

TROY UNION'S FAMILY TOOLBOX

FEBRUARY 2017 EDITION

"Together we will learn, lead, love and leave a legacy."



Dear Troy Union Families:

I am so impressed with the students and families participating in our 7 Habits for 7 Weeks! We have filled up 2 bulletin boards with the papers recording the all the ways your kids are practicing the habits at home! We have enjoyed drawing winners from each grade level every week to receive a goody bag from our Parent Lighthouse Team! Even though the 7 weeks is coming to an end, it would be great to continue this work at home! For example, have Proactive Monday! Talk about the choices that each family member made at dinnertime!

At school, we have been focused on kindness and compliments. This all kicked off in January with our school wide service learning project to make 500 Snack Pax to help battle hunger in our area. Thank you to all our families that helped us with this project by donating items. Since then, our February Eagle's Nest was focused on the power of giving and receiving compliments and our Thoughtful Thursday messages have been about kindness. Check out this video that we shared at Troy Union: <https://youtu.be/nwAYpLVyeFU> Our students are making a difference and leaving a legacy.

As we move toward March, it is time to check in on our goals that we set back in January. At school, students continue to be focused on our 3 school improvement goals in writing and reading and critical thinking. The foundation of goal setting is Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind. We teach our students that having a plan is like a map that will guide them through the day in decision making. Stephen Covey teaches us:

*The key is not to prioritize what's on your schedule,
but to schedule your priorities*

In its simplest interpretation, we need to have a plan and make our goals the priority. Check in with your child about their goals. How are their actions at home helping them achieve or hamper their progress? Have you helped them establish routines and structures for homework? Do they have a designated bedtime with no electronics? Are they reading at home? (Check out the March is Reading Month calendar and activities that came home). Do they have opportunities to talk and write at home? One of our goals is in opinion writing. A great way to practice this at home is the next time your child asks for something or has an opinion on something, ask them to give you 3 pieces of evidence to support their opinion. Thank you for Beginning with The End in Mind and helping your child Put First Things First!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Susan Zemmer

Family Engagement Coordinator

Troy union Elementary