



September 13, 2019

Mark Your Calendars

Thursday, September 19th - **6th Grade Field Study Orange House - AMSE** - The 6th grade Silver House students will travel to the American Museum of Science & Energy in Oak Ridge from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm.

Friday, September 20th - **6th Grade Field Study Silver House - AMSE** - The 6th grade Orange House students will travel to the American Museum of Science & Energy in Oak Ridge from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm.

Friday, September 20th - **5th Grade Family Gathering** - Our 5th grade families are invited to participate in family gathering. The gathering begins in the lunch room at 12:28 pm and then proceeds to the theater right after that.

Please visit our CGIS website at www.maryville-schools.org/cgis to find information regarding all our activities, clubs, school calendar, classroom information, and more.

Digital Citizenship Announcements Week: Self Image and Identity 9/13/19

Here are a few words of wisdom regarding digital citizenship. This week, we are focusing on Self-Image and Identity. The way you identify impacts a lot of your life- from your relationships to your sense of self to your reputation. At Maryville City Schools, we recommend that each person:

Carefully consider the way you're portraying yourself online. The internet lets you choose which parts of yourself to share. There can be benefits and drawbacks to sharing a different version of who you are on the Internet. Think about why you're portraying yourself in this way and what the consequences of this could potentially be. A positive self-image and identity start with the choices you make.

Hawk Olympics Information

Hawk Olympics was held this past Thursday and donations were due at that time. However, you can still turn in money if you missed the deadline. Simply, bring your donation in the provided envelope to our main office and our office staff will make sure it is delivered to the appropriate PTC member. Thank you for your help and support!

Educational Summer Trip Meeting

There will be a meeting on **Wednesday, September 18th** from 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm in the school Library for all interested 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students and parents who are interested in taking a non-school sponsored, educational trip to London, Paris, Florence, Venice, Milan, Monaco, and the French Riviera during the summer of 2021. Please plan on attending the meeting with your child if you are interested in this once in a lifetime opportunity! If you are interested, but cannot attend the meeting, please have your child see Mrs. Saunders in the Black House for more information and a flyer.

PARIS, FLORENCE, VENICE, MONACO, AND THE
FRENCH RIVIERA TRIP
JUNE 2021

****The following are the guidelines for an optional educational summer trip through EF Tours for MCS 6th - 9th grade students (grade in 2020-21 school year) and their families:**

1. There is **NO** affiliation with MCS.
2. The trip is during Summer Break with **departure between June 1st-10th, 2021.**
3. **One teacher will travel free for every 6 paying students.**
4. The price is **approximately \$3940 (trip, breakfast/dinner daily, departure fees, insurance, etc.)** for students and **\$4440 (trip, departure fees, adult supplement, breakfast/dinner daily, insurance, etc.)** for adults. Price will go up slightly after the early enrollment period ends.
5. **Travel insurance** through EF tours is added in the price and covers a variety of emergencies (travel, medical, etc.).
6. It is an **10-day** trip (12 days if the optional extension to London is added).
7. Parent chaperoning for students 12 and up is **heavily encouraged but not required**. Students 11 or under must have a parent chaperone attend the trip.
8. Numbers of participants will be limited to **50 people**.
9. **Passports** must be renewed/acquired and received or up-to-date before the trip for all travelers.
10. All expenses are paid for in the trip cost (**including airfare and hotels**) except for travel day meals, souvenirs, and lunch daily.
11. All payments are made directly to **EF tours**.
12. Questions about the trip should **only** be addressed to **Janeen Saunders (CGIS teacher-see contact information below)**. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL CGIS DIRECTLY.**
13. An EF tour director will be present on the trip at all times.
14. **Highlights** include: Grand Canal in Venice, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Florence, Monaco's Prince's Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Nice, Versailles (optional excursion)/London's Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, and Piccadilly Circus (with extension).
15. All tour activities are **mandatory** unless a student is ill.
16. If traveling without a parent, students must be responsible for their own money and souvenirs (**teachers will hold passports for students**).
17. For more information on the tour details and to sign up for the tour online please go to <https://www.eftours.com/tour-website/2303215CD> or call **1-800-665-5364** and give them tour # **2303215CD** to enroll.

****For more information contact:**
Janeen Saunders
Cell phone: 591-0701
Email: janeen.saunders@gmail.com



APPRENTICESHIP MEETING: 7th - 12th grade students and parents are invited to join us on the Pellissippi State (Blount Co) Campus on Thursday, September 19th for an information session that has the potential to change lives. In partnership with the three local school districts, area employers, Pellissippi, and TCAT Knoxville, paid apprenticeships will soon be offered - giving high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to finish high school, earn college credit, and earn a wage while gaining valuable work experience. This is our first public session and one you will not want to miss.

