

PACE Homeschool January 2020 Newsletter

Dates to Remember

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| Jan 1-3 | ALL Learning Centers Closed |
| Jan 6-17 | Photo/Artwork Contest (please see flyer) |
| Jan 10 | MLC Ice Skating @ Wasilla Lake 2-4pm |
| Jan 13-19 | MAP & DIBELS Testing |
| Jan 21-24 | KLC & CLC Closed for Inservice |
| Jan 22-23 | ALC & MLC Closed for Inservice |
| Jan 24 | Contest Winner Announced |
| Jan 31 | End of 1 st Semester |
| Jan 31 | Work Samples Due |
| Jan 31 | Deadline for 1 st Semester Purchase Request
and Receipt Submission |

Teacher Tip of the Month by: Jen Whicker, KLC Teacher

7 Tips for Reorganizing your Homeschool in the New Year

(Taken from a publication by Evan-Moor)

January is a great time to reflect, regroup and reorganize your homeschool curriculum. Here are 7 tips to consider to get reorganized in ways that will benefit you all year long.

- **Reflect and set priorities** – Take 5 minutes to think of your true priorities. If we align our time and energy with our true priorities, we set ourselves up for success. By focusing on what you HAVE to do first, your priorities are honored and progress is made. What a wonderful thing to role model for your kids!
- **Rework what isn't working** – When something isn't working, you have 2 basic choices – forget it, or adapt it to make it work. It is really that simple. Choose, and make it happen.
- **Reducing clutter brings focus** – It is important to reduce both our visual focus and our mental focus. Write down all of your ideas to reduce the mental clutter. This will allow you to focus on your most important tasks first. Start reducing your visual clutter to avoid distraction. You (and your kids) will be able to visually focus without distractions and get those tasks done!
BONUS – Get the kids involved and start improving their focus skills, as well. Be sure to start small – 3 minutes or so, and keep it fun!
- **Get the kids involved** – Kids want to be valuable. Providing them with real work is a great way to get them interested and accountable. Allowing them to help with attainable tasks can build self-confidence, too.
- **Give a refresh to bring new interest** – Do you ever get in a rut? At our home, when the enthusiasm runs low, we look for a way to refresh things. Maybe we need to move outside for our lesson that day. Ask the kids what they would be excited to change, and have THEM make the action plan.
- **Reveal new concepts with flair** – When we reorganize, there is a bit of excitement. Now is a great time to build a little anticipation for your kids. Let them wonder what is coming. Be excited yourself. Keep them guessing. Give them clues. Have fun revealing what they will be learning next!
- **Preparing to bridge** – We are always leading children to bridge to the next level of growth. For homeschoolers, it can be the next study unit, the next field trip, or even the next grade level. Tell your children what they will be able to do before that next level. Spend time planning how to lead them step-by-step to get there and feel great about the progress, not the perfection.

Happy Birthday to...

Donna

Tallon

Nikolai

Michaila

Page

Asher

Daniel

Rosemary

Samantha

Evan

Lydia

Madison

Bailey

Savannah

Soloman

Rachel

Jazmyn

Chloe

Ashlyn-Ann

Angela

Student Photo/Artwork Contest

We are currently updating our informational materials for the 20/21 school year and we need your help! Send us a photo or artwork that meets all the listed requirements to be entered to win. **Prizes:** 1st place will be featured on our informational materials and prizes will be awarded to the top two entries. **Deadline** for entry is January 17, 2020. Please send all entries to dsheldon@craigschools.com.



The Requirements:

- Photos and artwork must be taken or made by a **currently enrolled PACE student**.
- All grades are eligible.
- Subject matter: Anything except identifiable people (NO faces, you can have people in your picture as long as you can't see their faces).
- Format must be LANDSCAPE. Please crop your photo in this orientation as shown in the sample picture.
- A maximum of two entries per student will be accepted.
- **Deadline** for entry is January 17, 2020
- Winners announced January 24, 2020