



# Rommelt News

October 2013

South Williamsport Area  
School District

## Thoughts From Mr. Woodley, Principal (5-6)

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We have already completed one month of school and we have gotten off to a fantastic start. It is exciting to see the students working hard in the classroom and seeing their eagerness to learn.

This month we have a couple of special activities planned for the students. On Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, the fire department will be here to conduct fire prevention activities with the students. This is a great opportunity for our students to review fire prevention safety in their homes. Please take a few minutes to discuss the activities and an emergency plan with your family.

On Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be taking the students to the Community Arts Center to see the show Jungle Jack Hanna. Mr. Hanna will be bringing his expertise with animals to the Community Arts Center to entertain many local school students with his morning matinee. We will be sure to be entertained with the many different wild animals he will bring with him.

Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, will be the annual Mummer's Parade. This year the school district will be having a float in the parade to promote literacy. I need to give a standing ovation to Mrs. Flerlage for all her efforts and drive to bring a book to every child on the parade route. We have collected over 15,000 books to pass out during the parade. We would like to thank all the businesses that donated money and to the many parents and students that donated books. We also need to thank the South Williamsport Elementary PTO for all their help throughout the past year with collecting and sorting books. This could not have been achieved without everyone's efforts.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage parents to check your child's agenda book every night. Every student has an agenda book and should be using it to write down their homework assignments. Please check their agenda book each night and ask them to show you their assignments even if they say they have them done. When students begin missing homework assignments, most of the time they are not using their agenda book. Missing homework assignments will usually lead to poorer quiz and test scores.

Finally, please keep us informed of any address or phone number changes that occur at home. If you have any concerns, please contact the office or your child's teacher immediately.



### Rommelt Teachers

- Mr. Brown
- Ms. Cooke
- Mrs. Cruz
- Mrs. Ehrgood
- Mrs. Flerlage
- Mr. Hill
- Mrs. Ogden
- Mr. Pearson
- Mrs. Puller
- Mrs. Sahn
- Mrs. Zielewicz

# Home & School

## Working Together for School Success

### CONNECTION®

October 2013

Rommelt Elementary School  
Dwight Woodley, Principal

#### SHORT NOTES

##### Take note(s)

When your youngster needs to take notes, less can be more. Suggest that she put the ideas in her own words rather than writing down every word her teacher says. That way, her notes will make more sense when she reviews them while studying.

##### Excellent attendance

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or art class. Explain that he can be absent only if he's sick or if there's a family emergency.

##### Lunch guest

Surprise your youngster by joining her for lunch at school one day. It's fun to walk through the cafeteria line and pick out your meals together. Then, you can chat with her and her classmates while you have a healthy lunch. *Note:* Call the office ahead of time to find out when her class eats and to let the school know you're coming.

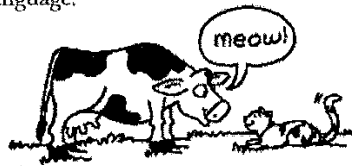
##### Worth quoting

"It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness." *Charles Spurgeon*

#### JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** Why did the cow say meow?

**A:** Because she was learning another language.



## Self-discipline: The best discipline!

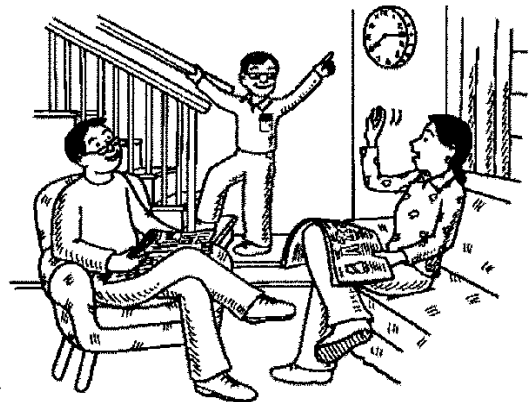
Who's in charge of your child's behavior? The ultimate goal of discipline is for *him* to be in control. You can gradually hand over the reins to him with these tips.

##### Talk about choices

When your youngster does something he shouldn't (makes fun of his sister's outfit, slams a door in anger), ask, "What would be a better choice?" For instance, he could keep his opinion to himself, or he might take a deep breath and walk away when he's angry. If you talk to him about choices regularly, he will understand that he's in control of his reactions.

