



The Parent Connector

TITLE I NEWSLETTER



WALTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MAY-SUMMER

"In Pursuit of Excellence"

2016

Keep Kids Off the Summer Slide During Summer Break

Something is waiting for many children each summer and their parents don't even know it's out there. It's called the "summer slide," and it describes what happens when young minds sit idle during the summer months.

As parents approach the summer break, many are thinking about how to keep children engaged in activities at home, the changes to everyone's schedule - and how to juggle it all. What they might not be focusing on is how much educational ground their children could lose during the summer break from school . . . particularly when it comes to reading.

Experts agree that children who read during the summer gain reading skills, while those who do not often slide backward. It is common for teachers to spend at least a month re-teaching material that students have forgotten over the summer. That month of re-teaching eliminates a month that could have been spent on teaching new information and skills.

Motivating children to read is one of those agony-ecstasy tasks every parent and teacher faces sooner or later. The desire to read should be planted, nurtured, and allowed to grow; but when an appreciation of reading fails to take root - both the parent, teacher, and child may suffer. The most effective way to encourage your children to love books and reading is to read aloud to them, and the earlier you start, the better. Even a baby of a few months can see pictures, listen to your voice, and turn cardboard pages.

Ways to Encourage Teens to Read . . .
(works for younger children, too!)

- Set an example. Let teens see you reading for pleasure.
- Furnish your home with a variety of reading materials. Leave books, magazines, and newspapers around. Check to see what disappears for a clue to what interests your teenager.
- Give teens an opportunity to choose their own books.
- Build on your teen's interests. Look for books and articles that feature their favorite sports teams, rock stars, hobbies, or television shows.
- View pleasure reading as a value in itself. Almost anything your youngsters read - including the Sunday comics - helps build reading skills.
- Make reading aloud a natural part of family life. Share an article you clipped from the paper, a poem, a letter, or a random page from a magazine - without turning it into a lesson.
- Acknowledge your teen's mature interests. Look for ways to acknowledge the emerging adult in your teens by suggesting some adult reading you think they can handle.



Keep the big picture in mind. For all sorts of reasons, some young children and teenagers go through periods without showing much interest in reading. Don't panic! Time and patience may help rekindle their interest.

CALENDAR

MAY

- 6 First Friday Concert begins in downtown Monroe - Opening band begins at 5:30pm
Concert begins at 7:00
- 14 Farmers Market Opening Day and Spring Fling & Kids Fest
9 - 1pm
- 20 Last day of school
HS graduations: MAHS at 6pm; LHS at 8pm
- 20 1st Grooving on the Green in Loganville
- 21 WGHS graduation 9am
- 25 Report Cards Issued
- 30 Memorial Day

JUNE

- 6 ELA Retakes
- 7 ELA Retakes
- 8 Math Retakes
- 8 Summer Camp at Boys and Girls Club begins

JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 18 District Title I/CLIP Meeting held in the Board of Education Training Room I & II
9:30 - 11:30am

August

- 3 First Day of School

Move On When Ready

In April 2015, the Georgia General Assembly passed a law that streamlined the existing dual enrollment programs. As a result high school students now have more options for earning college credit, a new way to earn a high school diploma and more college costs are **FREE!** Contact your School Counselor or Curriculum Director, Celeste Cannon at: meredith.cannon@walton.k12.ga.us to learn more, or you can also find out more about this program at: <http://tinyurl.com/nzbj8oq>

School-wide Title I Schools in Walton County School System are: Atha Road Elementary, Harmony Elementary, Carver Middle School, Loganville Elementary, Monroe Area High School, Monroe Elementary, Walker Park Elementary, Walnut Grove Elementary, Loganville Middle School and Youth Middle School.

Targeted Assistance School in Walton County: Walnut Grove High School.

The Walton County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations. For additional information or referral to the appropriate system coordinator, contact the system coordinator: Ms. Wilma Widmer at 200 Double Springs Church Road, Monroe, GA 30656, or at 770-266-4410.

