



Van Voorhis Elementary School

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<http://www.am.dodea.edu/knox/vanvoorhis/index.htm>

Dates to remember

- ◆ Aug. 20 - PTO
Book Fair 5:00 -
8:00 p.m.
- ◆ Sept. 4 - PD Day
(No school)
- ◆ Sept 7 - Labor
Day (No school)

Principal's News

We have just completed our first two weeks of school and our hope is that you and your student have settled in to a routine. We have had a wonderful opening to the year and would like to thank you for your patience and cooperation as we have worked through the typical issues and problems that come with a new year.

There are a few things I would like to bring to your attention.

1. Students have received their agenda books. These contain the Student/Parent Handbook. Please read over it and sign page 21 and return it. This lets us know that you have received your copy. There is an abundance of information in the handbook. Also, the agenda book is not only a communication tool between you and the teacher, but also an organizational tool for the student. Please check the agenda daily to see what the student is writing in it and feel free to communicate with the teacher. Students should be writing in it. (Pre-K students do not use agenda books.)
2. We have finally been able to generate a composite transportation list. We need to check the accuracy of this list. We will be doing so at the various doors over the next several days as children are picked up at dismissal. Thank you for your patience. We must check the accuracy of the information we have.
3. If you ever are in need of someone to assist you and advocate for you, feel free to call the School Liaison Officer, Ms. Becky Laux. Her number is 502-624-2305.
4. If you ever would like to contact anyone on the staff via email, just follow the following protocol: firstname.lastname@am.dodea.edu
5. We are in need of parent volunteers to serve on our Continuous School Improvement Team. We must have a parent and a military member on the committee and would love to have input from the community. If interested, please contact Ms. Gibson at the school.

Thank you for your partnership in educating your children. If you ever need to contact us at the school, please do not hesitate to do so.

Laura Gibson

Newsletter feedback

We want our newsletter to be an effective communication tool. If there is something you would like to see in future newsletters, contact [Webmaster](#) and submit your idea.

If you know a Van Voorhis parent who is not receiving the newsletter, encourage them to stop in the front office to update their information on file or to send their preferred e-mail to their child's teacher. Newsletters will also be posted on our website.

For lunch menus, transportation information and other district-wide info:
<http://www.am.dodea.edu/knox/FKCSO/Pages/sitemap.htm>

PTO News

The Van Voorhis PTO is a very active organization. Volunteers are always needed. Our first event will be the Fall Bookfair on Thursday, Aug. 20 from 5-8 p.m. There will be food available and activities for the children. Please come out and support the PTO. Our Fall Fundraiser is scheduled Sept. 14-25. Additionally, the PTO pops and distributes popcorn to students every Thursday. (Popcorn is 25 cents per bag.) Our next Board meeting is Sept. 10 at 2 p.m. at the school.

Future issues

In future issues, watch for grade level information (instructional plans, events, celebrations, etc.)

Preferred e-mail

If you aren't receiving our newsletters at your preferred e-mail address, click: [Webmaster](#) and send an e-mail with your preferred e-mail address in the subject line.

Reinforce resilience in kids

Trying to make a child feel better about a disappointment, failure, or loss by simply saying, "It doesn't really matter," or "It's not that important," rarely helps. Experts say this kind of feedback only makes children feel worse, and it doesn't teach them how to handle stressful events or deal with upsetting news.

Studies show that resilience—the ability to bounce back when something disappointing happens—is what separates students who flourish from those who flounder under stress. That's why resilience may be one of the most important skills you can teach your students. How can you accomplish this? Try these suggestions:

- Remind students that bad stuff doesn't last. Give them reasons to hope and to persevere.
- Promote problem-solving. Action is the best antidote to feeling helpless and deflated.
- Know when to intervene. Be patient and supportive when your child asks for advice or comes to you with questions or problems.
- Set reasonable boundaries. Children need adult guidance in order to feel confident about how to act in certain situations.
- Accent achievement. Ego-boosting praise is a great buffer against disappointment. It encourages resilient thoughts and actions.

Deployment support

Van Voorhis Staff realize that many of our students share an extra burden when the military sends mom or dad away from the family to perform their jobs. To help our students during the time of mom or dad's deployment or other military assignment which causes an extended absence from home, the counselor will hold a weekly support group for these students during their lunch time.

Reminder!

Parents who want to change their child's dismissal procedure must send a written note to the teacher each day a change is needed at the beginning of the school day. The Van Voorhis staff will not accept parent requests to make changes to their child's dismissal method at the end of the school day or during school dismissal. Doing so at the last minute creates confusion and creates an unsafe situation for all of our students.

"A child can ask questions that a wise man cannot answer."

*-Author
Unknown*

Visit us on the Web at <http://www.am.dodea.edu/knox/vanvoorhis/index.htm>
Contact the Webmaster with problems or suggestions for items you'd like to see