

March 2017



## Crooked Creek Elementary School

2150 Kessler Blvd., W. Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46228  
MSD Washington Township  
<http://cc.msdt.k12.in.us>  
(317) 259-5478  
fax (317) 259-5453  
attendance (317) 259-5220

### Upcoming Events:

- March 2** – Restaurant Night - Blaze  
Pizza 5-8 pm
- March 7** – Fuel Up - Circle K Gas  
Station (all day)
- March 9** – Talent and Art Show, 6:30-  
8 pm
- March 10** – End of 3rdQuarter  
ISTEP ends  
International Holiday, 5:30-  
7:30 pm
- March 11** – Great North Run at NC
- March 12** – District Art Show,  
1-2:30pm
- March 13 - 17** – IREAD testing (gr 3)
- March 14** – Middle School Open  
House, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- March 16** – PTO meeting, 6-7 pm  
*Special guest: Dr. Woodson*
- March 17** – Report Cards sent home
- March 22-24** – 4th grade to FlatRock
- March 23** – Early Release, 2:15pm
- March 24** – Freaky Friday/March  
Madness
- March 27-31** – Spring Break (no  
school)
- April 3** – Welcome back!  
*School year calendar available at  
<http://cc.msdt.k12.in.us>*

### Dear Parents,

March is going to be a very busy month at Crooked Creek and in Washington Township! At the moment, students in Grades 3-5 are working hard on the ISTEP+ test. Please send them to school with lots of great feelings. This is a stressful time for them and the more we can do as adults to ease their stress the better.

The week of March 6-10th, we will have our always popular Talent Show on Thursday evening at 6:30. Please plan to attend to see how many very talented performers we have as they present a variety of music and skits. On Friday, March 10th, we will have the rescheduled International Festival from 5:30-7:30PM. Nothing was lost due to rescheduling; we will have a fabulous evening with raffles, a silent auction, dinner, and games. Two shuttle buses will run from the Mennonite church on Knollton Road all evening, so parking or waiting should not be a problem. I hope to see all of our families at both of the events.

At the district level, the Great North Run will be at North Central High School on the morning of Saturday, March 11th. This annual event is always an exciting time with something for everyone. You can participate in runs or walks of several lengths and skill levels, a health fair, and enjoy healthful food options. This is a great place for our kids to meet their friends and families to have fun together. Please go to [AdvancementCenterWTS.org](http://AdvancementCenterWTS.org) for more information and registration through Thursday evening. Crooked Creek wins money for the largest number of registrants.

We are always looking for ways to “grow” our children’s minds. Our teachers are helping them to understand that intelligence is NOT fixed; it can and does change depending on how we choose to apply our brains. This awareness is called having a “growth mindset” and gives us the knowledge that we can learn, change, and develop needed skills. While there are always setbacks, this mindset helps kids to work around them and use them as growth experiences. Essentially, the approach to all learning as a process, not just working to an endpoint builds confidence and fosters motivation. This is well summed up in the words of Albert Einstein: “I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious.” For more information, please see the attached article.

Don’t forget to come check our lost and found in the front hallway. We have a large number of coats and jackets that will be donated after the International Festival. As a reminder – it is much easier to find the owners of lost items that are clearly marked with a name.

Sincerely,  
Principal Parquet





**CROOKED CREEK STUDENTS ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE**

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Kenneth Jennings  | Colin Fitzgerald   |
| Kendrick Blanks   | Jeremiah Barnes    |
| Sama Alshara      | Josiah Foor        |
| Sam Winchester    | Avenezzer Berhane  |
| Yarib Maldonado   | Josephine Radice   |
| Ai Jared          | Marcus Shannon     |
| Joan Cruz         | Jahmir Dixon       |
| Ali Ndaye         | Stella Sermersheim |
| Rachel Mintz      | Drew Smith         |
| Kalea Lewis       | Graham Goodrich    |
| Eleanor Kirchhoff | Joshua Mackey      |
| Davon Trotter     |                    |



*March 17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day!*



**HOW THE WORLD WORKS - FIRST GRADE INVESTIGATES**

First graders kick off their new IB unit, How the World Works, as they investigate properties of matter with student teacher, Mrs. Moore. She demonstrates adding a solid (mentos) to a liquid (diet coke) and the resulting geyser of bubbles (which contain gases).

