

Cologne Academy Families-

Even Geniuses Work Hard is the title of one of Stanford University's Professor Carol Dweck's articles on mindset and schools. I have shifted the context to reflect what we can do as parents and educators at home and at school to start the New Year off with a Growth Mindset.

Let's give our children learning tasks that tell them, "You can be as smart as you want to be." Dweck believes that meaningful work can also teach students to love challenges, to enjoy effort, to be resilient, and to value their own improvement.

Creating a Culture of Risk Taking

Create a growth-mindset culture. One way to create such a culture is by providing the right kinds of praise and encouragement. Praise children for the process they have engaged in-the effort they applied, the strategies they used, the choices they made, the persistence they displayed, and so on, yields more long-term benefits than telling them they are "smart" when they succeed.

Emphasize that fast learning is not always the deepest and best learning and that students who take longer sometimes understand things at a deeper level.

Emphasize Challenge, Not "Success"

Meaningful learning tasks need to challenge every child in some way. It is crucial that no child be able to coast to success time after time; this experience can create the fixed-mindset belief that you are smart only if you can succeed without effort.

To prevent this, when a child learns a concept/skill quickly make sure you have exercises that require these students to stretch their brains further. When presenting learning tasks to children, portray challenges as fun and exciting, while portraying easy tasks as boring and less useful for the brain. When children initially struggle or make mistakes adults should view this as an opportunity to teach children to think about what to try next, like a detective solving a mystery.

Give a Sense of Progress

Meaningful learning tasks give children a clear sense of progress leading to mastery. This means that children can see themselves doing tasks they couldn't do before and understanding concepts they couldn't understand before.

Upcoming Events:

December 19

Finance Meeting

6:45 pm

Board Meeting

7:00 pm

December 20

Fall Fundraiser Pick Up

3:45 - 7:00 pm

December 21

College T-shirt Day

Spelling Bee (Grades 6-8)

12:00-1:00 pm

Spelling Bee (Grades 3-5)

1:15-2:15 pm

OSA

2:40 pm

January 3

Welcome Back
from Winter Break!

Winter Break

Dec 22 - Jan 2

No School

Next PAVE Meeting

January 10

6:30 pm

Work that gives students a sense of improvement as a result of effort gives adults an opportunity to praise students for their process.

Homework is an especially important component of an instructional program that enhances students' sense of learning and progress. Homework assignments should not feel like mindless, repetitive exercises; rather, they should present novel problems for students to solve, require them to apply what they've learned in new ways, or ask them to stretch to the next level.

Grade for Growth

The word "yet" is valuable and should be used frequently. Whenever children say they can't do something or are not good at something, adults should add, "yet." Whenever children say they don't like a certain subject, the adult should say, "yet." This simple habit conveys the idea that ability and motivation are fluid.

Long-Term Success

Meaningful work not only promotes learning in the immediate situation, but also promotes a love of learning and resilience in the face of obstacles. This kind of meaningful work takes place in environments in which adults praise the learning process rather than the child's ability, convey the joy of tackling challenging learning tasks, and highlight progress and effort. Children who are nurtured in such settings will have the values and tools that breed lifelong success.

Looking forward to an amazing 2017 with a school full of growth minded students and staff!

Sincerely,

Lynn G. Peterson, Ed. S.

Executive Director

lgluck@cologneacademy.org

Upcoming Knowledge Bowl Meet

January 17
South View Middle School
Edina
4:00 pm

Follow Us

Facebook
Twitter
Instagram

2016/2017 Calendar

Available on the CA website.
Click [HERE](#)

PAVE

The Fall Fundraiser/Cookie Dough order will be available for pickup on Tuesday, December 20 from 3:45 to 7:00 p.m.

To pick up your items, please park in the lot east of the main gym entrance and enter through Door 14. Volunteers will be available there to assist you in retrieving your items.

We respectfully request that if you wish to pick up your child(ren) when you pick up your items that you pick up your child(ren) in CARLINE and then proceed to pick up your items. Be sure to let your child's teacher know that you will be picking up from carline.

