



## April 2017 Parent Newsletter

[www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student](http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student)

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### **Finish Strong**

With spring break behind you, the final stretch of the school year has begun. During this time, it is important to help your child finish strong by focusing on meeting his or her goals by the end of the school year.

Talk with your child's teacher about the goals your child has accomplished, as well as remaining goals. Ask how you can help at home and how you can stay informed of your child's progress.

The following links include helpful tips on how you can help your child end the school year strong:

<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/blogs/scholastic-parents-learning-toolkit/4-ways-to-help-your-student-finish-school-year-strong> and <http://thejetstreamjournal.com/3207/student-life/15-tips-to-finish-the-school-year-strong/>.

Consider asking yourself the following questions so you can make sure your child finishes the year strong.

- How can I help my child remain focused at school?
- How can I ensure my child continues to meet grade-level expectations?
- How can I ensure my child has good attendance?
- What can I do to encourage and support my child as he/she finishes the school year?

### **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**

Although child abuse is a tough subject for many parents to talk about, it is an important topic to discuss with your child. Talk to your child about the different types of abuse. Also be sure to discuss what your child should do if he or she experiences abuse or knows someone, such as a friend, who has been affected. The U.S. Department of Justice provides great tips parents can use when talking with their child: <https://www.nsopw.gov/en-US/Education/TalkingChild?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>.

It is essential that you report any form of child abuse immediately by calling the Crimes Against Children Hotline: 1-800-482-5964. The Arkansas Department of Human Services provides additional information at <http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/dcf/Pages/ChildProtectiveServices.aspx>.

As you prepare to talk with your child, consider the following questions.

- What are the signs of child abuse?
- What safety tips do I need to share with my child to prevent child abuse?
- How do I model open communication with my child?
- Who do I contact if I suspect a child is being abused?