

Schools Update: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

By Aaron Miller

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a behavior program that is individualized for each school. The overall concept of PBIS is to provide clear, consistent rules and expectations for student behavior; teach those rules and expectations; provide positive rewards when expected behavior is demonstrated; and re-teach those expectations when negative behaviors occur.

Vernonia Elementary and Mist Grade Schools have been PBIS schools for many years, while Vernonia Middle and High Schools have used parts of PBIS in the past. This year PBIS will be

a District-wide focus as all schools will be involved in further developing and implementing this program.

Our school wide expectations are to "Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible."

Too often behavior management programs only focus on the negative behaviors that children exhibit, and don't acknowledge the majority of students who are already doing what is expected of them. PBIS addresses both sides of the coin. It works to acknowledge and reward students' positive choices, yet also deal effectively with negative behaviors by providing opportunities for re-teaching and learning the expected way to behave. PBIS works to help teach

behavior expectations that have not yet been learned or demonstrated. We provide this re-teaching model in learning academic subjects, and behaviorally through this program.

Our staff will be busy teaching expectations for all aspects of our school including the playground, cafeteria, hallways, bathrooms, assemblies and other common areas. When students are "caught being good" they can be recognized, acknowledged and rewarded with "Reward Tickets." Reward tickets acknowledge the positive behavior demonstrated by a student, can be saved to turn in for a reward, or can be turned in for school drawings for a chance at a different reward.

As we continue this program, rewards can be a popular topic among students and staff. While they do play a role in this program, the main focus of PBIS is to teach expected behaviors, and increase individual responsibility for each student's own actions.

You can access more information regarding PBIS at www.PBIS.org. If you have any specific questions about PBIS in Vernonia, or anything else at school, please feel free to call or set up an appointment to visit.

Thank you for your support as we work to continue providing your students with a positive learning environment.

Your Horoscope for September 2016



By Stacey Lynn

This will not be a month for major decision making. At least not until Mercury (thought process) goes direct on the 22nd.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) There is a need for cooperation in relationships. The eclipse on the 16th promises unexpected events. You assert yourself easily, you stand out and you shine. Your career demands it undergo careful re-evaluation. You need calm and patience because some things don't work out on the first try.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) On September 9, good luck will strive from now until October 2017 and improve your life in all regards, including that of relationships. You have the courage to initiate projects that in the past seemed too bold. You feel the need to do something special. The eclipse on September 16 foretells a surprise or a professional change.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The stars are not too generous. Under this influence secret or forbidden love can flourish. The eclipse on the 16th can trigger an unexpected, strange, possibly unpleasant event. Things change visibly for the better after September 23. You have to analyze the larger picture, draw conclusions and take action!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) An old situation or a project that you interrupted or abandoned may come back into play. You enjoy popularity, you easily find supporters or protectors when in need. You're OK financially, but you shouldn't rush or risk things. You prove to have a lot of will and perseverance, but it wouldn't hurt you to be more flexible.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) It's not a great time to make decisions, proposals, or attempt to clarify a situation. If you try, you risk to make everything more confusing. Happily, Venus is very well placed, so love wins. It is the start of a year of opportunities. Rest more, eat healthier and at regulated times. An important connection is made while going out.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) To keep your relationship safe from harm, it is very important to try to make things as clear as possible, to be as lucid and realistic as possible. Clear up your accounting, pay your debts and get what you're due. Try to lead as organized a life as you can, without excesses and eccentricities. It's a good time to read!

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Things can easily get out of hand, so act with tact, communicate clearly, make sure your messages are correctly received. It is not the right time to make major choices. A change of direction is coming. Take better care of yourself. Get organized, make your calculations and don't leave anything up to chance!

Aries (March 21-April 19) Arians are in for a happy month, with an exceptionally joyful interval between the 9th and 23rd. You may experience extra intellectual stress related to travel, paperwork and/or communication. Health is in the spotlight and it would be wise to deal with it properly. Be social, make new acquaintances and friends.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) September looks to be rather complicated for Taureans' love life. Things don't really go according to plan, but there's luck in love after September 23rd. You need more patience. With Jupiter in your house of work, you could find the job you want, a second job or improve your current one. Be careful with money.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) So begins a passionate year that abounds in favorable circumstances. Until the 22nd, official couples or long-term relationships risk going through some tensions. It's a contradictory month! There's a risk of conflict, aggressiveness, and accidents. For these reasons, calm and prudence are advised.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Happiness radiates particularly upon your home and family, who are very dear to you. Communication in Cancerians' love life is more important than ever. There is no time to take a break. The tasks are too many, urgent or difficult. Buy something nice for your home!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Much like August, it's still a

passionate time, but tense. Love could mean taking some chances. Financially, during September, you might experience some setbacks. So it's a good time to revise your budget and to set your accounting right. Leave major financial decisions for the third week of the month.

STAY COOL

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Bask~Beach~Boats~Canoes~Cliff Diving~Clams
Cool Wind~Float~Fishing~Kayak~Lake~Ocean
Pond~Pools~River~Sailing~Sea~Shells~Shore
Soak~Stream~Surf~Swim~Swimming Hole~Waves
Waterfalls~Windsurf~Water Ski~Drink Lots~of Water

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