



# NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

## CARL JUNCTION INTERMEDIATE

### Scheduling Appointments

Our principals are dedicated to ensuring a safe and smooth start and end to each school day. During morning arrival and afternoon dismissal times, they are actively supervising students and staff throughout the building and campus. If you need to speak with a principal or have a concern that requires their attention, please call the front office to schedule an appointment. This helps ensure that you receive time and attention your concern deserves.

### Change of After School Plans

We would appreciate your help with our afternoon dismissal. We are experiencing a large volume of afternoon changes for students heading home. We need to know any change of plans by 1:00 Monday through Thursday and by noon on Fridays in order to help with the safety of our dismissal. Please note that teachers often do not check emails during the day except on their plan time. Please do not rely on email to get us the message. We want to do our best to make sure students are where they are supposed to be after school. Thank you for your help in getting our students home safe.

### Pick Up and Drop Off Lane

Please do not park in the pick up and drop off lane during the day. If you have to come into the building, please use one of the designated short term parking spots located in our parking lot.

### CRITICAL THINKING- SOLVING PROBLEMS AND WORKING TOGETHER

This is how we think deeply, ask questions, and find smart solutions.

- Ask good questions: Like "Why did that happen?" or "What can I try next?"
- Work as a team: Share ideas, take turns, and help each other.
- Ask to understand: If you don't get something, ask, "Can you explain that again?"
- Solve problems: Don't give up- try new ways until you find what works.

### NOVEMBER MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Focus on cooperation: How can we work as a team to solve problems and accomplish the same goal?



### THANKFUL

### DATES TO REMEMBER

November 11: INTERMEDIATE PJ/HAT DAY

November 13: PICTURE RETAKES

November 20: 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES EGYPTIAN MUSEUM PARENT NIGHT 5:30-6:30PM

November 17-21: SHOP WITH A COP PENNY WARS

November 24-28: NO SCHOOL. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

December 1-12: CAN FOOD DRIVE





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## DURABLE SKILL OF THE MONTH: CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM SOLVING

DEAR FAMILIES,

THIS MONTH, OUR SCHOOL IS FOCUSING ON THE DURABLE SKILL OF CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING—A KEY SKILL THAT HELPS STUDENTS SUCCEED NOT JUST IN SCHOOL, BUT IN LIFE! CRITICAL THINKING MEANS LOOKING AT A SITUATION CAREFULLY, ASKING GOOD QUESTIONS, CONSIDERING DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES, AND MAKING THOUGHTFUL DECISIONS. PROBLEM SOLVING MEANS USING THOSE SAME THINKING SKILLS TO FIND EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS WHEN CHALLENGES COME UP—WHETHER IN THE CLASSROOM, ON THE PLAYGROUND, OR IN EVERYDAY LIFE.

### WHY IT MATTERS

- THINK INDEPENDENTLY INSTEAD OF RELYING ON OTHERS FOR ANSWERS.
- ANALYZE INFORMATION AND MAKE INFORMED CHOICES.
- WORK THROUGH CHALLENGES WITH PERSISTENCE AND CREATIVITY.
- PREPARE FOR REAL-WORLD SUCCESS IN COLLEGE, CAREERS, AND RELATIONSHIPS.

THESE SKILLS ARE PART OF THE MISSOURI LEARNING STANDARDS AND ARE CONNECTED TO SUCCESS IN EVERY SUBJECT AREA—FROM READING COMPREHENSION AND MATH REASONING TO SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS AND SOCIAL STUDIES DISCUSSIONS.

### HOW WE PRACTICE IT AT SCHOOL

- ASK 'WHY' AND 'HOW' QUESTIONS INSTEAD OF JUST ACCEPTING ANSWERS.
- BREAK BIG PROBLEMS INTO SMALLER STEPS.
- SUPPORT THEIR ANSWERS WITH EVIDENCE.
- COLLABORATE RESPECTFULLY TO FIND SOLUTIONS AS A TEAM.
- REFLECT ON WHAT WORKED AND WHAT COULD BE IMPROVED NEXT TIME.

### HOW FAMILIES CAN ENCOURAGE IT AT HOME

- ASK OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS: “WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN IF...?” OR “HOW COULD WE SOLVE THIS TOGETHER?”
- ENCOURAGE PERSISTENCE: PRAISE EFFORT AND CREATIVITY WHEN YOUR CHILD FACES A CHALLENGE.
- PLAY THINKING GAMES: PUZZLES, RIDDLES, BOARD GAMES, OR BUILDING ACTIVITIES ALL PROMOTE PROBLEM SOLVING.



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- TALK ABOUT REAL-LIFE PROBLEMS: LET YOUR CHILD HELP PLAN MEALS, ORGANIZE A SCHEDULE, OR FIX SOMETHING AROUND THE HOUSE.

## CONVERSATION STARTER

ASK YOUR CHILD:

"CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT A TIME THIS WEEK WHEN YOU SOLVED A PROBLEM OR FIGURED SOMETHING OUT IN A NEW WAY?"

ENCOURAGE THEM TO SHARE WHAT THEY DID, HOW THEY FELT, AND WHAT THEY LEARNED FROM THE EXPERIENCE!

## TOGETHER, WE GROW DURABLE SKILLS

WHEN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES WORK TOGETHER TO NURTURE CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING, STUDENTS LEARN TO FACE CHALLENGES WITH CONFIDENCE, CREATIVITY, AND CURIOSITY—SKILLS THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S GROWTH IN BOTH ACADEMICS AND LIFE SKILLS!

