



September 20, 2018

Dear Parents,

For those of you who attended our PTO Meeting earlier this year, you may remember I mentioned something new we are doing...“Family Homework”. I am sending this memo to explain to you, and to those who were not with us, more about this endeavor.

“Family Homework” will be a question(s) sent home on Thursday nights. It is our hope that you, as a family, will choose one night at dinner, or whenever you can gather, to engage in conversation as you come up with answers to the questions. The questions will cover various topics, some more serious or factual than others, but hopefully all will lead to an enjoyable experience.

Our goals are:

- Encourage creativity
- Promote family time free of devices
- Enhance thinking skills
- Practice communication skills
- Have fun

Students and families who participate are asked to sign the paper and send it in with one of the children by Wednesday of the following week. There will be no penalty for not participating but there will be incentives or bonuses from time to time, for those who do....in addition to quality family time!

Here is a sample of how I envision this could work:

Question: If you could choose one animal to be, what would it be and why?

Answer: A bird because it would be cool to fly.

(Now it's time for the parents or other participants to take this to the next level....)

Parent: Well, what if you're an ostrich? They can't fly...what other bird might you choose?

Why do they call an ostrich a bird if it can't fly (Because they have wings, feathers, lay eggs, etc..).

Or....

Answer: A dog because I like to run really fast.

Parent: Dogs are fast...do you know the fastest dog (greyhound, btw), or name some other really fast animals, etc.

Not that you must do all that, and certainly not for every question, but, you get the idea. And, parents, don't forget to give your answers. The children will enjoy hearing what you have to say.

Again, we hope this turns into a fun weekly experience that promotes communication between parents and their children. And, if you're with other family members or friends later in the week, you can see what they have to say.

Thank you,

Lauren K Alvarez (First week question is on the back of this letter!)