

# UNION ELEMENTARY @ LA PORTE CITY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



ISSUE #19

UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
"EDUCATION TO MEET TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES"  
"ALL IN - EVERY CHILD - EVERY DAY"



JAN. 4, 2019

## Next Week's Schedule

- Mon., Jan. 7** - 84th Day of School - Day 6  
- Regular Day of School  
- 6:00pm PTO Meeting
- Tues., Jan. 8** - 85th Day of School - Day 1  
- Regular Day of School
- Wed., Jan. 9** - 86th Day of School - Day 2  
- Regular Day of School
- Thurs., Jan. 10** - 87th Day of School - Day 3  
- Regular Day of School
- Fri., Jan. 11** - 88th Day of School - Day 4  
- Regular Day of School

## PTO Meeting is Monday

This upcoming Monday will be another PTO meeting. The meeting will be held at 6:00 pm in the LPC elementary building library. Come join the group and assist in planning activities.

## Late Starts & Early Outs

This winter season we will try to use all of our possible options to try to have school, while working around winter weather conditions that could involve poor driving conditions due to snow, wind, and ice. Just a reminder that inclement weather announcements about the late starts, early dismissals, and no school will be made on the radio and television stations listed below. These changes are always done with the safety of our students and staff in mind.

**AM Radio:** KXEL-1540, KWLO-1330, WMT-600, KOEL-950

**FM Radio:** KOKZ-105.7, KFMW-108, WMT-96.5, KKCW-98.5

**Television:** KWLL-7, KGAN-2, KCRG-9

## Holiday Break Reading Challenge

**Holiday Break Reading Challenge forms are due January 9.** Over break, we strongly encouraged you to read with, and/or listen to your child read. We knew that it is a busy time, but it was a GREAT way to keep reading while enjoying the holidays to pick different, fun ways to read over holiday break! **You have until January 9 to turn in your forms to your classroom teacher.** Depending on the grade your child is in determines how he/she will complete each activity and meet the goal.

## Upcoming Dates

- Jan. 3 - Classes Resume from Winter Break  
Jan. 14 - 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Ends  
Jan. 21 - No School - Professional Development  
Jan. 24 - Report Cards Sent Home with Students

## 2019 New Year's Resolutions

It is that time of year again that people attempt to identify and then stick to a New Year's Resolution. At school we will be having each class talk about and make a plan for the 2019 year. Listed below are some ideas that parents can try. These will assist your child in practicing and improving their reading skills. Take a look at these tips and try some of them for the upcoming year. You might find that they will turn into daily habits and normal routines.

1. Read to your child on a daily basis.
2. Provide your child a quiet, comfortable place to read and study.
3. Encourage your child to develop a personal library and to add to it regularly.
4. Provide your child with a wide range of experiences.
5. Talk to your child on a daily basis about school, work, etc.
6. Praise your child for at least one success or improvement daily.
7. Hug your child at least once a day.
8. Respect your child as an individual who has unique talents and abilities.
9. Provide family activities which encourage your child to grow in different ways.
10. Encourage your child to view reading as an enjoyable and fulfilling lifetime experience.



## Everyday Reading Opportunities

Finding time to read is an important part of developing literacy skills for all kids. And there are many easy and convenient ways to make reading a part of each day — even when it's tough to find time to sit down with a book.

### Finding the Reading Moments

Car trips, errands, and waits in checkout lines and the doctor's office are all opportunities for reading. Keep books or magazines in your car, diaper bag, or backpack to pull out whenever you're going to be in one place for a while. Even if you can't finish a book, read a few pages or discuss some of the pictures.

Encourage older kids to bring favorite books and magazines along wherever you go. While it's tempting to provide electronic games and readers, be sure to alternate electronic media with plenty of opportunities to read traditional print books.

Other reading moments to take advantage of throughout the day:

- in the morning, before breakfast or getting dressed
- after dinner, when kids are relaxed
- bath time (with plastic, waterproof books)
- bedtime

Reading opportunities are everywhere you go. While riding in the car, for example, encourage kids to spot words and letters (on billboards, store signs, etc.), turning it into a game ("Who'll be the first to find a letter B?"). While shopping, ask your preschooler to "read" pictures on boxes and tell you about them. Point out the difference between the words and the pictures on the boxes. Encourage older kids to tell you what's on the shopping list.

Even daily tasks like cooking can provide reading moments. You can read recipes aloud to younger kids, and older kids can assist you as you cook by telling you how much flour to measure. Give your child a catalog to read while you sort through the mail. Ask relatives to send your child letters, e-mail, or text messages, and read them together. Help your child create letters or messages to send back to the relatives. These types of activities help kids see the purpose of reading and of print.

Even when you're trying to get things done, you can encourage reading. While cleaning, for instance, you might ask your child to read a favorite book to you while you work. Younger kids can talk to you about the pictures in their favorite books.

Make sure kids get some time to spend quietly with books, even if it means cutting back on other activities, like watching TV or playing video games.

Most important, be a reader yourself. Kids who see their parents reading are likely to imitate them and become readers, too!

Reviewed by: Carol A. Quick, EdD  
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