Again, the date is September 19th. Registration starts at 4:30 p.m. (in the auditorium), and the 90 minute program will begin at 5 p.m. There will also be a time to connect with employers and educators starting at 6:30 p.m. While younger students will not be eligible for this program for several years, you will want to learn as much as possible to enhance your selection potential when the time comes. Current high school students with an interest in health care, manufacturing, construction, culinary arts, or information technology should be in attendance.

Learn more at <https://mhs.maryville-schools.org/about-mhs/tvya>.

After School Art Tie Dye Mania



Tuesdays September 17 and 24
2:45PM – 4:00PM Far Science Lab

\$20.00 includes snacks and a pillowcase.

Each student may bring two additional items on the 17th from home to dye.

Class filled on a first come first served basis. We will only contact you if the class is full.

Return this form by 9/16 with cash or check made out to CGIS to the office

Name _____

Grade _____ Homeroom teacher _____

Known allergies _____

_____ My student will be picked up promptly at 4 in front of CGIS.

_____ My student will go to Adventure Club after art.

_____ My student will walk home

The phone number I can be reached at during this event is _____

Signed _____

Helping Children Learn[®]

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



September 2019

Family Resource Center
Maryville City Schools

Build brainpower by helping your child learn from mistakes

Whether your child is a brand new kindergartner or in an upper grade, he'll be starting the new school year with a clean slate. But like all kids, he will sometimes make mistakes on tests or assignments. That's no reason for either of you to be discouraged!



Research shows that when parents and teachers actively encourage students to fix errors and learn from them, the children do better in school. One reason may be that correcting mistakes shows kids that their intelligence isn't fixed—they can improve and get smarter.

When you review your child's work, focus first on what he did right. Then, to help him learn from his mistakes:

- **Talk about them.** Does your child understand why his answers were wrong? If so, have him correct them. If he's not sure, offer suggestions or encourage him to ask his teacher for help.
- **Recognize progress.** Did your child make fewer mistakes on this test than the last one? Remind him that he's improving. Point out how paying attention to past mistakes—and learning from them—made a difference.

Source: H.S. Schroder and others, "Neural evidence for enhanced attention to mistakes among school-aged children with a growth mindset," *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, Elsevier B.V.



Attendance makes a difference from the first day of school to the last

Did you know that attendance in elementary school is so important that students who frequently miss school have lower levels of achievement throughout their school careers?

This is true even in the early grades. And by sixth grade, children who miss more than two days of school each month are more likely to drop out of high school than other students are.

When children miss school, they miss learning. And it doesn't take long to fall behind. Poor attendance has a negative effect on reading and

math skills, as well as on school success traits such as persistence.

September sets the tone for the rest of the year. Start now to develop habits that will help your child arrive at school on time, every day. When you make attendance a priority, your child will, too.

Source: L. Bauer, "School attendance: A building block of student achievement," *Brookings*, niswc.com/keyblock.

You are part of the team!

Two-way communication between teachers and families supports students. To keep it flowing, review the materials your child brings home. Reach out to the teacher to:

- **Share information** about your child.
- **Ask questions** and express concerns.
- **Schedule a conference** to discuss your child's learning.

Put a premium on kindness

Pressuring children to get top marks often has the opposite effect. But according to one study, showing your child you value kindness and consideration as much as or more than grades can help her perform better in class. To get the message across:

- **Demonstrate.** Let your child see you being kind and respectful to others.
- **Praise** positive behavior in your child and others.
- **Encourage** healthy relationships with teachers and classmates.



Source: L. Ciciolla and others, "When Mothers and Fathers Are Seen as Disproportionately Valuing Achievements," *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, Springer US.

Support homework efforts

To encourage your child to be conscientious about homework, create the conditions for success. Make sure he has:

- **A designated study area.** It should be well-lit and free of distractions like TV during homework time.
- **A set study time.** Experiment to see when your child is most alert, then stick with that time.
- **A supply kit.** Having pencils, erasers, rulers and other tools handy eliminates time-wasting searches.





My fifth grader is lonely at school. What should I do?

Q: My daughter's three best friends are in another class. She says she has no friends in her class, and she doesn't like school anymore. Should I ask to have her moved to the other class?

A: Not all the lessons students learn in school are academic. One lesson your daughter will learn this year is that she won't always get to choose the people she works with. She can always stay friends with the children in the other class. But now she has an opportunity to make some new friends, too.



