



Dear Parents,

In the coming weeks, King's Way students will have an opportunity to give to two great causes. We talked about this with our elementary students today in chapel, in a lesson we called "Meet the Need". This will be a dual-purpose coin drive to benefit two great causes: The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and a ministry in Haiti called Children of Promise Inc.. We will be asking students to collect spare change (even pennies are good!) to help others during these next two weeks. King's Way students started having annual giving drives for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) a couple years ago, after my son Luke was diagnosed with leukemia. Two years later, my son now is in good health — God has been very good! Our family benefited from the medical research that LLS funds. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is the world's largest funder of blood cancer research. This coin drive for LLS coincides with their national school coin drive, which they call "Pennies For Patients".

After the catastrophic earthquake in Haiti, many students have expressed interest in giving support to the people in the country. King's Way's parent church, the First Church of God, has long supported an orphanage called House of Blessings. The mission group behind this orphanage (Children of Promise) are now working at ground level in Haiti's recovery. The money that students may choose to give to Children of Promise will go directly to this orphanage ministry and their role in Haiti's recovery.

The important thing I want you to know is that we want these coin drives to be completely voluntary, and without external motivation. We will not be holding any competitions to see which class, grade, or student raises the most money. We are not asking students to go door-to-door, or to talk to your friends. In fact, we are telling students that your family may already have other ways you plan to "Meet The Need" (some of you likely attend a church that is supporting Haiti relief). We simply want to provide the opportunity for students and families that want to demonstrate real compassion. You, as parents, can decide how you would like your children to participate.

The coin drive will begin next Monday, February 1, and will continue until Feb. 12 (the start of Mid- Winter Break). If you would like more information about these two agencies, here is the link to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society [http://www.lls.org/hm_lls] and to Children of Promise [<http://echildrenofpromise.org/NewsViews/WhatsHappening/tabid/85/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/53/Haitian-Childrens-Homes-Are-In-Rubble.aspx>].

Thank you!

Steve Jensen-Elementary Principal

Sincerely,
Steven D. Jensen
Elementary Principal



KWCS 7th Annual Dinner Auction

March 13, 2010

Hilton in Downtown Vancouver

*Proceeds will benefit tuition assistance and Science Department improvements. Please join the Auction Committee in praying for the success of this event. **Your donations are gratefully accepted in any of the school offices before February 12th.** If you would like to learn more about the auction, purchase tickets or become a sponsor, please visit our website at auction.kwcs.org or contact Marilyn Roseburrrough at 816-1225.*

ALL ABOUT READING

Learning to read is the single most important academic skill that must be learned to be successful in school. Yet most parents are not aware of the five areas that highly impact their children's ability to learn to read. The articles in this column are written to provide up to date information to help parents become more informed in these critical areas key to reading acquisition across the grade levels.

Phonemic Awareness

The first and most foundational area that must be acquired for reading acquisition, as noted by the National Reading Panel in 2000, is phonemic awareness. **Phonemic awareness** (or phoneme awareness) refers to the understanding that the sounds of spoken language-phonemes-work together to make words, and phonemes can be substituted and rearranged to create different words. Phonemic awareness includes the ability to identify, think about, and work with the individual sounds in spoken words. Phonemic awareness helps children learn how to read and spell, by allowing them to combine or blend the separate sounds of a word to say the word (e.g., "/c/ /a/ /t/ - cat"). What Works Clearinghouse, U.S. Dept. of Ed.

In **Straight Talk About Reading**, Dr. Louisa Moats and Susan Hall, two leading experts in the area of reading, discuss reading research that indicates the **mastery** benchmarks of phonemic awareness skills. They are:

Age 3 – rhyming by pattern, recitation of rhymes

Age 4 – 50% of children can count syllables

Age 5 - 90% of children are able to count syllables

Age 6 - initial consonant matching, rhyme identification, pulling apart the beginning and ending sounds of words, rhyme identification, 70% of children can count the sounds in a word

Age 7 – blend 3 sounds, separate 3-4 sounds, spell phonetically, take a sound out of a word and recombine the sounds

Age 8 – take apart consonant cluster sounds (such as st, cl), and deletion within clusters (separate s and t in st)

Developing the ability to hear and recognize sounds is not easy for many adults and children. In fact, 25% of the general population (across cultural and socio- economic lines) do not acquire these skills on their own. This population must have direct, explicit instruction for phonemic awareness skill to develop. These abilities must be in place before phonics will make sense to a child. Lack of phonemic awareness skills has been proven repeatedly to be the primary causal reason for reading and spelling disabilities.

King's Way Kindergarten curriculum includes instruction in phonemic awareness. At King's Way we begin assessing this area in early Kindergarten through 1st grade with the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills and MAP Assessment.

What might it look like when phonemic awareness does not develop as expected?

- ◆ Students struggle to define the beginning, ending or middle sounds of words
- ◆ Students cannot switch sounds around in play with words
- ◆ They will struggle to understand rhyming
- ◆ They may be able to memorize words for a spelling test, but not be able to spell many other words correctly or not be able to spell those same words correctly in their daily writing due to their inability to recognize all the sounds in the word.

ALL ABOUT READING, continued

What activities might a parent do with their child to help further develop phonemic awareness?

Sound Matching: Do the words moon and mail begin with the same sound? Which word in a list of words start with a different sound (bag, bed, bone, mat, base)?

