

"KNIGHTLY NEWS"

Eastern York Middle School
Newsletter

January January 2011

Volume 2, Issue 2



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The Ten Study Habits of Successful Students

Successful students have good study habits. They apply these habits to all of their classes. Read about each study habit. Work to develop any study habit you do not have.

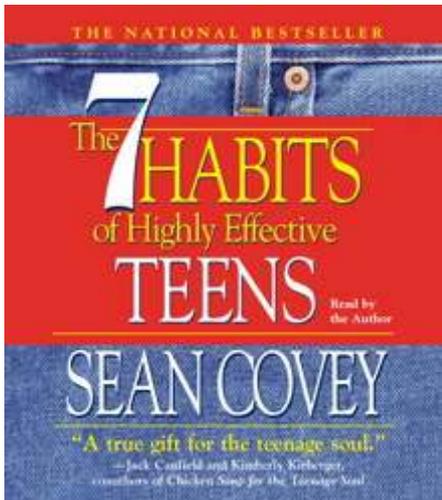
Successful students:

1. Try not to do too much studying at one time.
If you try to do too much studying at one time, you will tire and your studying will not be very effective. Space the work you have to do over shorter periods of time. Taking short breaks will restore your mental energy.
2. Plan specific times for studying.
Study time is any time you are doing something related to schoolwork. It can be completing assigned reading, working on a paper or project, or studying for a test. Schedule specific times throughout the week for your study time.
3. Try to study at the same times each day.
Studying at the same times each day establishes a routine that becomes a regular part of your life, just like sleeping and eating. When a scheduled study time comes up during the day, you will be mentally prepared to begin studying.
4. Set specific goals for their study times.
Goals will help you stay focused and monitor your progress. Simply sitting down to study has little value. You must be very clear about what you want to accomplish during your study times.
5. Start studying when planned.
You may delay starting your studying because you don't like an assignment or think it is too hard. A delay in studying is called "procrastination." If you procrastinate for any reason, you will find it difficult to get everything done when you need to. You may rush to make up the time you wasted getting started, resulting in careless work and errors.
6. Work on the assignment they find most difficult first.
Your most difficult assignment will require the most effort. Start with your most difficult assignment since this is when you have the most mental energy.
7. Review their notes before beginning an assignment.
Reviewing your notes can help you make sure you are doing an assignment correctly. Also, your notes may include information that will help you complete an assignment.
8. Tell their friends not to call them during their study times.
Two study problems can occur if your friends call you during your study times. First, your work is interrupted. It is not that easy to get back to what you were doing. Second, your friends may talk about things that will distract you from what you need to do. Here's a simple idea - turn off your cell phone during your study times.
9. Call another student when they have difficulty with an assignment.
This is a case where "two heads may be better than one."
10. Review their schoolwork over the weekend.

News from 6th Grade

“Essential News”

Mrs. Dunlap



All sixth grade students have been studying the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens by Sean Covey in our “Essentials for Your Middle School Success” class. We have discussed and developed long-term academic goals for our school year as we focused on *Beginning with the End in Mind*. Students updated their goals weekly in their agenda as they try to maintain a steady focus on their end of year plan. We returned from our winter break rested and ready to move ahead with *Think Win-Win*, habit four. Everyone has reviewed how to study and we are preparing to create posters that will help cement the tips and rules to guide our studying whether it is alone, with a partner, or in a group. Our goal is that all sixth grade students will develop sound lifelong study habits. As we focused on *Putting First Things First* students learned that prioritizing is the name of the game. We need to use our agenda not only to prioritize our assignments but also to prioritize our commitments. Students have realized that being organized is key to their success in all areas of their life. *Being Proactive*, has reminded all students to accept responsibility for their choices and their actions. The daily practice and constant reminders are helpful to each and every one of us as we continue our journey through the habits. Stay tuned for *Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood*, *Synergize*, and *Sharpen the Saw* as our sixth grade journey continues forward.

N-Team News

Students on the N-Team have been busy. According to Luke Eisenberger “Mrs. Mable’s reading classes have been reading fiction novels. Students have been making predictions as they read. Also we have been learning what our mind should be doing while we are reading.”

“In Mr. Pry’s English classroom we are learning about nouns,” says Brandie Grace. “First we had to learn how to recognize a noun. Then we learned about the difference between common and proper nouns. Finally we spent time using possessive and plural possessive nouns.”

“Ms. Sylo’s science class has been very interesting,” according to Kirsten Flaharty. “N-Team students are learning about different types of plants. We found out that some plants are vascular and some are nonvascular.”

Kailey White and Miranda Evans say social studies with Mrs. Eyer has been very interesting this month. “We are doing maps of the countries in Latin America to learn about geography. And we are studying the Latin American culture.”

Erin Habecker reports that, “In Mrs. Sherrer’s math class we are studying about different properties. They are associative property, commutative property, distributive property, and the identity property. These are all ways to switch numbers in a problem and still get the same answer.”

News from 7th Grade



Yay! It's the Halfway Point of the School Year!!!

And G Team is gearing up for Espanol!

