



Happy Valentine's Day



From the Principal –

This month I would like you to consider the word “perspective.”

By the time this newsletter is received in your home, half of the school year will be history. It is truly amazing how fast this year has passed! This mid-point in the year is critical for all students but especially so for our students. Take a moment to verify with your student that they are on track for a successful year. Contact your child's teacher if you have a question about promotion requirements regardless of their current grade. Teachers, as well as, our counselors can be reached by telephone, e-mail or written note. Keeping in frequent communication with teachers shows your child that you are interested and concerned about their education.

A very simple way to think about perspective is the way you see something and how that shapes and solidifies what you believe to be true or untrue.

How many of you have drawn the most famous of all perspective drawings – a cube that appears to have two different openings? When you look at the cube do you see an opening in the upper right hand section or the lower left hand section? It depends on your perspective.

Let's think about perspective in a different venue, our classrooms. As we have come to the 100th day of school and as we are sending home the 3rd semester progress reports, would our opinion differ from our child's or would it be the same perspective concerning work ethic? What do I mean?

Are we ensuring that our children are careful about writing down their short and long-term assignments? Do we ensure/assist our students in showing them how to budget their time accordingly so that they don't rush through their homework or act surprised when something is due? Are we serving as the parent and ensuring their work is thorough, really thinking about the assignment and if your student has put their best effort into completing it?

I am the father of two beautiful children! One attends Tippit Middle School and is in the 6th grade. My intent of writing the above is to tell you what I think, as a parent, I would want to know in order to make sure that I can assist my child as much as possible. Sometimes it is hard being the parent of a middle schooler. I KNOW. But...it is our responsibility to ensure that this time period in middle school is truly the foundational catalyst to equip our children for their high school and college journey! Working to your full potential every day is a perspective everyone will agree on.

Open lines of communication between school and home mean we can all focus on what is most important – the success of EVERY student at Tippit Middle School!

~Brian Dawson



More from Mr. Dawson**Be Interested**

Make sure your child knows that his/her academic progress is important to you. Review the most recent **progress report** with your child. If your child didn't bring it home, call 943-5040 and request another copy. These reports were sent home with students on last week in the Thursday TAKE HOME FOLDERS.

If you have questions pertaining to your child's progress or educational needs, please do not hesitate in contacting your child's teachers. I know they are eager to visit with you!

Valentine's Day

We ask that you NOT have flower, presents/balloons, or candy deliveries made to school on February 14. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation!

Sleep... ZZZZZZ

Rest is vital to your child's health, growth, and development. I would like to recommend reading *Healthy Sleep Habits, Happy Child*, written by Dr. Marc Weissbluth, one of the country's leading pediatricians. The book outlines proven strategies that ensure good, healthy sleep for every age. It also helps with solving and preventing your children's sleep problems, from infancy through adolescence. In *Healthy Sleep Habits, Happy Child*, Dr. Weissbluth explains with authority and reassurance his step-by-step regimen for instituting beneficial habits within the framework of your child's natural sleep cycles.

Healthy Sleep Habits, Happy Child will explain how fatigue caused by poor quality sleep can affect their behavior. It will also explain how chronic fatigue can reduce your child's ability to succeed in school. This book will show how you can nurture, enhance, and maintain calm and alert behavior.

Tippit Pride T-Shirts

Tippit Pride t-shirts are available at the school store and the front office. Regular sizes are \$10; XXL and XXXL are extra.

Tippit Pride shirts look fantastic, and are available in adult and child sizes. Come show your Tippit pride!

School Store

The Eagles Nest is open in the cafeteria most mornings, 8:00 - 8:30 am. The school store carries bling t-shirts, Tippit Pride t-shirts, school supplies and other items.

We encourage all students and parents to come visit our fabulous school store!

Volunteers Needed

Calling all volunteers for the 8th grade graduation in May! We need help decorating a reception table, serving cake and cleaning up following the reception.

If you're interested, please contact Christine Bowman at receptions@tippitmspta.org Thank you in advance for your help in making this event very special.

Family Fun Night

Later this spring, Tippit will be having Family Fun Night!

Family Fun Night is an evening of food, fun and great family-friendly activities! This event is the main fundraiser for the many school-related items supported by Tippit PTA.

Plans are underway. If you're interested in helping with Family Fun Night, please contact Valerie Shelton at familyfunnight@tippitmspta.org

School Fundraiser

The Tippit Fundraiser is underway. Students are asked to sell cookie dough and a variety of gift items to benefit our school. Fundraiser money and orders are due by **Mon, Feb. 20**. Please make checks out to Tippit MS.

Thank you for supporting our school!!

8th Grade Parents – Mark Your Calendars

The 8th grade celebration will be held on **Friday, May 18**. More information coming soon.

From the Library**Get ready! Get set! Read-It-Forward!**

Students are encouraged to read and pass along this year's Read It Forward book, *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*. When finished with the book, students should complete an online survey and sign the spiral notebook in the Tippit library. Students need to sign in as having participated in order to receive the **official Read-It-Forward bookmark, be entered to win prizes, and to be included on the invitation list to attend a party at the Georgetown Public Library** at the conclusion of the program on April 14.

We have a prize drawing **each Friday** at Tippit for all those who participated, completed the survey, AND signed the spiral notebook in the library.

Please visit http://web.georgetownisd.org/tippit/walkerb/Read_it_forward.htm and keep reading!

Barbara Walker
Tippit Librarian

A Few Fun Texas Spring Break Ideas

<http://gotexas.about.com/od/familyfun/a/FamilySB.htm>

Williamson County Museum (Georgetown)

Inner Space Caverns (Georgetown)

Texas State Parks (many great parks throughout the state)

Austin Museums

Moody Gardens (Galveston)

Six Flags Fiesta Texas (San Antonio)

Six Flags Over Texas (Arlington)

Aquarena Springs, Wonder World (San Marcos)

Natural Bridge Caverns (near San Antonio)

Alamo (San Antonio)

Dinosaur Valley State Park (Glen Rose)