Sound Blending: Use a puppet. Tell your child that the puppet likes to say words in pieces. Ask your child to help you say the whole word together. Ti ger. Pan da. Chris to pher. St eel. W I n d.

Substituting Phonemes in a Word: Ask your child to think about what word they would get if they left out a sound in a word - Say ball, now say ball without the sound of b. What if the first sound in ball is changed to t?

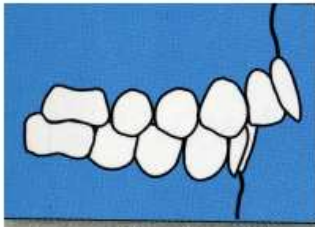
For further activities and information I would recommend **Straight Talk About Reading**, by Susan L. Hall and Louisa C. Moats, c. 1999, Contemporary Books.

If you believe your child is struggling with phonemic awareness do not wait to get further help. It is more difficult for children to catch up to their peers in reading when help is delayed. Children that struggle with phonemic awareness do not “catch on” to these skills as they mature, contrary to popular opinion. They must receive more intensive instruction in order to master these foundational skills before phonics instruction will begin to make sense.

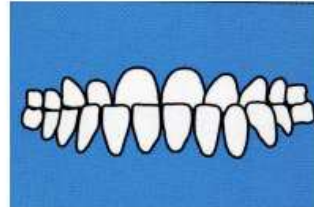
The Academic Support Department can assess this area to see what extent students are struggling. The ASD also provides families access to further instruction in phonemic awareness and other reading skills. Contact Cheryl Anthony at 360-816-1275 if you would like to further discuss your child’s reading progress.

Written by Cheryl Anthony, MS Ed. Cheryl is the current Director of the Academic Support Department. She has a Master’s Degree in Education, focusing on curriculum and instruction, along with a reading endorsement. She is certified in the Barton Reading & Spelling System at the Advanced Level, and is a Dyslexia Testing Specialist. She has taught in both public and private schools for a number of years, is trained in several Lindamood Bell Programs, Handwriting Without Tears, Excellence in Writing, and has extensive knowledge in the area of reading acquisition. She is the current president of the Oregon Branch of the International Dyslexia Association which serves Southwest Washington as well as all of Oregon.

COMMON ORTHODONTIC PROBLEMS



OVERBITE -
upper teeth
protrude

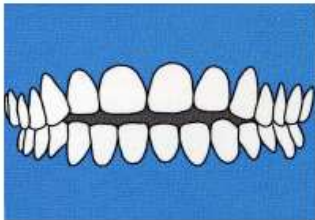


together with
space between
the front teeth

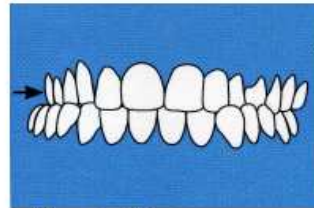
UNDERBITE

- Lower front teeth protrude

CROSSBITE - upper back teeth fit
inside lower teeth



OPENBITE -
Back teeth are



information

More
available at www.brownorthodontics.com.

Constance M. Brown, DDS

Orthodontics Exclusively

Special promotions offered to King's Way families. No referral required.

NURSING NOTES

If your child received the H1N1 vaccine

And is under the age of 10

Be sure to get the second dose

so they are fully protected from the virus.

Children over the age of 10 do not need a second dose.

If you or your child have not had the

H1N1 or seasonal flu vaccine,

It is not too late.

Questions: contact Jackie Baker RN at

816-1232 or JackieBaker@kwcs.org.



Roller Skate with your friends at Golden Skate.....

Our schools times are from 3:30—5:30 pm on the following dates:

February 9, 2010 * March 9, 2010 * April 13, 2010 * June 8, 2010

- ◆ **Please do not use your cell phone while driving in the KW parking lot.** There is a lot of activity in the parking lot each day and we want everyone to be safe.
- ◆ **Carpool**
Please check carpool listings on the website to see if you can help a family in need.
- ◆ **Learning Center Registered/Non-Registered Students**
Learning Center charges \$100 registration fee and then charges \$8.00 per hour. Partial hours are treated as whole hours. For non-registered students who are admitted to the Learning Center because of arriving before 8:15 a.m. or being left after 3:15 p.m., parents are charged \$16.00 per hour. Partial hours are treated as whole hours.
- ◆ **School Hours**
School will begin each morning at 8:30 a.m. and students will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. Students may arrive as early as 8:15 a.m. **Students arriving before 8:15 a.m. or left after 3:20 p.m. will be admitted to the Learning Center and charged an hourly rate.**

January

29 Report cards home (4th-5th grade)

February

9 2010-11 Kindergarten Parent Preview 6:30 pm in Room 120
15-19 No School—Winter Break

March

1 Re-enrollment begins for current KW Families
 13 KW Auction 5:30 pm (tickets required)
 16 3rd Grade Music Program 7:00 pm
 17 Open Enrollment begins for "New to KW Families"
19 Grandparents Day / End of 2nd Trimester
 23 Spring Choir Concert / 5th-12th Grade / 7:00 pm
 26 Half Day / No PM Kindergarten /Teacher In-Service
 (AM KG 8:30-11:15 am / 1st-12th 8:30-11:30 am)
29-April 2 No School—Spring Break

You can find the King's Way month-to-month calendar at www.kwcs.org to see what is happening each month. Be sure to check it monthly for new additions.