



RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Monica B. Leary Elementary School
December 2019
Leary Pride



December 2019

Dear Leary Family,

The winter holiday season is upon us, and with it, increased visits with family and friends, near and far! I mention this because I know family vacations become more common at this time of year. I certainly empathize with parents who can only take vacations at particular times of year and with those who have far-off families. However, the Leary Attendance Team is observing an increased number of unlawful detentions of students due to vacations taken during the regular school schedule.

There are many things children can learn first-hand through visiting other places, and connections that can only be made in person with loved ones. Although I am not asking parents to stop or cancel these trips, I am asking you to carefully consider what is lost when a child is out of school for these extended periods.

Parents often ask classroom teachers to prepare assignments for children who will be on vacation. We are happy to make suggestions that involve math and reading/writing activities for your child while you are on vacation. This does not fully replace the learning that is lost when a child is not in class, because it is impossible to provide the active learning that our students engage in during class in the form of paperwork.

There are many factors beyond our control that can lead students to be absent from school on occasion. No matter the reason the child is absent, the learning students do in class today is very different from the prepackaged curriculum many of us experienced in school as children. Discussions and hands-on learning experiences cannot be distilled into a worksheet. Nothing takes the place of a child being in school and working with their classmates and classroom teacher every day.

Attendanceworks.org has some great information about the importance of regular school attendance, right from the start of kindergarten (and earlier)! According to a study titled, "Absences Add Up: How School Attendance Influences School Success," "...students who miss more school than their peers consistently score lower on standardized tests, a

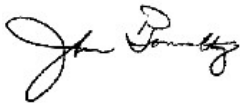
result that holds true at every age, in every demographic group, and in every state and city tested.” Every bit of time we can keep kids in their classrooms learning helps support the success of our children!

“Getting your child to school on-time, every day, unless they are sick, is something that you can do to ensure that your child has a chance to succeed in school,” according to <http://www.attendanceworks.org/about/what-can-i-do/parents/>. Some strategies that can support this include establishing routines, talking with your child about the importance of good attendance, reaching out to school for help if needed, and working with your child’s teacher to catch up on missed instruction following absences.

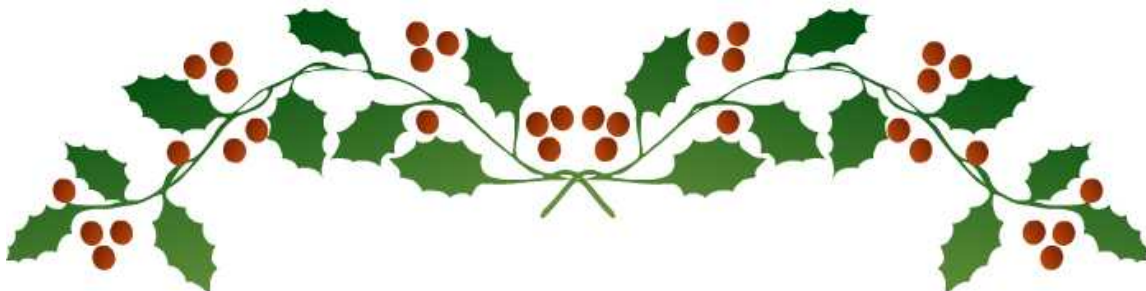
A report titled “Present, Engaged, and Accounted For,” from the National Center for Children in Poverty at Columbia University, finds that children with poor attendance had lower levels of academic achievement. What might startle you, as it did me, is that chronic absenteeism in the primary grades can have a lingering effect on reading and math scores throughout the elementary years, with those students posting the lowest scores in fifth grade. Chronic absenteeism in secondary education is linked to a higher probability of dropping out of school.

If there is anything we can do to encourage your youngster to attend school each day, I hope you will contact your child’s teacher, our school social worker, or me so we may be of assistance. I know you will join me in supporting the daily presence of our children in school as a critical component of their learning.

Warmly,



Jennifer Tomalty
Leary Principal



LITERACY AT LEARY



By: Karen Tabor
Literacy Coach



December 2019



We are very excited to provide your child with access to a wonderful world of books through www.raz-kids.com because our district has purchased subscriptions for every classroom. Raz-Kids helps students improve their reading skills by having them listen to a book read for modeled fluency, read the book to themselves or aloud for practice and then take an interactive quiz to check for understanding. We ask that students do each of the three tasks in that order for each of the books- Listen, Read, Take the Quiz!

