a few days away on February 14th, several classes are planning classroom parties. If you plan to send Valentine cards to students in your child's class, please call your child's teacher to find out how many students are in his/her class. Valentine's Day is a happy day for students, and children are always excited to receive Valentine cards from classmates.

WARM CLOTHES NEEDED?

If you are still in need of a warm winter coat, hat or gloves, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school and its clothing bank. Please contact Mrs. Amanda Traylor, the Elementary Case Manager, for assistance.

A NOTE FROM THE NURSE

We are still in the cold & flu season.

A FEW FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Please do not send your child to school if he/she has or has had:

- Fever of more than 100 degrees within the last 24 hours.
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours.
- Continuous coughing not relieved with cough medicine.

Please help us teach your children good health habits to protect themselves as well as others:

1. Plenty of rest and nutritious food are needed.
2. Do not eat or drink from same utensil or container after someone else.
3. When coughing or sneezing, cover the nose and mouth by coughing or sneezing into a tissue or bent elbow.
4. Practice frequent hand washing with soap and water or hand sanitizer.

Thank you in advance for working with us to keep students and staff healthy and in school.



We are truly blessed to have two special staff members as part of the Timothy L. Johnson family. If you haven't met either of them yet, the next time you stop in, introduce yourself. I assure you, there will be smiles on their faces in greetings.

Many thanks to the Elementary Case Manager, Mrs. Amanda Traylor, who works hard daily for all of the students and staff in the elementary school. Her sunny disposition brings smiles to those with whom she comes in contact, and she always has a kind word and a willing ear for listening.

If you have visited school recently, you will see there is a new face to greet you as you come into the elementary office. Mrs. Gretchen Oberley, the new secretary in the main office, is a welcome addition to the school office. She is efficient, welcoming and also has a vibrant smile for students, parents and staff.

Elementary School Parents[®]

February 2021
Vol. 32, No. 6

Timothy L. Johnson Academy

make the difference!



A reboot can help your child get back on the right track

When you run into a problem on your laptop or smartphone, do you ever power it off and restart it? Rebooting a device can help it correct processing issues and start over.

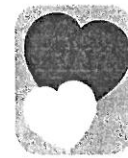
If your child's school year is not going as well as you'd hoped, it may be time to help him reboot, too! Here are a few ways to help your child get back on track:

- **Make change a family affair.** If you've decided that your child needs to spend more time doing schoolwork, make his study time quiet time for the whole family. You can work on paperwork or read while your child works.
- **Replace bad habits.** Breaking a habit is hard. It's much easier to put a different one in its place.

If your child is in the habit of playing video games right after his classes end for the day, suggest that he read for 30 minutes instead. He'll still have a chance to relax—but he will also strengthen his reading skills.

- **Get organized.** You may still be able to find lots of great-looking calendars available on sale. Look for one your child will enjoy using. Then help him get into the habit of writing down his responsibilities for home and school. That can help avoid a last-minute panic.
- **Celebrate successes.** Help your child see the link between his new habits and his results. "You studied for that test and got nine out of 10 correct. That's great!"

Remember the three keys to discipline



Parents and teachers agree that discipline is important for learning. Discipline helps students accept responsibility and focus on the tasks at hand.

The goal is to help your child learn what she did wrong and how she can make a better choice in the future.

To keep your discipline positive and productive:

1. **Remain calm.** Giving in to an urge to yell at your child teaches her that it's OK to lose control when she's upset.
2. **Be consistent.** It doesn't take long for your child to learn whether you really intend to enforce rules. Give in just once to letting your child skip her chores and you'll have a battle every day. Don't set rules unless you plan to consistently enforce them.
3. **Focus on behavior.** Don't criticize. Instead, describe your child's behavior: "It was your sister's turn to use the computer and you wouldn't quit playing your game." Then, remind her of the rule and of the consequence.

Paying your child for grades is not an effective motivator



There are just some things that money can't buy—including intelligence and academic success. Here's why using money as a reward for good grades may not be a good idea:

- **It places the emphasis on the wrong thing.** If you promise your child money for a good grade, he'll be working for the money rather than working to learn. He may find that he wants the money so badly that he's willing to cheat to get it.
- **It doesn't help your child learn the satisfaction of doing a job well.** He needs to learn the joy and pride that come just from doing something to the best of his ability. That is the reward your child ought to be striving for.

- **It focuses on the outcome rather than the effort.** Children need to learn the importance of trying their best and sticking with challenging subjects. Putting all his attention on a reward at the end of the process will make it harder for your child to learn that lesson.

So what should you do? Let your child know that school is important. Celebrate his successes, but keep your money in your pocket!

“The harder you work for something, the greater you'll feel when you achieve it.”

—Unknown

Research disproves these five common myths about learning



Research shows that while people often believe they understand what “effective learning” looks like, they're frequently mistaken.

