



Little Pioneer Press



January 3: Teacher Record Day, **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

January 6: Students come back to school

January 8: Parent Volunteer Group meeting at 9 AM in the latchkey room.

January 10: Grade Cards go home.

January 14: Tacky the Penguin Assembly for grades K-2

January 16: Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:30 PM– 6:30 PM

January 20: No school, Martin Luther King Day



Grade Cards Go Home on January 10.

Grandparents/Relatives Raising Grandkids Support Group

Are you raising your grandchildren or relative's children? Could you use assistance and advice? **The next meeting of this support group will be on Thursday, January 16, from 5:30-6:30 PM, in room 104.**

Fall OAA Scores Down Statewide from Last Year

The fall OAA scores arrived in December. Zane Trace Elementary had 57% passage in reading. This is slightly down from last year's 62%, however, scores statewide were down in general. All students will retake the test in April. The fall test gives districts a baseline as to where their students are performing. The highest student score from the October or April test will be counted by the state. It is very hard to compare classes from year to year because every group of students is unique in their abilities and needs, but it is possible to see where our students have problems year after year and correct the instruction.

The Ohio Third Grade Guarantee requires students to score a minimum score of 392 in the spring in order to pass to the fourth grade. There are some exceptions, but most students do not fall within those exceptions. The test may be administered again in the summer according to the latest information from the Ohio Department of Education. Summer reading intervention classes will be mandatory prior to retaking the test for third graders. The spring scores will come back in mid-June. Parents will be notified by phone and mail.

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NOVEMBER HIGH FIVE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

KINDERGARTEN:

ISAAC DETTY

FIRST GRADE:

ADISON MUNTZ

SECOND GRADE:

KAILEE ADKINS

THIRD GRADE:

MACY LONG

FOURTH GRADE:

HOPE KNIGHT

**Pickerrell, Knight, and Knight
Win
Honorable Mention**

Three Zane Trace fourth graders were named Honorable Mention Winners in the #1 Dog Essay Contest sponsored by the Ross County Auditor's office. There were 160 entrants in the countywide fourth and fifth grade contest. The students were required to write a paragraph about their dog. **Hannah Pickerrell, Hope Knight, and Faith Knight** each won a five dollar gift certificate to Petland as well as a frameable certificate. ZTES is VERY proud of these students and all



of the other students at our school who entered the contest.



- ▶ Have your child wake with an alarm clock each day in ample time for school.
- ▶ Provide a corkboard or other means for your child to collect important information about school events and other activities.
- ▶ Hang a calendar that is large enough to record your child's upcoming activities. Help your child use it to track deadlines and more.
- ▶ Break long-term projects into smaller tasks and set completion goals until your child can do this independently.

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Settling Conflicts

One of the goals of parenting is to teach your child appropriate conflict resolution skills. These skills will be very helpful to them as they negotiate life in the context of a social world. Therefore, every argument your child has can be seen as an opportunity for him or her to practice conflict resolution. Here are some tips to help your child settle arguments and disputes in a constructive manner and minimize arguments and fighting.



Words for the Wise

- **Model appropriate conflict resolution skills yourself.** Like it or not, our children learn how to handle social situations by observing how we do so. If a child sees his father yelling and becoming aggressive, then the child will learn that yelling and aggressiveness are the normal ways to handle frustration. If on the other hand, his father models appropriate skills, the child will learn that, also. One area where parents have a difficult time emotionally is when their children are fighting. It doesn't make sense to scream at your child when you are trying to teach her how to remain calm! Take a deep breath and remember, this is a learning opportunity.
- **Communicate your expectations clearly.** Let him know from the beginning that you will not tolerate fighting. "Joshua, fighting is unacceptable."
- **Teach your child relaxation skills to assist her in calming down when she feels herself getting angry.** When one reacts emotionally rather than responds thoughtfully, regretful behaviors are often the result. By learning to take some deep breaths BEFORE the explosion, there is a greater chance that she will respond appropriately, rather than react negatively.
- Discuss and practice ways of resolving disputes productively. For example, if a child will not share a toy, discuss taking turns.

- **Discuss and practice ways of resolving disputes productively.** For example, if a child will not share a toy, discuss taking turns. Role play various options for solutions to conflict such as compromising or asking for help.
- **Avoid being the judge/arbitor/referee.** If you have children who fight with each other, you will drive yourself crazy trying to determine who started it, who is at fault, etc. Instead of taking sides, it is more helpful to give both consequences (it takes two to fight) and then have them work on appropriate negotiation skills.
- **Give positive feedback when you see your child attempting to use his or her new skill.** Let your child know that you are watching and appreciate the effort he is making in trying to avoid arguments and fights.
- **Provide natural, logical consequences when your child gets into a fight.** Make sure your child knows that fighting will automatically produce certain consequences. For example, if your children are fighting over the video game, the game gets turned off.

- See more at:
<http://www.parenting.org/article/helping-your-child-settle-arguments-and-disputes#sthash.ubFXuWpe.dpuf>