

Title I Newsletter

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The Importance of a Strong Foundation

Just like in construction, it is important to build skills on a strong foundation. For math, that foundation is knowing math facts. Whether addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division, a child who has committed facts to memory can then focus on new mathematical concepts rather than get bogged down by counting fingers. In language arts, a strong foundation is based on understanding phonetic concepts, building a strong vocabulary, and developing critical thinking skills. In both math and language arts, the key is **practice, practice, practice**. Here are some websites to help you encourage your child to practice math and language arts skills. Please go on the websites first, so that you can choose the appropriate level, since most sites deal with all academic levels. Click on classroom resources.

Everydaymath.com

Www.oswego.org

Readwritethink.org

Tarheelreader.com

LAS 2009-2010 Title I Program Launched

LAS's Title I program was launched in late November, and is now well underway. We are currently providing instructional support to students in grades 1 through 5 in the areas of math and language arts. We would like to welcome our Title I Instructor, Mrs. Mary Durant, to our staff. Mrs. Durant is no stranger to LAS. She had previously worked as a Teacher's Assistant for two years. Mrs. Durant is a Highly Qualified Teacher, recently receiving her degree in education from Franklin Pierce University. She is certified in Elementary Education, K-8. We welcome her to our staff.

Title I eligible students are receiving in class support for 30 minutes, 3 times a week in language arts (writing) and/or math, depending on a student's individual needs.

All types of aca-

demical support are a collaboration among many different people. Mrs. Durant and Mrs. Antlitz communicate regularly with your child's classroom teacher to determine specific skills that need support. Ms. Robinson and Mrs. Szeliga are available for consultation regarding math and language arts (writing) instruction. The Parent Compact (See article, "What is the Parent Compact?") is a promise to include parents and students in that collaborative effort.

Do you have questions about the Title I program? Then visit our link on the LAS website. If you go to the LAS website's main page, you will see the link for **READING** on the left hand side. This is Mrs.

In the coming week or so, you can expect to receive a brief update on how your child's Title I support has been going. If you at any time have any questions, feel free to contact either Mrs. Durant or Mrs. Antlitz. We can be reached via e-mail at: mdurant@sau21.org pantlitz@sau21.org or phone (926-2539).

Our Website Link

Antlitz' (my) teacher page, which has links to Title I, reading resources, and Foundations information. You can tell that it is under construction, and new information is being added regularly, so check it out

What is the Parent Compact?

You may have noticed that your child came home with a paper called the "Parent Compact". This Parent Compact is a contract among the student, their parent(s) and the LAS staff. It is an agreement that focuses on setting clear goals and expectations for increasing student achievement as well as fostering positive communication. Mrs. Durant has reviewed these expectations with all of her Title I students. The second aspect of this compact is for parents to have a similar, follow-up conversation with their child about school expectations and student responsibilities that will help them to be academically successful. We encourage you to have an open conversation with your child, and then sign and return the Parent Compact. It will be kept in your child's Title I folder for future reference.

frequently. My goal is to expand this page so that it functions as a resource for all foundational learning (reading, language arts, and math). I welcome your input in how I can make this page helpful and useful.

This Newsletter was prepared by Patricia Antlitz, Title I Coordinator. Mrs. Antlitz is a certified Reading Specialist who has been working with the students at Lincoln Akerman School for the last 15 years.