

Dear Parents,

As part of teaching leadership in our building, we have adopted Stephen Covey's *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*®. This program develops the six pillars of character that are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

Throughout the school year, Lynwood will be integrating the principles and language of *The 7 Habits* into our everyday classroom instruction and building community. Throughout the month of September, teachers and students were introduced to and/or reviewed all of *The 7 Habits*. Each month forward, Lynwood will focus on a specific *Habit* to introduce and reinforce throughout the school community (see calendar on reverse).

In an effort to promote these habits, the Character Education and Leadership Committees have developed a school-wide incentive program. Teachers and staff members will be recognizing students who exemplify behavior of the habit focused on throughout the month by handing out "Golden Tickets".

All students are eligible to receive an unlimited amount of Golden Tickets whenever they are observed going above and beyond standard behavioral expectations. For example, a student may go out of their way to help another child in need; this displays **Proactive** behavior because the student took the initiative to help the student in need without being asked to help.

Students who receive these tickets will be randomly selected and recognized during the morning announcements. In addition, their names will scroll across the cafeteria marquis for all to see. They will also have their picture taken with "Stripes", our school mascot, to be displayed on a bulletin board in the lobby. At the end of the month, the pictures will be moved to the "Wall of Leaders" in the cafeteria.

As we recognize your children for these positive behaviors here at school, we encourage you to continue to reinforce the *Habits* at home as well. Please feel free to contact your student's teacher if you should have any questions.

Together we can ensure that all students have the opportunity to have their talents nurtured, their minds challenged, and support needed to develop the skills to be leaders of their lives (Covey, 2011).

Sincerely,

The Character Education and Leadership Committee
Lynwood Avenue School-Learning to Lead Together

October: Habit 1: Be Proactive

- Be responsible
- Take charge
- Show initiative-try something new
- Do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking
- Choose your actions wisely-Have control-Pause to think before reacting

November: Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind

- Have a plan
- Think about what you want to achieve and then plan out how to achieve them
- Set a goal

December: Habit 3: Put First Things First

- Do important things first-homework then play
- Prioritize tasks-stay organized
- Make good choices
- Take care of important things first

January: Habit 4: Think Win-Win

- Find ways that everyone can win
- Share ideas
- Listen to others' ideas
- Be fair

February: Habit 5: Seek First to Understand and Then to be Understood

- Be a good listener-listen with eyes, ears and heart
- Listen carefully
- Don't interrupt
- Try to understand what you are hearing
- Be warm and caring

March: Habit 6: Synergize

- Work together to do better
- Listen to new ideas
- Work with others
- Cooperate
- Respect differences in others
- Different opinions can bring new ideas

April: Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw

- Take care of yourself (body, brain, heart, and soul)
- Learn new things
- Spend time with people you love

May & June-Celebrate *The 7 Habits*