

# GT Parent Newsletter

Rappahannock County Schools

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Edition 17

## *Instilling a Growth Mindset*

### *GT Challenge Time Focus*

This month's Third Thursday GT Challenge Time focused on understanding what it means to have a growth mindset and how that looks in terms of understanding one's

lower level than students who were praised for their effort: "Wow! Great job. You must've really studied!" The difference in simple praise was astonishing. Not

"No matter what your ability is, effort is what ignites that ability and turns it into accomplishment."

– **Carol S. Dweck, *Mindset: The New Psychology Of Success***

self, peers, learning, and failures. Growth mindset is based on the work of Carol Dweck. Her studies showed drastic differences in student achievement when students connected their intelligence with hard work and effort, rather than feeling as though their intelligence was simply a bestowed gift. Dweck conducted experiments in which simply changing the way students were praised changed the way they performed. For example, students who were praised with phrases such as "you are so smart," performed at a

only did students who were praised for effort outperform those who were praised for intelligence, the former outperformed the latter in terms of grit as well. That is to say that they were more willing to try difficult problems since they were unafraid of failure. RCES GT students watched videos, participated in brainstorming and critical thinking questions, as well as set goals for themselves, changing the world "failure" to "experiment," with the understanding that you need to fail to learn. They

## *Enrichment Opportunity*



The Lord Fairfax Community College's Workforce Solutions department is sponsoring "Kids College," 2016 summer youth camps for students ages 8-14 interested in learning more about gaming, computers, programming, and design. These distinct programs bring unique enrichment opportunities in Digital Arts and STEM. Sessions will run each week in June through August, with 2 sessions available per week — either 9:00-noon or 1:00-4:00. The camps will take place at both the Middletown and the Warrenton campuses. Each week-long session ranges from \$155 to \$185 and scholarships are available. For more information, visit [lfcworkforce.com](http://lfcworkforce.com) or call 540-868-7021.

watched a scientific, computerized dissection of one of Picasso's famous paintings which uncovered layer after layer of painting mishaps, mistakes, mind-changes, etc. The children quickly took away the message that risk-taking can pay off, and should, if you do not view failure as a true failure, but an experiment that can teach you something about yourself and others.



### *RCES Poster Contest* *High Expectations Team*

The RCES High Expectations Correlate Team is sponsoring a poster contest to give students a creative way to show their appreciation and "love" for math and reading. The correlate team, chaired by Layne Vickers, sponsored the contest with the slogans: "I Love Reading" and "I Love Math" for students to illustrate, in poster format on a 11 x 17 piece of paper, the meaning of those statements. The winning posters will be laminated and displayed in the front office during the month of February,

and one winner from each grade level will receive the reward of free ice cream for their efforts. The deadline for students to turn in their posters is next Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. They should be turned into the office or placed in Layne Vickers' mailbox.

**"I ♥ reading!"**

**"I ♥ math!"**

### *Important Events/Dates*

\*\*\* Announcement: MVGS Applications now live. Please visit the [RCPS Instruction Page](#) for more info. \*\*\*

- Jan. 26: MVGS Student/Parent Info Mtg, 7:00 PM, Warrenton Campus, The Barn (inclement weather date: Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 PM – same location)
- January 29: Deadline to submit "I love reading/I love math" poster to Mrs. Vickers
- February 15: No School—Teacher Workday
- February 25: Parent Teacher Conferences
- March 1: Deadline for MVGS applications

For more information about Student Projects, visit Lilo's Gifted Classroom Page here: <https://sites.google.com/a/rappahannockschoools.us/classroom-news/student-projects>

Want to see something featured or discussed? Questions? Send your feedback to:

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