



Short Notes from Principal Long



Another year is down to the final days. The 2016-17 school year has been a fast-fun filled year. Here are a few reminders for you as we prepare for the end of the year.

1. Final grade cards and end of year testing reports will come home with your student on the last day of school. Be sure to check your child's backpack for this important information.
2. Movement Exploration Day is scheduled for May 17th. The public is invited to come and watch the kids have fun with their activities this day. We will begin at 8:30 and continue throughout the day.
3. Beginning Monday May 1st we will no longer allow food service accounts to go into a negative balance so we are trying to help provide you adequate time to send in plenty of funds to carry your families through the end of the school year. If there are any questions please do not hesitate to contact (620)364-8672 Diana Hess ext.: 4009.
4. We want to encourage you to sign your child up to be part of the Coffey County Library Summer Reading Program. All classrooms will be taking walking field trips and the students will be learning information about the program. Please be sure to check it out and help your child keep their reading skills up over the summer.

Studies suggest reading 20 minutes a day for happy, healthy minds. We know with busy schedules and other priorities, it's hard to get in 20 minutes.

But why is reading so important?

20 minutes a day = 3,600 minutes in a school year = 1,800,000 words = better vocabulary = better writing = higher success and it goes on and on . . .

Here are some tips to help get those 20 minutes in:

- Keep a few books in the car for "waiting around times" or for ease of grabbing as you're dashing off.
- Have older siblings read to younger siblings. This is beneficial to both parties.
- Instead of reading before bedtime when kids (and parents) are tired, try reading together at a different time of day (and get a little extra "quality time" in too!) Try the strategy of "I read a page, you read a page" if your child is reluctant.

- Have different types of books around that fit different lengths of time you/your child may have: story/chapter book, book with CD (younger kids), a kid's magazine, fact books/world record books.
- Keep books in places that are easily accessible for your child to pick up and explore.
- Model this behavior as an adult. What better example could you give your child? Reading for enjoyment is important for adults too!