*Vicky Smith  
First Grade Teacher*



# PLANNING for INTO FUTURE

## State of Washington Township Schools Presentations

Spring 2017

School(s) Community Invited	Meeting Location	Date	Presentation Time
Westlane Parents	Westlane Forum	Tuesday, February 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Allisonville Parents	AV Large Computer Lab	Thursday, March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Nora and Northview Parents	Nora Media Center	Tuesday, March 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Greenbriar Parents	GB Media Center	Thursday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
North Central Parents	NC Room H193	Monday, March 13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Crooked Creek Parents	CC Media Center	Thursday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Eastwood and John Strange Parents	EW LGI	Tuesday, March 21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Spring Mill Parents	SM Gymnasium	Thursday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Fox Hill Parents	Fox Hill Cafeteria	Thursday, April 13 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 6:30 p.m.



2017 Crooked Creek Math Bowl Team



**Dear Parent/Guardian,**

CROOKED CREEK ELEMENTARY is excited to introduce **DreamBox Learning's Math Program**, an online, Intelligent Adaptive Learning **program that helps all students achieve better, faster math proficiency**. The program will be available to all students on a trial basis until June 1, 2017. After this trial period ends we will evaluate student data and progress to decide if this is a math program to be considered for next school year. Students are already using DreamBox at school and are ready to continue learning at home.

Your student can access DreamBox Learning from any computer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week using this link you can bookmark:

**<https://play.dreambox.com/login/8fk3/crookedce>**

**User Name:** 8 digit student school ID number

**Password:** last name

To access DreamBox on **iPad**, go to <http://www.dreambox.com/ipad>, or search for "DreamBox Math" in the App Store. Download DreamBox Math Green. When prompted in the app, use this School Code:

**8fk3/crookedce**

### **Tips for home usage**

1. Allow 15 to 20 minute sessions throughout week.
2. Encourage completion of every lesson that is started. Mistakes are OK. Your child should not shy away from incorrect answers, as they help find the right lesson to build learning progress.
3. We know it's difficult, but please resist the urge to help with answers so that your child doesn't move ahead before he or she is truly ready.

Sincerely,

Crooked Creek Elementary School

**Contact: Susan Cosand**

Math Specialist

Crooked Creek Elementary School

317-259-5453 ext.12105



**Estimado Padre / Representante,**

CROOKED CREEK ELEMENTARY ha adquirido el **Programa de Aprendizaje de Matemáticas DreamBox**, un programa Intelligent Adaptive Learning(MT), disponible en línea, que le permite a todos los estudiantes alcanzar una mejor y más rápida destreza en matemáticas.

Su estudiante puede acceder a DreamBox Learning desde cualquier computadora, 24 horas al día, 7 días a la semana usando este enlace:

<https://play.dreambox.com/login/8fk3/crookedce>

**User Name:** 8 digit student school ID number

**Password:** last name

Para acceder a DreamBox en **iPad**, vaya a <http://www.dreambox.com/ipad>, o busque “DreamBox Math” en la Tienda de aplicaciones. Descargue DreamBox Math Green. Luego, cuando se lo solicite la aplicación, use este Código de Escuela:

**8fk3/crookedce**

### **Sugerencias para usar en casa**

1. Permita sesiones de 15 a 20 minutos durante la semana.
2. Promueva la culminación de cada lección que se comienza. Está bien si se cometen errores. El niño no debe sentirse intimidado por las respuestas incorrectas, porque éstas le ayudan a encontrar la lección correcta para progresar en su aprendizaje.
3. Sabemos que es difícil, pero por favor resista al impulso de ayudarlo con las respuestas para que el niño no avance antes de estar verdaderamente listo.

