

Parent January Newsletter

The new year is a great time to reflect on your child's educational progress and goals. Your child's homework, tests and report card provide a good picture of your child's academic progress and can be used when talking with your child's teacher about whether or not your child is meeting academic goals.

For high school students, it is important to ensure they are not only on track to graduate on time but also are prepared to take the SAT or ACT exam in the spring. Beginning this spring, all 11th-grade students in Arkansas public schools will have the opportunity to take the ACT exam at no charge to parents. Be sure to check out the Arkansas Department of Education's website for resources for parents and students: <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/assessment/the-act>.

Consider the following questions when talking with your child's teacher about your child's goals.

- How is my child progressing?
- Is my child meeting expected learning goals?
- Is my child actively engaged in learning?
- How can I be involved in my child's learning experience?
- What are the homework goals for this semester?
- What supports are available to me as I help my child with homework?
- Is my child on track to graduate on time?
- Do my child's actions celebrate diversity and heritage?

Flu Season

Cold and flu season typically accompanies the winter months. It is important to protect your family from getting the flu. Besides getting vaccinated, you can protect yourself and your family by using appropriate hygiene habits. To learn more about the flu, visit the Arkansas Department of Health's website at <http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/default.aspx>.

Here are some things to consider as you think about your family's health:

- What are some precautions my family can take to avoid getting the flu?
- What should I do if my child gets the flu?
- Is my child dressing appropriately for winter weather?
- Do I know what the required immunizations are for the next school year?



<http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student>