



The Charlton Elementary School Cubbie Chronicle



Message from the Speech

Travel with Communication

From www.superduperinc.com

By Adrienne DeWitt, M.A., CCC-SLP

Many families will be on the road during the holiday season visiting relatives or enjoying time off from school and work. On these adventures, it is important to remember that language learning goes beyond the four walls of a classroom or a therapy room. Whether by trains, planes, or automobiles, family vacations are a great way to generalize language skills to new environments. Travel also bonds families together, raises cultural awareness, teaches organization and problem-solving skills, and is just a whole lot of fun! Here are some ways to make a holiday trip not only enjoyable but a learning experience for a child who is developing language or has a language disability.

- Involve your child in the preparation - There is a lot to do before a big trip. Have your child work on following directions while packing ("Put the green shirt in the suit case before you put in the blue jeans.") Also, involve your child in the planning! You can target social conversation by talking about preferences with your plan ("Do you like to go to ice skating or snowboarding?" "I like skating better because...")
- Talk, talk, and then talk some more! - Describe everything around you, whether it is the architecture, the cars on the road, or the decorations on a tree. By describing your environment, you are providing a language model for your child that helps develop sentence structure and vocabulary. To target social conversation, discuss feelings as your family moves through its adventure (e.g. "I was really excited to see my cousins," or "I did not like the tour because my feet were tired.").
- Sequence events - Before your start your endeavor, go over the sequence of events to expect. For example, when going to the airport, review the steps that it takes to board the plane (e.g. "First the taxi takes us to the terminal, then we get out and go to the desk to check our bags, then we wait in line and go through the scanner, finally we go to the gate and get on the plane."). You can also sequence your itinerary (e.g. "First we are going to the Statue of Liberty, then Ellis Island, and then Rockefeller Center to see the tree!"). Ask your child what the sequence of events was after the day is over. Sequencing not only aides in executive functioning and story comprehension, it can also help children who struggle with transitions to feel comfortable with a plan. Use pictures to help visualize the steps if needed.
- Write about the experience - After the day is done, work on writing and memory skills by logging events in a journal. The child can write about some of the items he/she saw or a favorite part of the adventure. For struggling writers, encourage drawing pictures, provide a word bank of key words to use, and have a discussion on what the child is going to write before he/she starts putting pen to paper. Journaling is also a great way to look back at your vacation and remember experiences, like a photograph with words.

Have a blast discovering new lands and new communication skills this holiday season!

Mrs. Lisa Wondolowski

DECEMBER



Upcoming Events

12/4 ~ Report Cards posted to the Portal

12/5 ~ Early Dismissal ~ 12:15PM for P/T Conferences, 12:05 PM for Parent Pick-ups

12/10 ~ Make-Up Choose to Be Nice Club



Question Starters for Parent/Teacher Conferences

December 5, 2019

- How is my child doing socially?
- What are my child's strengths?
- In what areas does my child need improvement?
- Is my child at grade level?
- Is my child trying his/her best?
- Does my child need extra help in any areas?
- What can I do at home to support what you're doing in the classroom?

With winter approaching, below is a reference for school times.

Morning 1st bell ~ 8:35am

2nd bell - class starts ~ 8:50am

Afternoon

Bell ~ 2:55pm Parent pick up

Bus dismissal ~ 3:05pm

Early Release ($\frac{1}{2}$ day) ~ 12:05 pm parent pick up, 12:15 pm bus dismissal

1st Bell

2nd Bell ~ class starts

1-hr delay

9:35am

9:50am

90minutes

10:05am

10:20am

2-hr delay

10:35am

10:50am



A Message From Our Nurse

With the winter months coming, I wanted to review some important information with you about conjunctivitis (pink eye). Pink eye is the inflammation or infection of the outer lining of the white part of the eye and eyelid. Pink eye is very common and can be highly contagious. Pink eye can be caused by bacteria/viruses (highly contagious) or allergens/irritants (not contagious). Symptoms include pink/red color in the white of eyes, swelling of eyelids, watery/itchy eyes (most children of this age group complain that their eye hurts), yellow/green discharge, and crusting of eyelids/lashes esp. in the morning. If your child is having any of the



symptoms previously stated, please have your child evaluated by a doctor prior to coming to school. A student diagnosed with pink eye must be treated with antibiotic eye drops/ointment for 24 hours prior to coming back to school. The best way to protect your family from getting conjunctivitis is to encourage frequent hand-

washing. (Kindergarten parents ask your child to show you how to be a superstar hand washer.)

Cleaning all common areas and toys with a disinfectant, avoiding touching eyes with unwashed hands, and not sharing towels/pillows can prevent the spread of pink eye. Please visit my web-site regularly for updates on school health related information, important dates, & health forms.

<https://sites.google.com/dcrsd.org/mrs-moisan-nurses-corner/home>

Happy Holidays, Stephanie Moisan~ CES School Nurse



SUBS NEEDED

CES is in need of substitute teachers and assistants. If you are interested, please speak to Mrs. Pacheco.



. Thank you for coming to our McCoy's Karate Parent Night Out Event!

**** Upcoming Events!****

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and Scholastic Book Fair for Charlton Elementary and Heritage School!

Our teachers work so hard and we like to show them our appreciation by hosting a luncheon during parent/teacher conferences on Thursday, December 5th. Check out event details on our Facebook page and email to sign up.

Also, while you're having your parent/teacher conference, swing by the Scholastic Book Fairs to support our schools. We are looking for helpers to set up, help run the fair during 1st and 2nd shifts, and a few extra hands to help pack everything up at the end of the night. If you're interested, message us on Facebook or send us an email at CharltonPTO@yahoo.com

Spirit Wear!

SPIRIT WEAR!!! 🎁 Show your Charlton Schools pride by ordering spirit wear! Exclusively online, these goodies are only available until December 3rd. Don't miss out!!! <https://charltonschoolspiritwear.itemorder.com/sale>

Holiday Kids Shop and Vendor Fair

Join us at Heritage School to let the kids do some holiday shopping! Make a list of the people who they should buy for, then our student helpers will take them through to purchase gifts and wrap them! While your child shops, you can check out the cafeteria for refreshments, pick up your scrip gift cards, and do some of your own shopping! There are a few vendor spots still available. Please email mjalbuque@gmail.com or charltonpto@yahoo.com.

Worcester Railers vs the Marine Mariners

Looking for a night out during the December school vacation! Join the Charlton PTO for a fun night out at the Worcester Railers game on December 28th. See details on our Facebook page & flyers that went home!



Amazon Smiles

Do you want an easy way to give back to the PTO this holiday season? An easy way is to go to [you smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and make sure Charlton Parent Teacher Organization is your charity of choice. Amazon will send a portion of your purchase to the PTO.