



November 2024

'Tis the Season to Stay Focused

Ready or not, the holidays are upon us. The sights and sounds of the season can be magical and wonderful. Still, for some students, they can also be distracting and overstimulating, and parents and teachers may find themselves asking, "How much longer until January?"

The holidays are everywhere - from grocery stores and fast food restaurants to TV commercials and social media. The excitement can make it difficult for students to focus. With that in mind, we have assembled some helpful strategies for you to get your student through December successfully.

First, setting expectations with your students and establishing and maintaining a routine is essential. Whatever your child's schedule entails during most of the year needs to remain in place during the holidays - chores, homework schedules, and bedtimes are included in this direction. Do not stray from what your child considers normal.

Second, help your student stay on track by checking on their assignments. Not necessarily for accuracy, but check in on your student's homework from time to time to make sure it's being completed. Students turning in their homework to their teachers on time is important to prevent missing grades at the end of the semester, which could lead to an overall lower grade in the class. It's easier for students to forget assignments when their minds are occupied with upcoming travel plans and spending time with their loved ones.

Finally, embrace this time of year by offering holiday-themed rewards for your students. It takes nearly double the amount of concentration to stay focused around the holiday season. Take time to reward your student(s) for working extra hard. It will help keep them motivated, and they'll appreciate the recognition for the extra effort they've put into their school work.



Did your student score exceptionally well on a test that they were worried about? Try taking them out to your local coffee shop for a hot chocolate in congratulations for a job well done. This doubles as a great opportunity for quality time to connect with your students.

Go to a Christmas lights show or holiday movie in December. Take the opportunity to connect with your students while rewarding them. These opportunities serve as a great time to catch up on your student's interests, goals, and what they could be struggling with at the time.

Incorporate holiday themes and activities into non-school hours. Read holiday-themed books at night, create holiday meal menus or plan for a way that you and your family can give back to a local charity to spread goodwill to others.

Setting expectations and rewarding your student with exciting activities in keeping with the holidays will help your child enjoy and celebrate the season while staying on track.

Gift the Gift of Time

The 30th Annual Gift of Time will take place on December 7 at Lancaster High School. This event brings together educators, students and the community for an afternoon of free fun and activities.

2024

Fairfield County Early Childhood Association Presents

30TH ANNUAL GIFT OF TIME

COME AND ENJOY **FREE** PHOTOS WITH SANTA,
ENGAGING ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS FOR
THE WHOLE FAMILY, AND MUCH MORE...
ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

DECEMBER 7TH

**LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL
1312 GRANVILLE PIKE, LANCASTER**

10 AM-12 PM

Need breakfast? Come enjoy pancakes at the
Kiwanis Pancake Festival in the LHS cafe
from 7:00am-1:00pm, tickets are available
for purchase at the door!

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND VENDORS THIS YEAR.

LANCASTER-FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY ACTION EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS,
LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL COSMETOLOGY, LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2027 CLASS OFFICERS,
LEARNING STEPS PRESCHOOL, FAIRFIELD UNION WOODWORKING CLASS,
FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL, OHIO UNIVERSITY INSPIRING EDUCATORS, OSU EXTENSION SNAP-ED,
FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, BOY SCOUT TROOP 165, DANE BOWEN D.D.S.,
SOUTHERN OHIO CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING, FISHER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL,
FAIRFIELD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, MID-OHIO PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES, CARESOURCE,
LANCASTER-FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY ACTION RECYCLING, LANCASTER CITY SCHOOL PRESCHOOL,
LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL TEACHING & CHILDCARE ACADEMY, FAIRFIELD UNION CONSUMER SCIENCE
CLASS, FAIRFIELD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, FAIRFIELD COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, UNITED WAY OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY,
FAIRFIELD COUNTY DISTRICT LIBRARY, LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT, AHA-A HANDS-ON ADVENTURE,
LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL RISE UP ART ALLIANCE, LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY,
LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM, LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL INTERACT CLUB, KIM'S KIDZ PHOTO
PROPS AND BACKDROPS, SOUTH CENTRAL POWER COMPANY AND MEIJER

Questions: Contact Cathy Crawford, Michelle Huff or Laurie Clark at fairfieldcountyecca@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



NO SCHOOL

- November 27 - 29
- December 23 - 31
- January 1- 3

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOLS



Pigging Out for a Purpose!

Lancaster High School's Annual Gales Grub fundraiser took place recently and it was a roaring success. Students were able to purchase pizza, donuts, and pop for \$1 each during lunch periods. The food was donated by local restaurants and staff members. Over \$1,200 was raised during Gales Grub and proceeds will fund the Holiday Adopt-a-Family Initiative where student groups shop with the Fairfield County Sheriff's Department to support families from our school community.



