

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." -*Heraclitus*

"The whole world opened to me when I learned to read." -*Mary McLeod Bethune*

As a community, we believe it is our responsibility to support families in teaching reading and learning, which are the foundation of success both as individuals and as a society.

Dear Parents

Our vision is to inspire students to learn by challenging the potential of every child within a supportive community.

I would like to share some information about Forks Elementary School. We have:

- [Talented, experienced and dedicated teachers and staff](#) who genuinely care about our students.
- Highly involved parents and community who volunteer at Forks and fundraise on the elementary school's behalf.
- [After school activities](#) vary depending on the time of the year. They have included homework club, basketball and scouts.
- Strong and successful [literacy instructional program](#) that strives to meet individual student needs. Students who need extra challenge are provided it on a daily basis, as well as students who need extra support and instruction.

This is my first year at Forks Elementary as principal and I truly love this school and community. **You won't find better teachers, or parents at any another school.** We are a community that truly cares and have invested our time, efforts and talents into making Forks an excellent school for all students.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with specific questions. I can be reached at (360)-374-6262 ext 361 or at pwinn@esd114.wednet.edu. Thanks for all you do! We are going to have a fantastic year!

Penny Winn
Principal

When Parents ask: “What can I do to help my child?”

1. Read to your child. Reading to your child will teach many lessons of importance; story organization, tracking print from left to right and helping to recognize spaces between words.
2. Magnetic letters are wonderful learning tools. Your refrigerator is like an artist’s canvas for magnetic letters. Try sounding out words while preparing meals it is a fun time to spend with your child.
3. Encourage your child to tell stories. Write them down as they are being told. They can be written in book form or similar to a journal. Your child can illustrate, add photographs or paste trinkets to help describe the story.
4. Create a letter scrapbook. Write the letters of the alphabet on individual pages. Your child can add pictures of things that begin with that letter. This is a great way to keep track of your child’s interest throughout the year.
5. Let your child assist with the shopping list. If your child has already begun to write, have him or her make a written list of the items you need from the store. Some items may need to be illustrated. This may take some extra time but you’ll find the activity quite enjoyable.
6. Count everything. Steps, cars, birds, cookies, etc.
7. Enjoy family and life events and discussions.
8. Look for reading programs through the Kremmling library.
9. Allow your child age appropriate personal and home responsibilities and choices.
10. Our children are only young once. Helping them learn as they grow up is a rewarding experience.

~ Modified from Vōwac Publishing Newsletter