##### Use timers

Let him use a kitchen timer or cell phone alarm to follow the rules. Say you allow him 30 minutes of video-game time—he can set the timer to signal that



his session is up. Or he could create a "set the table" alarm for 6:30 or a "get ready for bed" alarm for 8:15 so he's not relying on you to remind him.

##### Let consequences happen

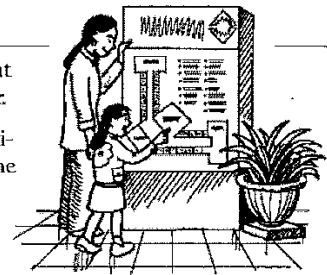
Your child will learn from his own mistakes. Say his favorite sweatshirt is dirty because he didn't put it in the hamper—he will need to wear something else. Or if he drags his feet and is late for school, have him be the one to explain his tardiness to the school secretary. ♥

## Run errands... and learn

Time spent running errands can be time spent learning. Try these activities with your youngster.

**Estimation.** Encourage your child to make estimates everywhere you go. She could estimate the number of fish in a tank at the pet store or the weight of apples at the grocery store. Have her count the fish or weigh the apples and see how close she came. Over time, she'll get better at estimating—a skill she will need in math class and in life.

**Map skills.** In a shopping mall or an office building, look at the map together. Let your youngster locate where you are and figure out how to get where you need to go. Then, she can guide the way. She'll learn to read and interpret maps, which will come in handy even in this age of GPS! ♥

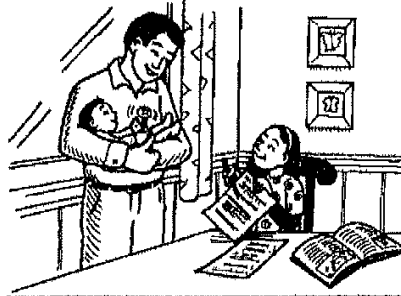


## Three steps to homework success

You've probably noticed that your child has a little more homework each year. Help her get a handle on this year's workload with a daily plan.

**1. Discuss.** Begin each afternoon or evening by asking what homework she has. You can set a positive tone with comments like "I loved writing in my journal when I was your age" or "It's exciting that you're old enough for long division."

**2. Plan.** Ask your youngster what order she will do the work in. You might suggest that she finish



her hardest subject or longest assignment as soon as she gets home and save easier ones for after dinner. Or perhaps she prefers to get simpler assignments out of the way so she'll have fewer tasks ahead of her. She could try each way to see which works best for her.

**3. Review.** Look over her finished work together. You might compliment your child on something she did particularly well. Then, if you see careless mistakes, have her double-check her work—but avoid telling her any answers. Her teacher needs to know what she's able to do all by herself. ♥

### ACTIVITY CORNER

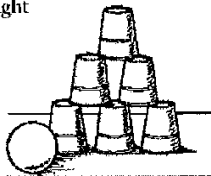
#### A family carnival

"Come one, come all. It's the Miller family carnival!"

Let your youngster help you organize a backyard carnival this fall—it's an inexpensive way to amuse everyone and spend time together. Plus, he'll learn planning and organizational skills as he designs and sets up events.

First, he'll need to think of games. He might remember ones from a school carnival or a trip to the beach. For example, he can stack a pyramid of plastic cups that players try to knock down with a ball. Or he could cut the centers from paper plates to make a ring toss game with water bottles.

Then, have your child list materials he needs and draw a plan showing where the games will be set up. He might make invitations for friends and neighbors so they can enjoy the carnival, too. ♥



### Q & A

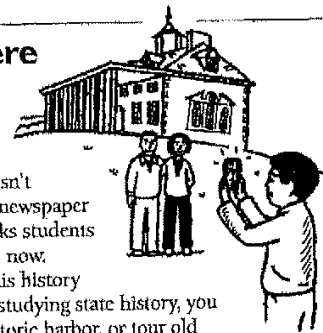
#### History is everywhere

**Q:** My son thinks history is boring. How can I make it come alive for him?

**A:** You can show him that history is being made all over the world every day—it just isn't called history until it has passed! Read the newspaper together, and ask him which events he thinks students will be learning about 10 or 100 years from now.

Also, help him make connections with his history units in school. For instance, if his class is studying state history, you might travel to your state capital, visit a historic harbor, or tour old buildings. Encourage him to take photos and share them with his teacher.