The following businesses donated items to Gales Grub: Cristy's Pizza, Nick's Pizza, Cardo's Pizza, Papa John's Pizza, Tiberio's Pizza, Little Caesar's Pizza, Massey's Pizza, Pizza Cottage, Zane Trace Station, Pizza Hut, Sugar Bear's Pizza, Donut World, and Tim Horton's.

Thomas Ewing

General Sherman



It's an honor to be able to recognize the men and women who have served in the military in any capacity. Our annual Veterans Day Breakfast was educational and inspirational for everyone who attended.

Tallmadge Elementary



On November 11, 2024, Tallmadge Elementary staff and students lined the hallways to honor our nation's heroes with a special Veterans Day Assembly! They celebrated and thanked the brave men and women in our community who have served in the U.S. military. The assembly featured our 4th-grade Music Club and student speakers who expressed our gratitude to our local veterans.

Gorsuch West Elementary



Deputy Kristy Peck was honored at the 2024 Freedom's Never Free Event. Deputy Peck served in the Army National Guard and deployed to Iraq. Deputy Peck serves as our School Resource Officer, along with therapy K9, Nala. We are proud to have them both in our school.

Medill Elementary



Students at Medill Elementary also honored veterans with their own recognition event. The Choir Club entertained veterans with songs and words of thanks, then all students and staff lined the hallways to show their appreciation as the veterans paraded through.

Preschool Program



A huge shout out to Fleet Feet Columbus for supporting our female athletes participating in Girls on the Run! Fleet Feet received a donation and awarded our team as one of the teams to be fitted for brand new running shoes.

Mt. Pleasant Elementary



A huge thank you to Dr. Jeromey Sheets, Assistant Superintendent and Director of Elementary Education for Lancaster City Schools, for sitting in and participating in math stations with Mrs. Pentiuk's kindergarten class.

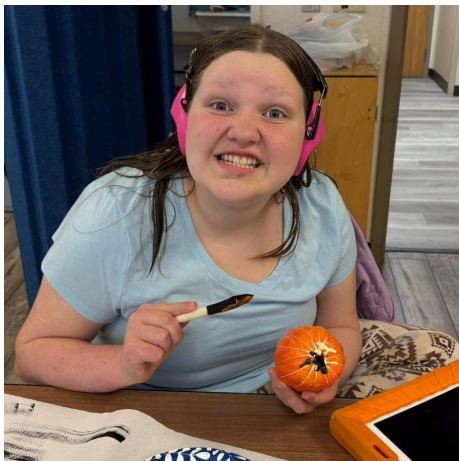


Preschool students will have a new appreciation for the dynamic floats they see when watching the Thanksgiving Day Parade because they have learned about the history of the parade and the man who invented the balloons!

Tarhe Trails Elementary



Students who received recognition at the 2nd and 3rd grade First Semester Awards Assembly also were cheered on by the varsity cheerleaders from Lancaster High School! Way to go!



Bridges

Our friends in the Bridges program got crafty this month by painting pumpkins. We love to see you express your creativity!

Stay Connected. Stay Involved. Stay Informed.



What is Portrait of a Graduate?

An infographic titled "PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE" with the Lancaster City Schools logo in the top right. It is divided into three columns, each with an icon in a yellow circle: a graduation cap for Learning, hands holding a heart for Caring, and a ribbon medal for Succeeding. Each column has a header, a definition of a graduate, and a list of skills or outcomes.

LEARNING (KNOWLEDGE):	CARING (ATTITUDE):	SUCCEEDING (SKILLS):
A Lancaster City Schools graduate is prepared to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Succeed in postsecondary education, military service, and/ or obtain gainful employment• Work independently and collaboratively in a team environment• Demonstrate competency in the core curriculum for the State of Ohio• Think about information creatively and critically to solve problems	A Lancaster City Schools graduate demonstrates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A high level of social, emotional and interpersonal skills• Empathy and respect towards others• Confidence in their abilities• Pride in our community	A Lancaster City Schools Graduate demonstrates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resilience, grit and a strong work ethic• Effective leadership skills• Ability and desire to meet individual goals• Integrity, reliability, and a healthy lifestyle• Effective and professional communication skills



Lancaster City Schools has been the place to be for learning, caring, and succeeding for the past several years. As part of our mission and vision for the district, we developed our Portrait of a Graduate. This program was integrated into our district to build bridges to life beyond school. Our students will be prepared to succeed in life after high school while showing a high level of social-emotional skills, and effective and professional communication. With the strong community that unites Lancaster City Schools, we can work together to better prepare our students for success beyond school.

NEW LINKS BELOW!
Quickly find the information you need.

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