Emotional Wellness During the Holidays!

Please join us on Dec. 10th at 10:00AM

A conversation with community experts on how we can thrive during this holiday season and connect with our families like never before.

Register for your Zoom invite
https://brevardschoolsorg.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZyt6dpqjoIGNXX7blAHnqVSw8k3Y3phX

Fun activities keep learning alive for your child over winter break

Your child looks at the calendar and imagines the joy of having free time for the entire winter school break. You look at the same blank squares on the calendar and have a mild moment of panic.

To keep from hearing “I’m bored” during your child’s time off from school, here are some activities that will keep her learning:

- Help your child focus on someone other than herself. This is the season for the “I wants.” Insist that your family take part in an activity that will help those less fortunate.
- Prepare food together. Nearly every culture has some special foods associated with the holiday season. With your child, prepare foods you remember from your childhood. Share your memories. Or do some research and cook a dish you’ve never tried.
- Select a movie that is based on a book. After you and your child finish reading the book, watch the movie together. Discuss how the two are alike and how they are different.
- Encourage your child to learn more about the past and your family history by talking with grandparents, aunts, uncles—even you. Help her come up with a list of questions to ask, such as, “What was school like for you when you were my age?” and “What trends were popular?” She can record the conversations, write them down, or just listen.

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Show your child that reading is enjoyable and rewarding

Strong reading skills make it easier to learn every school subject. But experts say that to build reading abilities, children must want to read. Unfortunately, many kids just aren’t interested.

To inspire your child to read:

- Listen to audiobooks together. This is an effective way to show a reluctant reader how interesting books can be. You can download audiobooks from the library, or record yourself reading aloud. Encourage your child to follow along with the book while listening.
- Follow current events. Is there a developing news story that interests your child? Read the latest reports together each night.
- Sign your child up for a pen pal. Kids love receiving mail and learning about life in other countries. Ask your child’s teacher or a librarian about how to get involved.
- Take a virtual field trip. Challenge your child to research online about attractions in your area, such as museums. Then ask him to be your tour guide through their websites and share what he’s learned.
- Give reading coupons. Show your child that you think reading is special by giving him reading coupons. Some might be for 30 minutes of reading with you. Others might be for a new book. Reading coupons also make great rewards for good behavior.

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Simple strategies can help your child master math vocabulary

When children learn math, they also need to learn a whole new vocabulary. If they have to stop to think about words like product or quotient, they won’t be focused on doing the math.

Just as your child needs to commit basic math facts to memory, she also needs to know many math terms. So make a game of learning them.

Here are a few activities to try:

- Play Math Concentration. Write a math term on an index card. Write its definition on another card. Then place five or six pairs of cards face down. Your child can only turn over two cards at a time. The goal is to make a match by turning over a math term and its correct definition.
- Link math symbols to math words. Have your child create flash cards with a symbol on one side and the word it represents on the other. Use the flash cards to help your child review.
- Create visual aids that show a term doing the thing it represents. The math term circumference, for example, is the distance around the edge of a circle. So your child could write the word circumference around the edge of a circle.
- Make connections. Help your child connect new terms to concepts she is already familiar with. Is she learning about centimeters? Talk about how there are 100 cents in a dollar, 100 years in a century, and 100 centimeters in a meter.

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Save the Date:

Be on the lookout for more information about the following events:

December 21—January 1—Winter Break
January 4—Students return to school
January 25—29—Literacy Week
January 28—Virtual Literacy Night

Reminders:

⇒ As per the BPS dress code, Students in K-6 must wear shoes that are safe and appropriate for recess and physical education. Students must wear shoes that have a strap around the back of the foot, slides are not acceptable.

⇒ Please make sure that your child has a working pair of headphones, e-learners and brick and mortar students. This allows for students to participate in all lessons and computer programs with fidelity.

- Create and keep a family journal. Everyone can share thoughts, reminders and accomplishments.
- Count down to a special event. Use paper strips to make a chain, with one link for every day. Let your child remove one link each night.
- Ask your child to write your shopping list before you go to the grocery store.
- Make today Dictionary Day. Talk with your child about new words that she thinks should be in the dictionary.
- Ask your child to choose a country and learn more about it.
- Make an "I Am Special" scrapbook with your child.
- Build a house of cards with your child. Challenge him to make the base as stable as possible.
- Ask your child to name a low-cost activity that she would like to make an annual family tradition. Then start it!
- Have an indoor snowball fight with cotton balls.
- Holidays have you stressed? Ask your child to help. As kids share the responsibility, they appreciate the outcome even more.
- Let your child blow up a balloon and then pop it. Together, research why it makes a loud noise.
- Give your child a piece of paper to decorate using paint and sponges. Use his finished design to wrap a gift for a loved one.
- Look online or at the library for a chart of the phases of the moon. Together, compare what you see each night to the chart.
- Help your child clean out her closet and pass on gently-used toys or clothes to other families.
- Have your child design a new cover for a much-loved book.

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Media Center News Update

Students have the opportunity to read e-books online using SORA which they can access through Launchpad as well as MyOn which is also on Launchpad. Younger students might enjoy our Tumblebooks subscription. Reading for personal pleasure and enjoyment is one of the most important things a child can do. Using the Public Library is also encouraged. Please consider getting your child their own library card.

Students have also started to check out books once again from the Media Center. We are taking all Covid precautions with the books. When we went on break last spring, many books unfortunately were not returned. No student will be charged for any book from last spring, but we are hoping that you can check around your house and send back any Oak Park Media Center book(s) with a barcode that you find. Students have been reminded about missing books as they check out this year. Students will be responsible for any books that they borrow this school year.

Oak Park Clinic Needs

Our clinic needs the following clothing items for our students who have an “emergency.” Clothing can be used but must be clean. Thank you so much.

Boys: Short, pants and shirts, new underwear (sizes 6-14)

Girls: Tops, slacks and socks (sizes 6-14)

Shoes for both boys and girls, all sizes

Title I News

Oak Park’s 2019-2020 Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been approved. You can view a copy on our website, https://www.brevardschools.org/OakParkES, or in the parent notebook in the front office. A hard copy can be requested by emailing Gisko.lisa@brevardschools.org and translation is available upon request.


Notification to Parents of Out of Field Teachers

In compliance with The Elementary and Secondary Education Act Sec. 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii) and Florida law 1012.42, Oak Park Elementary is required to notify families when a teacher is classified as out of field for the subject matter and grade level they have been assigned to. Brevard Public Schools is committed to providing the highest quality education to its students by hiring effective and skilled teachers.

Notificación a los padres de maestros clasificados fuera de campo

En cumplimiento de la Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria Sec. 1112 (e) (1) (B) (ii) y la Ley de Florida 1012.42, (ingrese el nombre de su escuela) se requiere que se les notifique a las familias cuando un maestro está clasificado fuera del campo para la materia y el nivel de grado al que han sido asignados. Las Escuelas Públicas de Brevard se comprometen a brindar educación de la más alta calidad a sus estudiantes mediante la contratación de maestros eficaces y capacitados.