Atentamente,  
CROOKED CREEK ELEMENTARY

**Susan Cosand**  
Math Specialist  
Crooked Creek Elementary School  
317.250.5452 ext. 12105

# How to Teach Kids About the Power of a Growth Mindset



With a few simple strategies, we can teach our kids about the power of a growth mindset.

## Teach About Their Brain

The first thing our kids need to know is that our intelligence isn't fixed – that it can change. It can get stronger or weaker depending on how much effort we are willing to apply.

Download the article, [You Can Grow Your Intelligence](#) and read it out loud or have your older children read this by themselves and discuss the ideas about brain function. Lead them to understand that the brain is like a muscle that gets stronger with use and that learning prompts neurons in the brain to grow new connections.

Teach your kids that they can improve their IQ and talents. Present the evidence and teach them that education is something that have control over.

Just as a baby isn't born talking but learns over time, they don't know everything but can learn over time with work.

Teach them that people with a growth mindset believe that they can learn, change, and develop needed skills. They are better equipped to handle inevitable setbacks, and know that hard work can help them accomplish their goals.

Here is an informative video you can watch with your kids.

<https://youtu.be/EIVUqv0v1EE>

Another way to teach about the growth mindset is by telling stories about achievements that resulted from hard work. For instance, talking about mathematical geniuses who were more or less born that way puts students in a fixed mind-set, but descriptions of great mathematicians who fell in love with math and developed amazing skills engenders a growth mind-set. Try reading a biography of Thomas Edison for starters.

### Model a Growth Mindset

A lot of how our students (or kids) pick up on a growth mindset will be from observing and listening to you as their parent or teacher. Show kids how to recognize fixed mindset thoughts and how to replace them with growth mindset thoughts.

Don't Say	Do Say
I'm so stupid.	What am I missing?
I'm awesome at this.	I seem to be on the right track.
I'm not good at math (or any other subject).	I'm going to train my brain in math (or other subject).
This is too hard.	This is going to take some time and effort.
I'm jealous - she's so smart!	I'm going to figure out how she is doing it.
I give up!	I'll use some of the strategies I've learned.
I made a mistake.	Mistakes help me improve.
It's good enough.	Is this really my best work?

### Praise the Process

Parents and teachers tend to think that praising kids' intelligence builds confidence and motivation to learn. While this type of praise may give the student a brief boost in confidence, we learned in my last post on the research behind a growth mindset, this kind of praise leads to a fixed mindset – one that is more concerned with looking smart and keeping the parent or teacher's admiration than on actually working hard to learn. Parents and teachers do better to focus on praising the 'process' or personal effort and any effective strategies used, which fosters motivation by *placing value on what students have done and what they need to do to continue to be successful.*

Dr. Dweck's research demonstrated how the simple act of praising effort, or the process the student took to learn, rather than ability, can have a dramatic effect on cultivating a growth mindset.

Here are some ideas to phrase your feedback in a way that develops more of a growth mindset to get you started:

- I see that you have been trying so hard at ...
- You are becoming more confident at ....
- Good job taking on such a hard task ...
- You are taking on harder tasks and that must make you feel confident.
- I like the way that you ....
- You must have tried really hard at this.
- I see that you are trying again, great thinking.
- You remembered to use the procedure for ....
- It must feel good to follow those steps you have taken.
- What a brilliant way to approach the task.
- I noticed you are thinking through the steps we discussed.
- You were confident with the task and I know you will be with the next step.
- I am watching the way you're approaching this and I think your effort is outstanding.
- The steps you took must have really helped you...

*I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious. Albert Einstein*

### **More Thoughts on Teaching Kids so They Develop a Growth Mindset**

Do you have a student (or child) that thinks they aren't smart or who think that they can't learn? Try to figure out what they understand and what strategies they *could* use. Great teachers believe in the growth of talent and intelligence in their students and will take the time to learn how their students (or kids) learn.

*If 'Plan A' didn't work, there are 25 other letters in the alphabet!*

Many of you reading this today are here because you are teaching kids with dyslexia. Because of our kids' struggles in the early years of school, it is fairly common for them to believe that they are not smart.