Finally, try getting him hooked on historical fiction. Your librarian can suggest books about people, time periods, or places that will capture his interest. Then, he could check out nonfiction books or look online to learn more. ♥



### PARENT TO PARENT

#### Learning to save

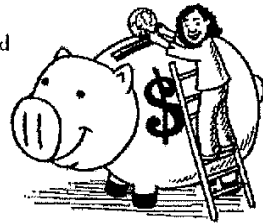
A few months ago when I was at the bank, the manager asked if I'd like to open a savings account for my daughter, Elise. She's only seven, but the manager said kids are never too young to learn about money.

So we opened an account, and I helped Elise look at her balance online. I also showed her my accounts. I wanted her to see that I pay bills and add to my savings

before spending money on extras like renting movies and ordering pizza.

We agreed that she would deposit part of her allowance each week and some of her birthday money. She can keep a little bit to spend on toys and other things she wants.

Now Elise's account is growing, and she loves watching the balance inch up. She said that when she's older, she's going to make money by babysitting and put it in her account, too. I love that she's already thinking about her financial future! ♥



#### OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated  
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
540-636-4280 • rfeustomer@worldnet.att.net  
www.rfconline.com  
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## WE DID IT!



With the help of local businesses, monetary donations, and community support we have collected over 15,000 books to distribute to children from our local communities during the October 19, 2013 Mummer's Day Parade. We are excited that our community and those surrounding will see how important we feel literacy is to children and families.

The Mummer's Day Parade Committee would like to thank each family in the South Williamsport Area School District for supporting the book drive over the past year. Without your donations, we would never have been able to meet our goal and bring literacy to the Mummer's Day Parade. We cannot thank you enough for your help and generosity. We have the power, with these books, to spark an interest, motivate a reader, or change a reading attitude.

Look for our literacy float on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013.



## SIXTH GRADE NEWS

### S.O.U.T.H. Award

S.O.U.T.H. Students of the Month serve as exceptional role models at Rommelt Elementary School. They are students who ***strive*** to do their best and serve as leaders and role models for peers and younger students. They are ***organized*** and prepared for class each day with completed work and positive attitudes to learn. Students who earn this recognition ***understand*** and support others. They listen and share ideas and offer praise for a job well done. Respect is earned when students work as a ***team*** at Rommelt and encourage classmates to do their best.

It is an ***honor*** for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade team to present the following students with this special award.

#### **September**

Lily Summerson

Kyler Alexander



## FIFTH GRADE NEWS

### STRIVING SOUTH AWARD WINNERS

**Striving to reach your goals requires classroom attendance, leadership qualities, rising to the challenges that are given in a classroom setting, homework completion, and school participation. The fifth grade staff would like to honor students that are striving for excellence by giving them the SOUTH Award for the month of September. Congratulations to Ella Livorno, Lauren Weinhoffer, Alayna Dake, and Elizabeth Manning. Rommelt Elementary School is proud of all of your efforts and hope you continue to be a successful role model to the other fifth grade students!**

Lauren Weinhoffer, Ella Livorno, Elizabeth Manning, and Alayna Dake



## Lycoming County Fair



Sixty-nine students, twenty-three from Rommelt entered the Lycoming County Fair art competition in July. Fifty-four students placed first, second or third place ribbon for their efforts. Greta Kimble received Best of Show for her mardi gras mask and Ellie Stahle's ceramic fish got the President's Award. Both projects were displayed at Central. All two dimensional first place projects will be framed and placed in the lobby at Central or on the wall at Rommelt until the student graduates. Projects were on display the first three weeks of school at Rommelt and Central. They are in the process of being sent home.

## Lights!

### Cameras!

### Action!



Thanks to a First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania Grant sixth graders will be walking the halls of Rommelt with Canon Powershot 2600 digital cameras. Mrs. Troutman-Myers will be teaching digital photography throughout the school year which will include basic camera skills, composition and photographic challenges. In April, the students will choose their best two photographs to represent them in a end of the year photography exhibit.



3 PTO Meeting /7:00 at Central Elementary

4 Picture Re-Take Day

7 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

11 Mid-Marking Reports sent home

Community Arts Center Show—Jack Hanna

14 SCHOOL CLOSED- Columbus Day

16 District-Wide "Shelter -In Place" Drill

25 Box Top Collection

### "MARK YOUR CALENDAR"

Nov. 8 PTO Fall Festival

Nov. 25th & 26th Parent-Teacher Conferences  
Act 80 Day-12:30 Dismissal

Nov. 27th—Dec. 3rd School Closed/Thanksgiving Break

*(Tuesday, December 3rd is a weather make-up day if needed)*

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