Here are five common myths about learning, along with the research-based facts:

- **Myth #1:** Everyone has a specific learning style. **Fact:** Kids learn in all kinds of ways. In one situation, they may do better *hearing* new material. But in another? *Seeing* examples could be key.
- **Myth #2:** You're either born smart or you're not. **Fact:** Intelligence and abilities can increase over time—especially when kids are given access to books and learning opportunities.
- **Myth #3:** Long study sessions are the best way to prepare for a quiz or test.

Fact: Kids retain facts much better if they study it repeatedly over time. Studying a little each day is much more effective than trying to digest everything in one sitting.

- **Myth #4:** Reading material over and over is the best way to learn it. **Fact:** It's more effective for students to restate key ideas in their own words.
- **Myth #5:** Right-brained students learn differently than left-brained ones. **Fact:** There's no evidence that being left-brained (favoring logic and math) or right-brained (favoring art and emotions) has an impact on learning. Actually, there's no proof that one side of the brain even dominates at all.

Source: U. Boser, *Learn Better: Mastering the Skills for Success in Life, Business, and School, Or, How to Become an Expert in Just About Anything*, Rodale Books.

Are you helping your child take school seriously?



Attending every class improves your child's chances of academic success. Are you reinforcing the importance of attendance and encouraging your child to take school seriously? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below to find out:

- ___ **1. Have you told your child that you expect her to attend every class, every day—whether it is in person or online?** If you tell her it's important to you, it will become important to her.
- ___ **2. Do you reinforce healthy habits for sleep, nutrition and exercise that ensure your child is ready to learn?**
- ___ **3. Do you ignore weak excuses?** Not feeling like getting out of bed isn't an acceptable reason to miss a class.
- ___ **4. Do you try to make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours?**
- ___ **5. Do you help your child set the alarm clock earlier if she has trouble getting up and ready for school on time?**

How well are you doing?

Each *yes* means you are supporting your child's attendance. For each *no* answer, try that idea.

Elementary School
Parents
make the difference!

Practical Ideas for Parents to Help Their Children. ISSN: 1046-0446

For subscription information call or write:
The Parent Institute, 1-800-756-5525,
P.O. Box 7474, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7474.
Fax: 1-800-216-3667.

Or visit: www.parent-institute.com.

Published monthly September through May.
Copyright © 2021, The Parent Institute,
a division of PaperClip Media, Inc., an
independent, private agency. Equal
opportunity employer.

Publisher: Doris McLaughlin.
Publisher Emeritus: John H. Wherry, Ed.D.
Editor: Rebecca Hasty Miyares.

Geography comes to life with fun and educational activities



Helping your child learn about geography can make it easier for her to relate to the world around her. Here are some educational and fun activities to boost interest in geography:

- **Have your child draw a map** of how to get from your home to school, the grocery store or a friend's home. Then follow the map.
- **Walk outside** and identify *north*, *south*, *east* and *west*, as well as *northeast*, *northwest*, *southeast* and *southwest*. Ask your child to use these words to describe where things in your town are located. "My school is *northeast* of my house."
- **Look for street patterns.** In some towns, streets run north and south, while avenues run east and west.

Street names may be alphabetical: Adams St., Bay St., Club St., etc. Help your child recognize the patterns.

- **Encourage your child** to start a collection of objects from countries around the world. Stamps, post cards and coins are all easy items to collect and store.
- **Tell your child** where her ancestors came from. Find these places on a map. If possible, learn about the routes they traveled when they came to this country.
- **Go through your house** and talk about where things came from. Have your child read labels to see where items were made. A calculator may have come from Taiwan. A box of cereal may have a Michigan or Illinois address. Together, locate these places on a map.

Boost your child's skills and creativity this Valentine's Day



Valentine's Day offers a great opportunity for building school skills while spreading love.

Here are some engaging activities to try with everyone in your family:

- **Write notes of kindness.** Have family members write individual notes to one another outlining all of the things they love about each person.
- **Make a heart collage.** Gather materials with different textures and cut out different sizes of hearts. Have family members glue them on paper to create beautiful pieces of art.
- **Discover the origin** of Valentine's Day. Challenge family members to collect interesting facts and share them during a family meal.

- **Read books together** about Valentine's Day and love. You can find some great titles at niswc.com/elem_valentine.
- **Play an estimation game.** Fill a jar with pieces of valentine candy or small heart-shaped items. Ask family members to guess the number of items in the jar. The winner gets to keep the contents.
- **Learn how to say "I love you"** in different languages. Have family members search online and write down translations in as many languages as they can find.
- **Bake some cookie valentines.** Heart-shaped cookies are fun to make and give! Let your child help with the measuring and baking. Then, together, decorate them any way you wish.

Q: My fifth grader is so hard on himself! He complains that he can't do anything right, which isn't true at all. How can I help him see that he's a smart, capable person?

