

September 2024 PACE Homeschool Newsletter

Dates to Remember

Sept 2 nd	All PACE offices closed for holiday
Sept 3 rd -6 th	KLC Closed
Sept 5 th	MLC Curriculum Day 10am-2pm: How to get started with your paper based curriculum
Sept 5 th -6 th	CLC Closed
Sept 11 th	KLC Closed
Sept 16 th -27 th	DIBELS Testing Window by appointment only

Completing Enrollment

With summer coming to an end our teachers' schedules are filling up fast. Don't delay! Schedule your appointment to complete your enrollment now to ensure you can choose a day and time that works best for your schedule. Call us at (907) 373-9701 or toll free at 1-866-864-5491.

****To receive full allotment you must complete enrollment by the end of September****

Teacher Tip of the Month by: Mikal Sparkman, ALC Teacher

September is always an exciting month for homeschooling! First, we dream up all of the subjects we want to learn about, then we get to pick our materials and curriculum! But, once all of that fun stuff is accomplished, now what?

The next step is to plan out a routine that fits in with your family's lifestyle, your student's personality, and balances out their strengths and weaknesses. Creating a schedule can not only make everything fit into the semester, but it also eases the burden of overwork. Since we do a lot of our school work at home, it's nice to have a schedule in place that will help us to maintain a healthy school-life balance at home.

Here are some tips:

1. When is your student most productive? Plan school work time around that time of day.
2. How much time is reasonable to be sitting doing school work? Start with what you know is doable (30 min? 60 min?), depending on your student's age, and then plan to work up academic stamina from there. Starting full-throttle can lead to frustration and burnout, and can be very discouraging. (Not the way we want to start our school year!)
3. Decide if the school work should be done in a few sessions each day, or if it is better to do it all at once. Younger students might need to break it up with snacks and outdoor play between school sessions, while older students might want to get it done so they can get to work or other responsibilities. It's okay to plan for some social time in the day, as well, between work sessions. This helps us to mentally process what we have been learning, and also lets us burn off some extra energy.
4. In order to plan each day, we have to look over the whole year and decide how much we need to accomplish each week. Online curriculums usually have a planning tool that lets you schedule holidays and vacations. Once that is done, many programs will offer a pacing guide that lets you know what needs to be done each week (working around your special dates) in order to finish by the final deadlines of your homeschooling program (ours is May 16th this year.) Many paper/pencil or box curricula have a pacing guide that can be printed out from their website, or it might be in the teacher's guide. When in doubt, call the company and ask them!
5. Consider whether it would be better to do a little of each subject each day. Or, if your child is easily overwhelmed, try planning a Mon/Wed and Tue/Thur schedule, dividing the days up by subjects. It might help to know that we only need to do Science and Math on Tuesdays and Thursdays, for instance.
6. Plan for free time/quiet time each day, help your child to set goals about what they want to learn or complete, and celebrate successes. Celebrations can be educational, as well, if you plan trips to museums, performances, or exploration around town or in nature. Be creative!

As always, if you need any help or want to talk it out, your contact teacher is a phone call or email away! We are here because we love this stuff! Don't hesitate to reach out to us!

Nicholas

Tori

Jayce

Irena

Wyatt

Kelsey

Katie

Stormy

Gabriel

Eathan

Logan

Luke

Asa

Tara

Landon

Quinton

Timothy

Olivia

John

Isaac

Piper

