



TLCS NEWS & VIEWS

March 6, 2019

Email: learn@tlcs.co.bw

Website: www.tlconline.com

Parent Information

Occasionally we have a need to call you to the school. We need to be able to quickly access you at all times in case of an emergency. If the school number **+267 7125 0148** shows in your caller ID, please urgently find a way to answer the call. If the school paramedic calls (Ms. Ranna) and asks you to collect your child please do so as quickly as possible. Also, sometimes we need to schedule a meeting with you. If we call to schedule a meeting, it means that something concerns us that is urgent. Refusing to meet or continually putting off the meeting will result in your child being held out of class until you are available to address the problem. If we request you to have a psychological report done, it must be done in the time frame which we have requested.

Medication

If your child is taking medication, please notify Ms. Ranna – and be sure she has the instructions. **No student should be taking any medication on campus without our knowledge.** It will be taken away from them and you will be called to collect it.

Character Counts

This month in our chapel we will be focusing on knowing and expressing good character traits. Among those we will study are: Trustworthy, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness Caring and Citizenship. Of course, many other good character traits find their roots in these. Good character is an ongoing conversation at The Learning Centre. We hope you see a difference in your homes.

2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR

April 05	Term One Ends
May 06	Term Two Begins
August 02	Term Two Ends
September 02	Term Three Begins
November 21	Term Three Ends

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

A recent study in the Journal of Hand Therapy shows that young adults have surprisingly less hand strength and hand grip than older generations, which could be one result from using more electronic devices and less pencil time. Some may even argue that electronics are hindering our students' education rather than helping them progress because they lack fine motor development skills used for hand-writing, pencil grip and brain-building activity.

If Occupational Therapists are already seeing signs of weaker hand grip in millennials, what can we expect from younger generations and is it one of the reasons why we are seeing more learning delays and sensory issues in the classroom? We already know from this Washington Post article https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2015/09/01/the-decline-of-play-in-preschoolers-and-the-rise-in-sensory-issues/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.869878234a5b this could be the case. When children have weak hand strength, simple learning tasks could become difficult, such as holding a pencil, establishing right or left-hand dominance, poor fine motor skills, writing letters and numbers correctly, fastening buttons or zippers, writing fatigue and lack of hand-eye coordination development needed for reading.

Now you may say, "This really isn't important anymore because most of us in the real world now only type on computers." From an outside perspective you would be right. When you think about it, when was the last time you took handwritten notes or wrote a letter you put in the mailbox? Probably less than 20 percent of the time you are at home or work. Everything is now done with laptops, electronic devices and email. So why continue to encourage and "push" hand grip strength? Developing your child's hand strength and fine motor skills is linked to more than just hand-writing and pencil grip. Researchers have also found a connection between how the brain transitions from right-brained learning (creative, emotions) to move left-brained learning (logical, critical thinking). If the brain fails to transition from right-brained learning to left-brained learning, children become more emotional instead of logical as they get older. That is why many parents and teachers today see more attention issues in the classroom, sensory struggles, meltdowns, anxiety and emotional grounding issues.

Desert Streams Fellowship

The Learning Centre School property is host to Desert Stream Fellowship each Sunday morning at 10AM. You are welcome to attend.