## What to say when they struggle despite strong effort:

- OK, so you didn't do as well as you wanted to. Let's look at this as an opportunity to learn.
- What did you do to prepare for this? Is there anything you could do to prepare differently next time?
- You are not there/here *yet*.
- When you think you can't do it, remind yourself that you can't do it *yet*.
- I expect you to make some mistakes. It is the kinds of mistakes that you make along the way that tell me how to support you.
- You might be struggling, but you are making progress. I can see your growth (in these places).
- Look at how much progress you made on this. Do you remember how much more challenging this was (yesterday/last week/last year)?
- Of course it's tough – school is here to make our brains stronger!
- If it were easy, you wouldn't be learning anything!
- You can do it – it's tough, but you can; let's break it down into steps.
- Let's stop here and return tomorrow with a fresher brain.
- I admire your persistence and I appreciate your hard work. It will pay off.

*“Our society worships talent, and many people assume that possessing superior intelligence or ability—along with confidence in that ability—is a recipe for success. In fact, however, more than 35 years of scientific investigation suggests that an overemphasis on intellect or talent leaves people vulnerable to failure, fearful of challenges and unwilling to remedy their shortcomings.” Dr. Carol Dweck*

Developing a growth mindset will take consistency over time. You will know that your kids are implementing the growth mindset when you see them becoming more persistent, not ruminating about their own failure much at all but instead thinking of their mistakes as problems to be solved.

*How can you see teaching this growth mindset changing your kids' attitudes and motivation to learn?*

Read more about Mindset by reading Dr. Dweck's book, **Mindset**.

# Reading Log Rate

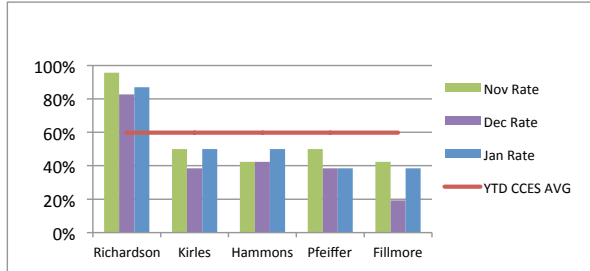
Crooked Creek 2016-2017

T#	Rm	Teacher	# Students as of 9/01/2016	% of students who read 20 days or more a month						YTD CCES AVG
				Sep Rate	Oct Rate	Nov Rate	Dec Rate	Jan Rate	AVG YTD	
1	LL1	Richardson	23	87%	87%	96%	83%	87%	88%	60%
2	LL2	Kirles	26	58%	50%	50%	38%	50%	49%	60%
3	1	Hammons	26	54%	62%	42%	42%	50%	50%	60%
4	21	Pfeiffer	26	54%	50%	50%	38%	38%	46%	60%
5	22	Fillmore	26	38%	38%	42%	19%	38%	35%	60%
6	3	Yeary/Frank	23	96%	87%	100%	96%	91%	94%	60%
7	4	Crankshaw	24	5%	79%	71%	63%	63%	68%	60%
8	4b	Stone	23	65%	57%	43%	61%	0%	45%	60%
9	5	Whitson	23	13%	61%	57%	48%	70%	50%	60%
10	6	Smith	22	82%	73%	55%	64%	50%	65%	60%
11	2	Blanton	21	62%	52%	52%	33%	38%	48%	60%
12	7	Abell	23	74%	78%	83%	43%	65%	69%	60%
13	8	Badger	23	83%	83%	91%	78%	70%	81%	60%
14	9	Edison	23	57%	74%	74%	61%	61%	65%	60%
15	10	Zehr	25	96%	92%	80%	72%	84%	85%	60%
16	11	Bui	22	95%	100%	95%	82%	82%	91%	60%
17	12	Williams	23	57%	78%	74%	65%	61%	67%	60%
18	13	Branson	25	56%	40%	44%	12%	40%	38%	60%
19	14	Vannatta	26	62%	38%	38%	19%	54%	42%	60%
20	15	Freese	27	93%	44%	89%	85%	96%	81%	60%
21	P1	Hodge	25	60%	76%	64%	56%	44%	60%	60%
22	P2	Turner	20	15%	25%	15%	5%	25%	17%	60%
23	P3	Malone	23	91%	65%	78%	52%	91%	76%	60%
24	P4	Denice	22	36%	36%	36%	32%	18%	32%	60%
25	16	Kuskye	27	96%	93%	81%	89%	74%	87%	60%
26	17	Stevens	24	96%	79%	88%	63%	67%	78%	60%
27	18	Nibarger	28	61%	57%	79%	96%	96%	78%	60%
28	19	Haskell	26	0%	81%	42%	50%	0%	35%	60%
29	20	Combs	30	0%	40%	30%	23%	23%	23%	60%
30	PACES	Taylor	6	33%	67%	67%	17%	33%	43%	60%
<b>Total</b>			711	61%	64%	63%	54%	56%	<b>60%</b>	60%