If you are unable to pick up during this time please contact pave@cologneacademy.org attention Ann to arrange

another time. The school does not have the capacity to store your items so they need to be picked up during the assigned time. Please don't interfere with buses or carline if you plan on picking up during this time.

The Fall/Cookie Dough Fundraiser raised a little over \$14,000 to be used for voice amplification systems, microphones for the stage, and to update our Lexia and IXL software. There were 205 students who sold 2,142 items, 175 of those students earned a non-uniform day on January 20th.

Prize winners are:

1st Place: Ryah Sobiech - 71 items sold. Prize: 4 pack passes to Waterpark of America

2nd Place: Zayden Erpelding - 64 items sold. Prize: 4 pack passes to Nickelodeon Universe

3rd Place: Austyn Ohara - 40 items sold. Prize: 4 pack passes to Grand Slam

4th Place: Brianna Alpaugh - 37 items sold. Prize: 4 pack passes to Buck Hill

5th Place: Kassandra Mendoza - 34 items sold. Prize: \$50 Gift Card to Waconia Movie Theatre

Thank you to everyone who participated and made this another successful year.

Happy Holidays,
PAVE

4.0 GPA

Congratulations to
Carli Cebulla, Joe Freitas, and Olivia Kruger
for earning a 4.0 GPA First Trimester!
Way to go!

Baby, It's Cold Outside

For the safety of your child, please make sure your child is coming to school dressed appropriately for the weather conditions.

From the CA Family Handbook:

November through April we require that all students bring full winter gear (jackets, snowpants, boots, hat, and mittens).

Students (grades K-4) will be taken outside for recess every day, weather permitting, above zero degrees Fahrenheit wind chill. When there is visible snow on the ground, snow pants, boots, hat,

and mittens are required. Students who fail to bring adequate winter attire will be permitted to borrow gear from the lost and found. If there are no items available, they will be allowed a one-time pass to remain indoors, and a parent phone call will be made to provide the proper attire for the following day. Further unpreparedness will result in the student attending recess outdoors.

January Lunch Ordering

Lunch ordering for the month of January is open
December 14th- 20th.

Clubhouse During Winter Break

Clubhouse will be open these days* during Winter Break:

Thursday, December 22

Tuesday, December 27

Wednesday, December 28

Clubhouse will be open from 6:30 am - 6 pm each day and will remain at school. The fee is \$25 per day. Payments must be made in advance for non-school days. We cannot guarantee space after the registration deadline. All students must bring a bag lunch.

Please email Cathy Kerber with questions or to sign up for Clubhouse ckerber@cologneacademy.org

*Due to lack of interest, we regret that Clubhouse will not be open on Thursday, December 29. We will reopen when school resumes on January 3, 2017.

'Tis the Season of Weather Related Closings

We all know that it is that time of the year in Minnesota when parents and staff must be prepared for the possibility of delayed start, early release, or school closing due to weather.

In the event of questionable weather be sure to pay attention for a SchoolWay notification (this is the quickest way for you to know), an email from Main Office, or watch for 'Cologne Academy' on the WCCO or KARE11 weather related announcements.

Important Unexpected Early Release Information

It is extremely important that you are aware of the plan **you** put in place for your child(ren) at the start of the school year, bus or carline (Clubhouse will NOT be available), should we need to send students home early.

If you need to confirm or change your plan on record please contact the office today. Thank you!

We respectfully request that you use the communications methods

listed for information and announcements regarding weather related school closings and avoid phoning the school office during inclement weather or announced early releases unless it is absolutely necessary.

SchoolWay App

Is School Closed today? Is it College T-shirt Day?

Sign up for the [free](#) SchoolWay (Apple or Android) to get notifications/reminders sent directly to your phone. It is the quickest way to get school notifications and reminders.

No smart phone? SchoolWay's Web App allows you to stay up to date even without a smart phone.

<https://webapp.myschoolway.com/cologne>

2016-2017 Yearbook

Order your 2016-2017 Cologne Academy yearbook today for only \$17.49! Place your order online at Treering.com by searching for Cologne Academy or by using the passcode: 1013230390864254.