To help your daughter adjust:

- **Talk about your own life.** Have you ever had to work with people you didn't know? Share the story with your child. Remind her that making new friends is a skill she'll use in middle school and for the rest of her life.
- **Practice conversation starters** together that can help her find kids who share her interests. "I like your drawing. Do you like to draw? I love it."
- **Foster new friendships.** Help your child arrange to get together outside of school with classmates she likes.
- **Let the teacher know** about your child's situation. Ask for suggestions for ways to help your daughter connect with classmates.



Are you encouraging healthy habits?

Proper rest, nutrition, exercise and hygiene all make it easier for students to concentrate and learn in and out of school. Are you helping your child establish healthy habits? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

1. **Do you stick to** a bedtime that gives your child at least nine hours of sleep at night?
2. **Do you make sure** your child eats a nutritious breakfast before school?
3. **Do you give** your child healthy snacks, such as sliced raw vegetables, when he is hungry?
4. **Do you encourage** your child to get daily exercise? Getting the whole family involved makes this more fun.

5. **Do you teach** your child to wash his hands frequently and sneeze into his elbow?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are promoting habits that support learning. For each no, try that idea.

"If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters."
—Colin Powell

Get ready for a great year

The school year is busy. Setting up some structure now will help ensure it is also happy and productive for your child and your family. Here are some things to do:

- **Make a plan** for after-school activities. Include plenty of time for reading, family and relaxation.
- **Create routines** to help your child get tasks done on time.
- **Start a family calendar** to keep track of everyone's commitments.
- **Arrange for backup.** Agree to trade favors with another parent who will cover for you if you are delayed or sick.

Give out a few assignments

When it comes to teaching responsibility, practice works better than lectures. To begin the lesson with your child:

- **Choose a few tasks** he is ready to handle on his own, such as getting up on time, packing lunch and feeding a pet.
- **Make a checklist** for him to follow.
- **Agree on small rewards** for a job well done and consequences for skipping responsibilities.



Don't protect your child from learning

Getting involved with your child's education can enhance her learning. But it's crucial to remember that she has to do the learning for herself. Avoid these common pitfalls:

- **Don't do everything** for your child. Let her grow by trying new things.
- **Don't rush to school** with something she forgot. Let her face the consequences.
- **Don't try to negotiate** a better grade for your child.

Helping Children Learn®

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Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children
do well in school*

Family Resource Center
Maryville City Schools



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

September 2019

Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Make an appointment to spend some one-on-one time with your child this month. Write it on your calendar.
- 2. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, have your child read to you.
- 3. Ask your child, "What one thing makes you feel really excited?"
- 4. Write a note saying something nice about your child. Tuck it where he will find it later.
- 5. Draw a picture with your child today. Hang it on the refrigerator.
- 6. Write upcoming school events on your family calendar. Plan to attend as many as you can.
- 7. Cut out four pictures from a magazine. Ask your child to tell you a story that involves something from each picture.
- 8. On Sunday nights, talk with your child about the week ahead.
- 9. Ask your child, "If you could go anywhere, where would you go?"
- 10. Make a special effort to reinforce manners today. Remind family members to say *please* and *thank you*.
- 11. Watch a funny video with your child. Then have her draw a comic strip showing what it was about.
- 12. Have a 20-minute family DEAR time (Drop Everything And Read).
- 13. Name different types of punctuation with your child. Then have him find examples in a book or newspaper.
- 14. Keep a notebook handy when watching TV. Have your child jot down new words she hears and look them up later.
- 15. Be sure you and your child know school rules. Talk about one today.
- 16. Ask your child, "What are your three favorite songs?"
- 17. Choose a place by the front door for items that go to school. Help your child get into the habit of putting things there each day.
- 18. Talk about *honesty* and why it is so important at home and at school.
- 19. Invent a word with your child. Write a silly definition.
- 20. Tonight at dinner, put a "price" on each item you serve. Have your child figure out the total cost of the meal.
- 21. Go outside. Show your child which way is *north*, *south*, *east* and *west*.
- 22. Pick a word from the dictionary and draw a picture of it. See if your child can guess the word. Then switch roles.
- 23. "Adopt" a neighborhood tree. With your child, watch it throughout the year. Talk about how it looks, feels and even smells.
- 24. Together, write a poem about your family. Start each line with a letter from the word FAMILY.
- 25. Make a jigsaw puzzle with your child. Glue a picture from a magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces.
- 26. Have your child put a leafy stalk of celery into colored water. Watch the color rise into the stalk over the next week.
- 27. Play "guess that number" together: How many grapes in a bunch?
- 28. Today, have your child keep track of everything he eats. Together, think of ways to make his diet more nutritious.
- 29. Tell your child three things that you love about her.
- 30. Review spelling words with your child tonight.

