

# THE GIRAFFE JOURNAL



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Dear Meridian Parents and Guardians,

It's March and we are just three weeks away from spring break! Our spring break is March 23rd— 27th.

We have many students coming in tardy to the point that they are missing a chunk of their instruction. Learning is a continuous process and if your child has broken absences or tardiness they are missing out on their education. Your child may make-up the work missed, but they cannot make-up the group discussion and group work with the teacher. The group discussion and group work is very important for your child to develop and master the skill being taught. As stated, in the Clay Community Schools' Parent-Student Handbook on page 8, after any absence, the **parent is required to send a brief note or phone the school** stating the reason for the absence. If a student's absence will exceed two days, the parent should contact the school office and request assignments. If a student's absence exceeds two days then a doctor's note is required. Thank you for helping us educate your child.

Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 are preparing for the **ILEARN** assessment. **ILEARN** is Indiana's computer-adaptive assessment designed to measure your child's proficiency of the **Indiana Academic Standards** in Grades 3-5. **ILEARN** fulfills both state and federal legislative requirements as the accountability assessment for Indiana students. We believe that every student can achieve success and show growth on the test. **With the ILEARN, an attendance component is also be a part of our accountability, in addition to, student performance, student growth and participation. An ILEARN assessment information for parents is attached to this newsletter. The newsletter provides resources to help prepare your child for ILEARN.**

In addition to **ILEARN**, students in grade 3 will be taking the **IREAD 3** assessment the week of **March 16th**. This test will determine whether your child is promoted to 4th grade. If your child does not pass the **IREAD 3** they will be required to attend summer school and retake the assessment. If your child does not pass the assessment during summer school, then your child will be retained in third grade.

I would like to give a **BIG shout out to our parents and students** for getting their child/children to school on time and attending every day. Our current rate of attendance for February is as follows:

Kindergarten	91.59%	Third Grade	92.74%
First Grade	91.47%	Fourth Grade	95.36%
Second Grade	86.71%	Fifth Grade	92.23%

**Overall School Rate of Attendance for February 91.68%**

Your participation and positive feedback is so appreciated! Please feel free to contact me either by phone **448-8560, Ext. 2601** or email **phillipk@clay.k12.in.us** if you ever have any concerns or if I can be of any service to you, your child or the school community.

Educationally yours,

Karen S. Phillips



Respect Featured Reachers



Giraffe Club