

# SEPTEMBER FAMILY NEWSLETTER

## Teton Literacy Center

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Find us on



Dear Families,

It has been a great first week and we are so excited about the start of school year programs! Each month TLC will send out a parent newsletter. The newsletters will focus on what is happening at TLC and in the community. Most importantly, we'll be giving out at home tips to increase literacy and learning at home. Is there a topic that you have been wondering about? Email us! If we don't have an answer, we are happy to do the research!

Sincerely,

The TLC Staff

### ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

#### WHY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

Chronic absence is a leading, early warning indicator of academic trouble and later dropout. The good news is that this is a problem we can solve! 3 things to know:

1. Good attendance helps children do well in school and eventually in the workplace.
2. Excused and unexcused absences quickly add up to extensive time lost in the classroom.
3. Students are at risk academically if they miss 10% of the school year, or about 18 days.

Attendance matters at TLC as well! Our programs are individualized to fit the needs of the students who are participating. We design the programs around each child's interest, skill level, social/emotional level, and in-school activities. With strong attendance, students gain skills in literacy, team work, math, social skills, and more. If your student is hesitant to attend, keeps forgetting or is otherwise struggling with attendance, please talk with TLC Staff. We are here to help!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### JACKSON'S GOT TALENT

**Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup>**

Join us at Pink Garter for the most talented fundraiser of the year!

#### Family Literacy Night

**November 17<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7pm**

Mark your calendars for a brand new family literacy event! More details next month!

#### PARENT PARTICIPATION WEEK

**DEC. 12<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> !**

Join us for the last 15 minutes of your child's club or tutoring session! Students will be proudly showing you what they have worked on and learned this session!

#### VOLUNTEER TRAININGS

**Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Interested in being a tutor while your child is enrolled in another afterschool program? No experience necessary!

#### TEDX IS COMING!

Ted X is a fun event for the whole family! This year's topic is PASSION on Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Also check out great ted talks online! [www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com)

## BACK TO SCHOOL

### STRATEGIES FOR TALKING ABOUT SCHOOL

Every school year I am reminded how challenging it can be to talk about the school day with our students. Sometimes I get wonderful, detailed answers and stories. Other times I just get a "meh." I recently found a great article from PBS.com that discussed some strategies to keep in mind when talking to children about school.

- Greet your child with an enthusiastic hello
- Allow your child the right to not talk right after school
- Learn about your child's life at school. The more details you know, the more valuable your questions can be!
- Say what's on your mind. Don't fish around for an answer if you need it. Your child will resent it.
- Avoid face to face interrogations. Try talking about it while you're cooking or when they are taking a bath.
- Listen before you talk. Let your child lead the discussion.
- Try communicating without words. Play thumbs up, thumbs down.

Interested in more ideas? Check out the article online

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/going-to-school/talking-with-kids-about-school/talking-strategies/>

### CALL FOR TALENT

We are excited to let families know that the 2016 Jackson's Got Talent event on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Pink Garter Theater is benefiting TLC Tutoring, Enrichment and Family Literacy programs!

Does anyone in your family have a talent they want to share? Want to audition? Record a video of you, your child or your whole family performing your talent and upload it to the Jackson's Got Talent Website [www.jacksonsgottalent.org](http://www.jacksonsgottalent.org) . **Deadline for submissions is Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Don't have a talent but want to join the fun? Tickets are on sale at [Jacksonsgottalent.org](http://Jacksonsgottalent.org)



### TALKING POINTS FOR CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Teachers love to hear the parents' perspective on their child's education. At TLC, we believe that parents are their child's first teacher. Your insight about your child can help us develop programs that will help them learn best. What are things teachers love to know?

1. What do you see as your child's greatest strengths or skills?
2. What are your fears or concerns about your child in this year of school?
3. What do you hope we'll communicate with you about this year?
4. Is there anything you want to tell us about your child that you think would help us support his/her learning?

**TALK WITH THE TEACHER AT SCHOOL AND COME AND SPEAK WITH A STAFF MEMBER HERE AT TLC.**