Si usted necesita ayuda con la traducción de esta carta, por favor comuníquese con la Señora Eleanor Scott en Walton County

Walton County School District Summer School Courses Offered

Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, 4th Math and Any Credit Recovery Course

Where: **MONROE AREA HIGH SCHOOL**

COST: **\$50 [REFUNDABLE UPON COMPLETION OF**

When: **JUNE 6TH - JULY 22ND**

COURSE(S) WITH A PASSING GRADE]

CLASSES MEET DAILY FROM 8:00 - 12:00

EOC ADMINISTRATION IS JULY 22ND

NO CLASSES THE WEEK OF JULY 4TH - JULY 8TH

Other rules and details that apply: Any discipline referral may result in withdrawal from the summer school class with no refund. Students that withdraw after June 6th will not be refunded the \$50 deposit. There must be 15 students to make a class. Walton County School District will cancel any classes under 15 students by June 2nd. If we do not have enough students to make a class, then money will be refunded. **PLEASE BRING THE COMPLETED ENROLLMENT FORM, AND \$50 TO YOUR SCHOOL BY FRIDAY, MAY 27TH.**

NEWS YOU CAN USE

* 2014 College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI): _____
<http://ccrpi.gadoe.org/2014/ccrpi2014.aspx>

* District Assessment Calendar:
<http://www.walton.k12.ga.us/testingcalendar.html>

* If your family lives: (1) In a shelter, (2) In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative, adequate accommodation, (3) In a car, park or abandoned building or bus or train station, (4) Doubled up with other people due to the loss of housing or economic hardship..... your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal **McKinney-Vento Act**. If you believe your children may be eligible, please contact **Gina Meadows, Homeless Liaison at (770) 266-4510** to find out what services and support may be available.

District Parent Coordinators

Donna Hawk: ARES, CMS, HES, MES, WPES WGES, 770-266-4530 donna.hawk@walton.k12.ga.us - Title I

Tonya McCullohs: LES, LMS, WGHS, YMS 770-266-4532 tonya.mccullohs@walton.k12.ga.us - Title I & Special Education Parent Mentor



Special Needs Database

Parent to Parent's comprehensive resource database contains over 5,000 resources in over 150 categories. The Special Needs Database is a user-friendly, online searchable resource available to individuals with disabilities, their families, and professionals throughout Georgia. You can search online or call them at 1-800-229-2038 and they will search for you! <http://p2pga.org/index.php/database>

WCSD Special Needs Resource Room

Did you know that we have a small lending library of special needs books that you can check out? We also have many brochures & flyers of various resources in the community. Please call the Parent Mentor at 770- 266-4532 to let her know when you want to come.

Preschool Special Education Program

If you, or your doctor suspect, that your 3-5 year old child has a disability, you may contact Melanie Cooksey at 770-266-4502 to schedule a screening.

Summer Camp News

Boys and Girls Club Summer Camp News

Register now for the Summer camp program for youth ages 6 – 18 at the Boys and Girls Club located at 405 Community Court, Monroe, GA 30655. This is an 8 week Youth Development Camp starting June 6 and running through July 29. Member Summer fee is \$165, Non-member fee is \$250. It includes breakfast, lunch, a snack, camp T-shirt, weekly field trips with Youth Development Professionals that are First Aid & CPR trained. Programs offered: The Arts, Sport, Fitness & Recreation, Character & Leadership Development, Education & Career Development and Health & Life Skills. Boys and girls will enjoy 6 exciting field trips, whitewater rafting, Rush, World of Coke, tubing in Helen, GA, and for an additional fee of \$50, they can enjoy 4 day/3 nights at CAMP Kiwanis.

George Walton Academy

GWA is offering several summer camps for children of all ages designed to be fun, but educational, such as: Math Camp: Back to the Basics for rising 6th graders, or Math Camp for 1st – 6th graders, Nature Camp, Welcome to Middle School, Camp Invention, Engineering FUNDamentals using LEGO, Reader's Theater Camp, Young Composers' Workshop, or Driver's Education. Please see their website: <http://www.gwa.com/about/camp.cfm>. for a list of all camps, ages and cost that are being offered, or contact Mrs. Jenni Cole at jcole@gwa.com for more information.

Baby-Sitting Classes Offered

The American Red Cross is offering Babysitting Basics, an online course using video, activities, games and tools to help young people (ages 11 and up) become better babysitters. This course will take you about 4 hours to complete. Since the class is online you can work at your own pace, when it fits your schedule. At the end, you'll take a final exam to demonstrate what you've learned..

Please go to their website: Redcross.org/takeaclass for more information.

FISH 4 KIDS SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

The Summer Lunch Program begins on Monday, May 23rd and continues through July 29th. FISH 4 KIDS will be delivering sack lunches in neighborhoods located throughout Walton County. Delivery for lunch will be between 11:30am – 12:30 pm.

Call FISH at 678-635-7249 for more information.

