



Sylvan Learning Center—Harrison County

Volume 1, Issue 10
October 2007

The Bridgeport News



Inside this issue:

Homework Helpers for the Whole Family

Homework Helpers	1
October Calendar	2
Sylvan Birthdays	2
Thoughts from our Center Director	2
Meet our Staff	3
Student Success Stories	3

In some households, the mere mention of homework sends children and parents into a tizzy. But like it or not, homework is an integral part of school that's not going away. In fact, as children get older and their coursework becomes more demanding, so too will their homework assignments. Couple that with the tightly packed schedules most modern families maintain, and homework can turn into trouble for the whole family.

Help is on the way! Here are tips that you can use to help your child get an A+ in homework skills

Make a Family-wide Commitment to Homework

The best way to ensure that your children develop and maintain a habit of doing homework on a routine and thorough basis is to let them know homework is important to you. If you are unavailable to assist during homework time or allow your children to play until they're tired to focus on anything besides bedtime, it sends a message that homework can wait. Every day after school, at a designated time, a parent or older sibling should be available while children do their homework. This will help students understand that homework is a family priority.

Create a Dedicated, Organized Space

Every adult knows what it is like to attempt to work on a desk strewn with papers, where

half full cups of coffee threaten to spill on a keyboard covered in days' old crumbs. For most of us, having a clutter-free work space sets the tone for productivity. Carve out a place free of clutter where your child feels comfortable and can claim it as his or her personal homework spot. Ensure the designated area remains tidy. This will give you peace of mind knowing that your child is organizing his or her work. Provide easy access to homework supplies, so children do not spend half of their rooting around for pencils and paper. And, if your child is younger and tends to have questions make the homework spot within range of an adult.

Look for Red Flags

A child's homework performance can be a strong indicator of overall academic performance. "If a child is not completing homework assignments or is saying 'This is too hard, or too much', that's a red flag," Dr. Bavaria states. A child who breezes through homework within minutes, getting most or all of the assignment correct, is holding up a red flag of another sort— he is telling parents the work is not challenging.

Either scenario warrants a discussion with the teacher and/or the guidance counselor.

"Homework should be meaningful and appropriate," Dr. Bavaria says.

Taken from Successful Student Magazine.

WELCOME

To Our Newest Members

- * Torie C.
- * LaVonia C.
- * Alex G.
- * Jason N.
- * Cassandra N.
- * Shane S.
- * Tyler T.



October 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Name your car day!	3 Capt Kangaroo Day	4	5	6
7	8 Columbus Day	9 Leif Erricson Day	10	11	12 Farmers Day	13
14	15 Nat'l Poetry Day	16	17	18	19	20 Sweetest Day
21	22 Nat'l Nut Day	23	24 United Nations Day	25 Nat'l Denim Day	26	27
28	29	30	31 Happy Halloween			

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Oct 2 Jordan T
 Oct 15—Brenden E
 Oct 21—David A.
 Oct 28—Landon H

Oct 5—Mr. Charlie
 Oct 12—Ms. Julienne

Thoughts from the Center Director—Heather Lewis

Reminder... We do not follow the local school closings (holiday or inclement weather). Please feel free to call the center to check on our openings or closings.

- Study Tips for October**
- Use a wall calendar to remember what to bring to school, such as special projects or library books.
 - Pack your bag as soon as you finish your homework.
 - Choose a designated place in your notebook for papers that are due.



Parent Release Forms for teacher contact have been handed out!

Remember....we must have a parent release form before school contact can be made. Please see Heather or Jared if you need a form.

Good Luck to all students taking the October ACT!

Earn extra tokens on Oct 29th, 30th & 31st by wearing black and orange!



Meet Our Sylvan Staff Members

Instructor of the Month: Brenda Lewis

Brenda Lewis, our Lead Instructor, has been with us since March 2003. She teaches Sylvan's Beginning Reading, Academic Reading, Academic Writing, Math Essentials, & ACT Prep Programs.

Over the summer we had our very first Early Reading Camp which was for 3 year olds. Brenda was the Camp Instructor and did an outstanding job teaching the little ones!

Brenda resides in Clarksburg with her husband, Pastor Lewis and their cocker spaniel, Curly. Brenda substitutes in Harrison County. In her free time, Brenda enjoys camping. The Sylvan Staff and Students are very happy to have her here with us.

Congratulations!

Over the summer we held a contest for all students attending. Each time they visited Sylvan Learning Center over the summer they put their name into a box for a drawing for a bicycle.

On September 1 we drew for the winner and we congratulate Holly Brown.

Holly recently sent us a Thank You card and her comments were:

*"Thank you for the most beautiful purple bike"
"Sylvan Rocks"*



Sylvan Student's Success Stories

Justin's mother shared in a conference recently that since he's been coming to Sylvan, his math went up 3 grade letters.

Christopher's father shared in a conference recently that Christopher started reading a newspaper during the car ride to Sylvan. When Christopher got back in the car after his Sylvan session he started reading where he'd left off...Christopher's father was amazed!

After having a difficult time with the concept of adding and subtracting positive and negative numbers, Stasia successfully mastered this skill recently. Her math instructor comments how confident she feels about herself now.

Marla's mother shared with us recently how "she was in tears when she heard Marla reading her sight words and books that she'd brought home from Sylvan." Marla's mother said Sylvan is wonderful and that she recommends it to everyone!

Sylvan Learning Center
109 Platinum Dr Suite G
Bridgeport WV

Phone: 304-842-0234

Fax: 304-842-0221

Email:

Visit us on the Web at:
WWW.sylvanwv.com

Frequently Asked Questions

When are make-ups available?

Make-ups may be scheduled for excused absences only. Please call the center to schedule a make-up for a missed session. A “call-out” for a student must be made by 12:00 noon on the day of session for weekday schedules, and by 2 p.m. on Friday for the Saturday a.m. sessions.

When Sylvan is closed for a holiday do I have to schedule a make-up?

When the center is closed for a holiday you are not charged for the day and no make-ups are required.

What does my child need for the WV PROMISE Scholarship?

Your child must :

- Complete the Promise Scholarship Application
 - Complete the FAFSA form
 - Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (all courses)
 - Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in core courses
 - Score on the ACT Test a composite score of 22 and a minimum score of 20 on each of the four subpart tests, math, science, English, and reading
 - For more information go to www.promisescholarship.org or ask Heather.
-