Helping Children Learn
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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October 2019

- 1. Plan a family talent show. Have everyone practice their acts this week.
- 2. When your child comes home, have him draw something that happened in school. Then talk about it.
- 3. Role-play a sticky situation with your child. What would she do if her friends were teasing someone at school?
- 4. Tell your child about a choice you made. Talk about the consequences.
- 5. Do a crossword or other word puzzle with your child.
- 6. Help your child start a collection. Provide a place to keep it—a box, a shelf, a drawer.
- 7. Consider giving your child an allowance. Discuss how it should be used, such as for saving, buying things and giving to charity.
- 8. Read three poems with your child today.
- 9. Review math facts at the dinner table tonight.
- 10. Take a walk. Can you and your child identify the trees you pass?
- 11. Ask your child to predict how long tasks and activities will take today, then time them.
- 12. Help your child round up some friends and play a game outside.
- 13. Look through the newspaper with your child. Which headlines interest him? Read an article together and discuss it.
- 14. A nutritious breakfast helps kids learn. Make sure your child starts the day with a healthy breakfast at home or at school.
- 15. When your child brings home schoolwork, focus on what is right before noting what is wrong.
- 16. Pretend your child is mayor for a day. Ask her how she would make your community a better place.

Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 17. Together, make up a song featuring your child's name.
- 18. Have your child dissolve a teaspoon of salt in a few teaspoons of water in a shallow dish. What happens when the liquid evaporates?
- 19. At dinner, ask each family member to share the week's experiences.
- 20. When you're in the store, ask your child to figure how much tax you will be charged.
- 21. Have your child glue craft sticks together to make a frame and use buttons and markers to decorate it.
- 22. Ask your child to measure and record the dimensions of a variety of objects in your home.
- 23. Brainstorm together to come up with words with both a prefix and a suffix (such as *replacement*).
- 24. With your child, learn how to count to 10 in at least three languages.
- 25. Put on music and spend 15 minutes drawing or writing with your child. Let the music be your inspiration.
- 26. Let your child pick the book you will read together today.
- 27. Challenge your child to build an animal out of five pipe cleaners.
- 28. Ask your child *how* and *why* questions to give him practice reasoning.
- 29. Get some exercise with your child. Pick an activity you both enjoy.
- 30. Talk with your child about ways to handle stress, such as by taking deep breaths or talking about problems.
- 31. Make up a story with your child.

Helping Children Learn
TIPS Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



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November 2019

- 1. Let your child see you reading for pleasure.
- 2. Have a jump rope contest today. See how many jumps your child can do in a row.
- 3. Set aside some time today to work on a hobby with your child.
- 4. Read a textbook assignment with your child. Then ask her to tell you about it in her own words.
- 5. Is your child behaving well? Be sure to say how proud this makes you.
- 6. Make your child laugh! Tell a joke, read a funny story or poem, sing a silly song or draw a cartoon.
- 7. Give your child a calendar. Teach him to write down assignments, tests dates and school activities.
- 8. Play a game of charades with your child. Use hand gestures and motions to convey words and phrases.
- 9. Help your child figure out the average time she spends reading per day.
- 10. Take a fraction walk with your child and write down what you see: $\frac{3}{7}$ of the cars on your block are blue, $\frac{4}{5}$ of the houses have a gray roof.
- 11. Start a kitchen band. Use spoons, pans and lids for instruments. March around the house together.
- 12. Talk with your child about important events in the news.
- 13. Make up new compound words for familiar things. Perhaps your cat is a *purrcludler*.
- 14. When your child is unsuccessful at something, ask, "How could you do it differently next time?"
- 15. Listen to music without lyrics. What does it make your child think of?
- 16. Let your child plan dinner. How many food groups can he include?

Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 17. Help your child make a list of things, such as colors. Then have her put them in alphabetical order.
- 18. Have your child teach you something he needs to learn for homework. It's a great way to reinforce learning.
- 19. Play tic-tac-toe with your child.
- 20. Look over your child's homework. Give specific compliments and helpful criticism.
- 21. Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to someone who has helped her.
- 22. Talk to your child about peer pressure. Role-play ways to say *no* to things he knows are wrong.
- 23. Visit the library with your child. Check out a book about oceans.
- 24. Ask your child to write a story from the point of view of a pet.
- 25. Look for ways to volunteer as a family. Ask your child to help decide what to do.
- 26. Challenge your child to determine the direction of the wind by using a wet finger or by watching things blow.
- 27. Ask your child to tell *you* a bedtime story tonight.
- 28. At dinner, have everyone compliment each person at the table.
- 29. Display your child's best schoolwork. Change the display often.
- 30. Help your child use the internet to research events that occurred on the day she was born.

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