Here is how to access and use the website with your child's reading assignment:

1. Go to www.raz-kids.com from your Internet browser
2. Type in the teacher's username (ask your child's teacher if unknown)
3. Click on your child's name and enter/click on the password (ask your child's teacher if unknown)
4. The books in your child's assignment and stars earned appear on a personal assignment page. Your child's teacher has set the reading level that he/she will work at. (It is usually lower than the level they are working at in their Guided Reading Group in school.) This will help your child work on decoding, comprehension and fluency skills independently. Your child will choose a book to listen to, read, and take a quiz by clicking on the symbols below each book.
5. Your child earns stars for each task completed. When ready, these stars can be "spent" on items for the RAZ Rocket. (Kids LOVE this part!)
6. After your child has completed all tasks for that level, he/she will automatically be moved up to the next level!



One of the many nice features of this site is that your child's teacher is able to track each student's progress. The teacher can even see how the student is doing on the quizzes and what he/she is missing. Your child will be using this site in school and we hope you are able to utilize this resource at home also. The more your child reads, the better reader he or she will become!

Please contact me or your child's classroom teacher with any questions!

Student Note

Parents, please feel free to make copies of the sample notes below to send in with your child should he/she need to take a different bus home, be dismissed early, or be picked up either by a parent or someone else. By using this note, you are assuring that the office gets the correct information and your child goes to the correct destination.

***Please limit bus passes to childcare situations.**

***ID is required for all student pick-ups.**

Date: _____ Student's Name: _____

Teacher: _____

_____ Will be taking the bus to: _____
(address)

_____ Will be picked up at: _____ Reason: _____
(time)

_____ Will be picked up at dismissal (2:00pm)

_____ Is late due to: _____

_____ Other: _____

Signature Parent/Guardian _____

Student Note

Date: _____ Student's Name: _____

Teacher: _____

_____ Will be taking the bus to: _____
(address)

_____ Will be picked up at: _____ Reason: _____
(time)

_____ Will be picked up at dismissal (2:00pm)

_____ Is late due to: _____

_____ Other: _____

Signature Parent/Guardian _____



Transportation Department

1133 Lehigh Station Road ~ Henrietta, NY 14467
 Phone: 585-359-5370

School Year
 20__/20__

TRANSPORTATION REQUEST FORM - TO BABYSITTER OR CHILD CARE

STUDENT INFORMATION For families with multiple students, a form for each student in the family is required.

School Name	Date of Request	
Student First, Last Name	Home Address	Grade (current year)

REQUEST FOR CARE Please note that arrangements must be consistent weekly, with a maximum of two pick-up and two drop-off points during the week.
 Start Date : _____ All requests must be submitted by Wednesday prior to the week of the request change.

<input type="checkbox"/> AM Care Days attending (circle): M T W T H F	<input type="checkbox"/> PM Care Days attending (circle): M T W T H F
Provider Name:	Provider Name:
Provider Address:	Provider Address:
Phone Number:	Phone Number:

CANCELLATION OF REQUEST

<input type="checkbox"/> AM Care Cancellation Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> PM Care Cancellation Date:
---	---

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

First and Last Name	Primary Phone Number	Alternate Phone Number
---------------------	----------------------	------------------------

The district provides transportation to and from care providers for eligible students in grades K-6. Transportation arrangements must be consistent with a maximum of two pick-up and drop-off points. Parents or guardians of students residing in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District must submit a written request for transportation to a child care provider annually no later than **April 1** of the preceding year.**

My signature certifies that I am the parent/legal guardian of the above-mentioned student and authorize transportation to and/or from the care provider listed.

 Parent/Guardian Signature

 Date

For office use only

Sitter	Bus In	Bus Out
Home	Bus In	Bus Out

** Change requests received after August 23 **will not be accommodated** until the second week of school. Bus passes **will not** be written for late child care form submissions.

December

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 A Day	3 B Day	4 C Day	5 D Day	6 A Day	7
8	9 B Day	10 C Day	11 D Day	12 A Day	13 B Day	14
15	16 C Day	17 D Day End of Hunting Season	18 A Day	19 B Day	20 C Day	21
22 	23 Christmas Break No school	24 Christmas Break No school	25 Christmas Break No school <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26 Christmas Break No school	27 Christmas Break No school	28
29	30 Christmas Break No school	31 Christmas Break No school				

