

SEPT.
2024



Social Emotional Spotlight

We have made it through the first three weeks of school! Starting the school year off strong requires an understanding the unique needs of gifted kids, who need tailored approaches to foster their intellectual and emotional development.

Gifted children often experience intense curiosity and may need challenging activities to stay engaged. Encouraging their interests and providing appropriate educational challenges can help keep them motivated. Additionally, supporting their emotional well-being is crucial, as gifted kids might face perfectionism and high expectations. Parents are encouraged to celebrate effort rather than just achievements, which helps manage pressure and build resilience.



Promoting social skills is another important aspect. Gifted children may struggle with peer interactions, so parents should help them develop meaningful relationships and learn collaboration. Encouraging a balanced life is also vital; gifted children benefit from a mix of structured activities and downtime to avoid burnout and ensure they have time for relaxation and hobbies.

Fostering independence by allowing children to take initiative and make decisions, while also setting realistic expectations and providing appropriate guidance, is crucial to helping them maintain a positive self concept. Most importantly, enjoy the journey of raising a gifted child. Embracing their uniqueness, promoting a growth mindset, and maintaining open communication can help both parents and children navigate the complexities of giftedness successfully. Overall, aim to create a supportive environment that balances intellectual stimulation with emotional support, ensuring gifted children can thrive and reach their full potential.

Blackburn, M. (2021, Sept. 22). 30 tips for parents of gifted kids from parents of gifted kids. Medium.com.
<https://medium.com/brightnow/30-tips-for-parents-and-educators-of-gifted-kids-from-parents-of-gifted-kids-5c1b0459859a>

Upcoming Dates

09/01- Parent Referral Window opens.

09/10- TAGT Parent Webinar. Balancing Brilliance: Nurturing Function and Mental Health in Gifted Kids.

09/30- Parent Referral Window Closes



HERE'S WHAT WE WERE UP TO THIS SUMMER!

Teams from several Pearland schools competed in the Future Problem Solvers International Competition at Indiana University. In order to qualify for this competition, teams first had to place high enough at the state competition.

Dawson High school student, Irene Shi, won Grand Champion in the individual Community Problem Solving event. Take a look at her award winning project here (click the TV image).

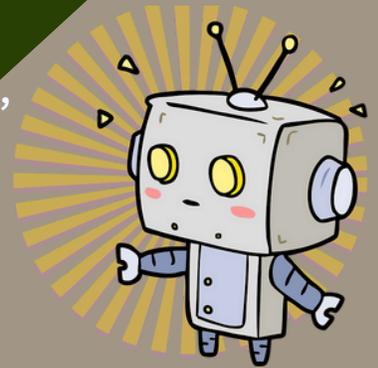
[Here more is info about FPSIC](#)

Future Problem Solvers International



Camp Pursuit

This July, 150 incoming 3rd - 6th graders had the opportunity to participate in Camp Pursuit, a week long camp where students choose their favorite courses in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. Check out the fun they had.





EXTRA! EXTRA!

Participation in extra curriculars not only helps to improve academic achievement (Fredricks, 2011), it also has a positive impact on a student's sense of self-worth (Blomfield & Barber, 2009) which, in turn has a positive impact on their learning environment. Pearland ISD offers several academic extra curriculars that may be of interest to your G/T child.



QUIZ BOWL 5-8

Calling all trivia buffs! Quiz Bowl offers students the chance to match their intellects with students from other middle schools and junior high schools across Pearland ISD. Students are tested in 2 categories, themed trivia, on a theme inspired by the current year's Academic Decathlon theme (when age appropriate) or other agreed upon theme, and Super Quiz focusing on general trivia knowledge.

FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVERS 5-12



A great way to develop problem solving skills that will carry over into higher education and careers, FPS students can work individually or with a team to learn and practice their problem-solving skills while engaging in critical thinking.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS 9-12 (DAWSON)



Dawson MUN aims to improve the diplomatic ability, charisma, speaking ability, and knowledge of its members. This is mainly done through meetings, organized discussions, and Model UN conferences.

- If you want to join, please contact us or simply attend the next meeting and inform us then! You can join our club at any time in the year. If you have any questions you can email us at dawsoneaglesmodelun@gmail.com.
- Check out the website: <https://dawsonmun.weebly.com/>

Check with your child's campus to see which of these clubs they offer!

Fredricks, J.A. (2011). Extracurricular participation and academic outcomes: Testing the over-scheduling hypothesis. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 41(3), 295-307.
Blomfield, C.J., & Barber, B.L. (2009). Brief report: Performing on the stage, the field or both? Australian adolescent extra curricular activity participation and self-concept. *Journal of Adolescents*, 32(3), 733-739.

ROBOTICS 5-12



Are you interested in developing coding, critical thinking, and design skills by joining an award-winning robotics team? If the answer is yes, then the Robotics program is for you! Check out your campus website on the "Clubs & Activities" page to learn more!



TMSCA 5-8

Is your child interested in Math and Science? Encourage them to join the TMSCA (Texas Math and Science Coaches Association) club at their campus. Given their choice of the 4 events: Number sense test, Calculator Applications test, Mathematics test, and Science test, students can strengthen their academic skills, improve problem-solving and critical thinking, and grow their teamwork and social skills!

ACADEMIC DECATHLON 9-12



The mission of Academic Decathlon is to promote learning and academic excellence among students of varying achievement levels by developing and providing multidisciplinary academic competitions using Academic Decathlon curricula. More information will be offered during course selection time, as this is an elective course offered at the high school level.