Bienvenido

Yes, you've heard correctly. Your child is halfway done with 7th grade! Starting on Wednesday, January 26th, for the first time ever, your 7th grader will be closer to 8th grade than 6th grade. They are growing up quickly! While I know how fast it may be going for you, it's going just as fast for us.

To add to all of this excitement, the students will be changing classes. No longer will they be marveling you with their CO2 cars and corner shelves. Instead, they will be speaking, reading, writing, and yes—even singing—in Spanish!!! Won't that be impressive?!

While learning the I-Tech curriculum has helped them improve their math and science skills, learning a second language reinforces primary language skills. Students will improve their English and Reading skills through learning various parts of speech and new vocabulary in Spanish. Also, in today's economy, knowing a second language makes a person more marketable when applying for jobs. 7th grade's introduction to language is meant to get students excited about the prospect of continuing with language in the high school. So, as you can see, this upcoming semester is going to be a fun, language-infused joy ride!



Survivor Science

By: Gino Amato & Anthony Amato



Imagine the television show Survivor coming to your child's classroom. What would it be like? Chaotic? Think again! In room 105, Ms. Watt has found a reward system that everyone loves! It challenges your child but at the same time it is intense, suspenseful, and fun. Now how does Ms. Watt make learning fun but at the same time you learn something? Well we have the inside scoop.

Survivor is a team based game that takes strategy and brains. Now as you know we can't travel to a remote island, but that doesn't mean we can't make it feel like the game. Each class has seven "tribes" that compete for points on a daily basis and during immunity challenges. On any given day, each tribe starts out with three chips. You lose one if you forget your homework, are unprepared, or you're just plain disrespectful. On Tuesdays we have a reward challenge where we play for rewards like silly bands, pencils, etc. On Thursdays we play for immunity and challenge points. Whoever wins the immunity challenge cannot be voted off to lose their points. The vote takes place on Fridays. We add all the points up at the end of the chapter, and whichever tribe has the most points gets a special reward and extra credit points. Tribes have been very competitive and have formed alliances with other tribes, just like the real show! This has been your inside scoop on the survivor science competition and the new positive reward system in room 105.

News from 8th Grade

S Team Celebrating Heritage Day

S team had two activities planned for the week before Christmas. On Dec. 22, we celebrated Heritage Day. Prior to the events of the day, students interviewed their relatives to find out about their heritages. The team then engaged in activities such as: a fashion show, an origami lesson, listening to German fairy tales, and show and tell.

The highlight of the day was a sampling of foreign foods that some of our student chefs brought in to share. We had foods from all over the world!

Through this experience, students became more aware of the traditions, customs, and foods which were passed down through the generations of their families.

S-Team would like to especially thank Mrs. Seidon, mother of Tara Fowler for assisting us this day.

Our other Team activity was on Thursday, Dec. 23. This is the day that the colonists from the history classes made gingerbread log cabins, celebrating an old German tradition. Students brought in all of the sweets to make these festive.

S-team would like to especially thank Mrs. Helton, mother of Darrel, Mrs. Kim Storm, and Mrs. Kaplan for their assistance in the success of this project.





You Are Invited!

Conversations with the Eastern York Community



On January 25, 2011, Eastern York School District will host its second "Conversations with the Eastern York Community." Parents and community members are invited to participate in conversations with district administrators, teachers, support staff, and school board members. This will be the perfect opportunity for all Eastern York School District stakeholders to engage in a discussion that will lead to creating more effective schools, and at the same time, deepen the sense of commitment to quality education within the community. These focused conversations will be held in the Eastern York Middle School Gymnasium from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and also from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. You may participate in one or both discussions. If interested in participating, please contact Mrs. Darlene Gable at 252-1555, extension 33238, or email dgable@eyork.k12.pa.us by January 24, 2011. Child care is available. To secure a spot for child care, please contact the High School Office at 252-1551 by January 24, 2011.



A Message from the Attendance Secretary

When your child is being picked up early from school, your wait time in the school office can be decreased if you send a note with the student in the morning. The note should indicate who will pick them up and what time they are leaving. When they bring a note to the office upon their arrival to school, we will issue a pass for them to leave class and be in the office waiting when you arrive. Hopefully this can streamline the process for you and for us.



Click to register



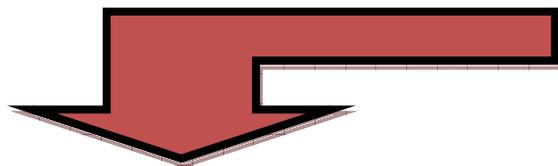
This Giant Program is a cash back program for schools and patrons who place their Giant Bonus Club number into their computer system.

A certain percentage of everything you spend then would come back to the school in the form of a check in April.

A patron can designate up to 2 different schools. If they do that; the percentage is split between the schools. Actually it is FREE money for schools.

Go to www.GiantAPlus.com or www.Giant.com to learn more. Be sure to visit this site often to view program updates and to track your school's A+ School Rewards progress.

The Middle School number for the Giant Program is 00690.



Eastern York School District

Don't forget to check your child's grades and assignments online at

<http://www.eyork.k12.pa.us/>



Help us help our school.

Enroll in Take Charge of Education® and Target will donate a percentage of each REDcard™ purchase you make back to our school.

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