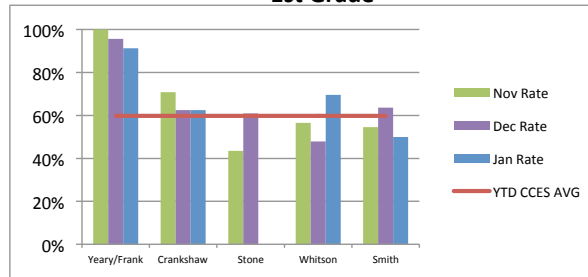
# Crooked Creek Elementary School

## Reading Log Rates 2016-17

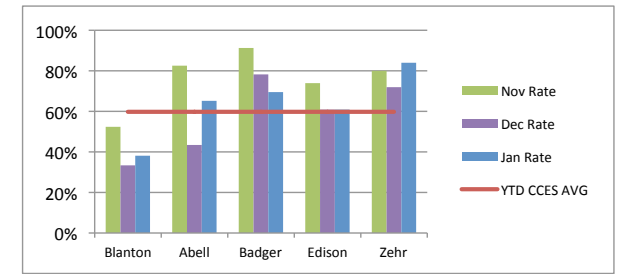
### Kindergarten



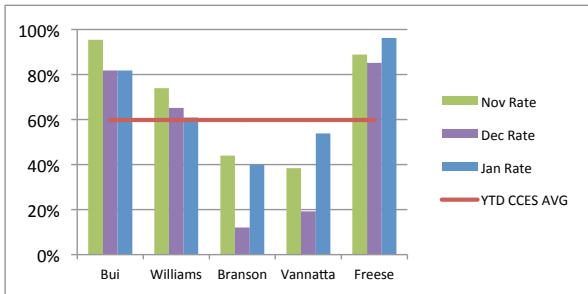
### 1st Grade



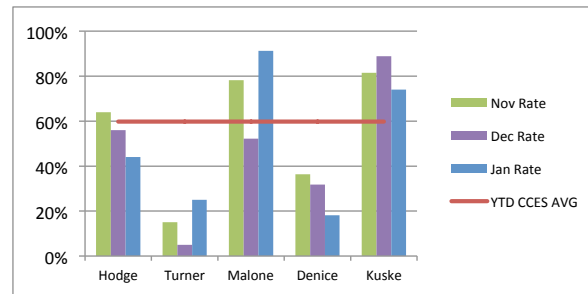
### 2nd Grade



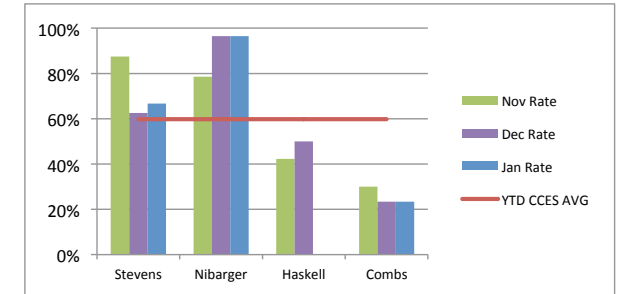
### 3rd Grade



### 4th Grade



### 5th Grade



### PACES