Each yearbook includes two free pages that can be customized by you to add your personalized memories of the year. These Pages will only be printed in your yearbook. Deadline for the customized pages is April 10. Start designing today!

We are also looking for parents who are interested in helping take photos throughout the year in the classroom, at sporting events, and other school functions.

If you have yearbook questions or would like to submit yearbook photos, please contact Deb Ries at dries@cologneacademy.org.

Youth Enrichment Classes

Youth Enrichment will once again be offering Chess (Grades K-5) and Legos (Grades 1-5).

Click [here](#) for flyer.

Register [here](#).

Health Office

Please let the health office know when your child receives any immunizations during the school year so we can keep your child's

immunization record current. You can either send a copy of your child's updated immunization record to school or ask their doctor's office to fax it to school. School fax number is 952.466.4030.

Thank you!
Nurse Mary
nurse@cologneacademy.org

Informational Meetings

We are currently accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year (you do not need to apply if you are already enrolled for 2016-2017). Please tell your friends and family how much you love CA and encourage them to come to an upcoming informational meeting or to call and schedule a tour today.

Upcoming Informational Meetings:
Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 pm
Monday, February 13 at 6:30 pm

Support Cologne Academy

Shopping on Amazon this holiday season?

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know - same products, same prices, same service. Order from AmazonSmile and designate Cologne Academy as your charitable organization. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to CologneAcademy whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. Click [here](#) to log in through our unique CA link.

PAVE has two new ways to help fundraise for CologneAcademy.

1) We are now recycling inkjet and laser toner cartridges into cash for CA PAVE. Cartridges for Kids will accept used inkjet and laser toner cartridges, cell phones, laptops, and other small electronics. Donation bin is located near the main office and PAVE will mail out once we've collected enough items for free shipping. You can check out their current pricelist and program [here](#).

2) If your family enjoys going out for Sunday Brunch, Oak Ridge Hotel & Conference Center in Chaska is offering to reward CA PAVE with gift certificates to use for fundraising or thank you gifts. Through the end of May for each paid adult brunch, PAVE earns credits towards free certificates. Just let your server know that you are dining in support of Cologne Academy.

Please continue to send your Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Soup Labels, Milk Moola caps, etc. to school any time with your

child. We have a collection point outside the cafeteria or drop them off in the office or with a teacher.

Bring your aluminum cans for recycling! We have a collection trailer in the Northeast corner of the school parking lot.

From the Art Department

The Art Department of Cologne Academy would like to announce an exciting opportunity for all students and their families at CA. Students will be given the opportunity to order unique items from Square 1 Art that will have their very own personalized artwork on them! We will be starting some projects soon and finish all artwork by March. Students will receive an order catalog in March, but if you want to look ahead check out www.square1art.com to start thinking about what you might like to order. Orders will be shipped at the end of April 2017 in time for Mother's Day and Father's Day. Every item purchased will help raise money for the Art Department. Have fun scanning the website!

Holy Family Catholic High School Opportunities

Holy Family Catholic HS is enrolling students for 2017-18 and is waiving the application fee for families registering before December 31! Apply today at www.hfchs.org. Contact Rob Bell at bellr@hfchs.org or phone 952-443-1955 x3132 to set up a tour or shadow-visit day for your student!

Fan Fire Night for boys basketball is coming up on Tuesday, December 20. Information and a free ticket can be found [here](#)

Middle School Band Opportunity - Free

This band consists of middle school students with 2 full years or more of band experience that would meet approximately every other Thursday at Holy Family Catholic HS from 4:15-5:00 p.m. There will be a concluding performance in conjunction with the Holy Family concert on Friday, April 28th, at 7:00 p.m. in their *brand new* Performance Center! Click [here](#) for flyer.

December Core Virtue: Gratitude

Please use FRONTDESK@cologneacademy.org to report absences, tardies, early pick-ups, and current school day changes to end of day transportation for your child(ren).

Please include student's full name, grade, and details of the information being emailed.