Questions & Answers

A: As children get older and school becomes more challenging, self-doubt and insecurity can rear their ugly heads. Some kids feel immense pressure to measure up, and it can be scary when they feel like they're falling short.

Although you probably can't make your child's insecurity go away altogether, you can help him see just how smart and competent he is. Here's how:

- **Find the right outlets.** Let your child experience success by recommending activities where he's most likely to succeed. If sports are his thing, help him practice and perfect his skills. If he enjoys reading, encourage him to start a book club with friends.
- **Give him responsibilities.** He may gripe about having to take out the trash or empty the dishwasher, but make him do it anyway. Assigning chores is an effective way to make your child feel valued, because doing them helps the whole family. Completing chores can make him more responsible, too.
- **Acknowledge accomplishments.** Did your child just do something wonderful? Congratulate him! Show him that you noticed his achievement, whether it was earning a good grade on a quiz or setting a beautiful table for dinner.

With a little help from you, your elementary schooler will begin to see himself as the wonderful person he is!

It Matters: Reading

Reading and writing at home boosts success



When children spend their time reading and writing, it benefits them academically. It may pay off later in life, too.

Studies show that children who sharpen their literacy skills at home—even with activities that are just for fun—are more successful in school than other kids. And they become adults with strong work ethics that serve them well in the workplace.

Luckily, it's easy to encourage your child to spend more time reading and writing. Here are three ideas to try:

1. **Make books a priority.** Don't save stories for bedtime—read them any time of day! Keep books out where your child can get to them. Check out new titles from the library. And set a good example: When you have some downtime, reach for a book instead of the remote. Your child will notice.
2. **Start a family journal.** Each weekend, have your child jot down something special about his week. It doesn't need to be long; a couple of sentences will do. After his entry, add your own. By the end of the school year, you'll have a written record of memories!
3. **Play word games.** Each round of Scrabble does more than entertain your child. It hones his reading and writing skills. Best of all, he won't suspect you're "teaching" him anything!

Source: N.L. Alston-Abel and V.W. Berninger, "Relationships Between Home Literacy Practices and School Achievement: Implications for Consultation and Home-School Collaboration," *Journal of Educational and Psychological Consultation*, Taylor and Francis.

Be a reading role model to build your child's interest in reading

Children who see their parents reading are more likely to grow up to be readers themselves. And since reading has such a profound effect on academic achievement, it's vital to show your child that you think it is important, too. Here's how:

- **Let your child see you reading** something every day. Share interesting facts and ideas from your reading.
- **Tell your child why you're reading**—for information, to check out something you think you know or just to relax.
- **Look up a word** in an online dictionary if you come across one you are unsure of. Ask your child if she knows the meaning of the word.
- **Read aloud** to your child. When you see an article you think she might find interesting, read a small part of it to her. She may be motivated to finish reading it herself.



- **Join your child.** When you see her reading, pick up something to read yourself. Bring a healthy snack to share.
- **Give books as gifts.** Show your child how much you value books by giving them as gifts. Encourage your child to give her friends books as gifts, too.

Motivate reluctant readers with appealing reading material

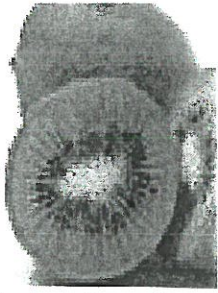


Some kids just don't like reading. One way to encourage your child to read is to help him find reading material related to things he is interested in.

If your child loves soccer, for example, help him find:

- **A biography** of one of his favorite players.
 - **Kid-friendly websites** that contain sports-related articles.
- If you aren't sure what your child likes, ask yourself:
- **What are three activities** he and his friends are involved in?
 - **What are three adult activities** he might like to try some day?
 - **What were the last three books** that he seemed to enjoy?

KIWI



The kiwifruit is native to the Yangtze River valley of northern **China** and Zhejiang Province on the coast of eastern **China**. The first seeds were brought out of **China** by missionaries to New Zealand at the turn of this century. .Kiwifruit, or Chinese gooseberry, is the edible berry of several species of woody vines in the genus Actinidia.

Chances are you don't get enough fruit servings in your diet. Maybe you're bored of bananas, apples and grapes and need a fresh produce pick? A nutrient-rich serving of kiwifruit may be just what you need. A serving of kiwifruit (2 kiwis) has twice the vitamin C of an orange, as much potassium as a banana and the fiber of vitamin C, vitamin K, vitamin E, foliate, and potassium. They also have a lot of antioxidants and are a good source of fiber.

FEBRUARY

Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri

1 Blueberries	2	3 Red Pepper Strips	4 Apple Slices	5 NO SCHOOL
8 Petite Banana	9	10 Broccoli Florets	11	12 White Seedless Grapes
15 Lemon	16	17 Turnip Sticks	18	19 Strawberries
22 Cucumber Slices	23	24 Mandarin Orange	25	26 Yellow Cherry Tomato

