

OCTOBER 2024

COUNTY KIDS

A LOOK AT AREA PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The Importance of Raising
Independent Thinkers
page 3

Happy
Halloween

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Fun at the Library
page 17-19





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of Children, One Child at a Time"**



Family Matters with Amber



The Importance of Raising Independent Thinkers

“Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears, and never regrets.”
-Albert Einstein

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More important than all the money or education in the world, is the ability to think for oneself. To be able to draw one’s own conclusion and know what one believes (and doesn’t), as well as what one wants (and doesn’t), is probably the most valuable tool a person could have in their toolbox of life. If you have young children, are expecting, or thinking about starting a family, here are some things to have in your toolkit to help foster an independent thinker who is strong and resilient.

Why is independent thinking critical?

In this day and age we all encounter a constant influx of what others think and believe (and what we should be thinking as well). We are bombarded with a plethora of differing opinions and judgments. It’s easy to become swayed into doubting ourselves, and our own truth, too quickly believing what we see and hear. Not everyone has the best of intentions, so it’s important for our children to learn to think for themselves.

What’s resiliency got to do with it?

We live in a world where for some reason, everyone thinks they’re right all the time, every time. It’s getting more and more difficult for our voices to be heard over all the noise. Everyone seems to be in competition to be heard and unfortunately, not everyone is eloquent when they do it. There are some nasty people out there who don’t care about what they say, to whom they say it to, or how they deliver it. To raise a strong independent thinker, you must raise one who is also resilient enough that they won’t be knocked down with one simple rebuttal or rude comment. When I began homeschooling 27 years ago, I was given this advice: “Don’t shy away from talking about homeschooling or your choice to do it. If others are criticizing you, it’s an

opportunity for you to research your reasons, know your why, and it will help you talk about your choice with others.” The truth was, we were already receiving backlash from family, so it was expected we would get it from others, and we did. Being uncomfortable became okay; the more I followed the advice, the better I felt about my decision. I had done my research, knew my why, and I was happy to share it. I was also just as happy to walk away unphased by people’s opinions of me and my choices. That was their opinion (accompanied by their assumptions about my children’s future), and they were entitled to them. I never argued. Sometimes I thanked them for their input if it was a valid thought for me to consider. Otherwise, I informed and educated them from a homeschooling mother’s perspective (and experience) then carried on.

How to raise resilient independent thinkers

This starts by allowing kids to be



individuals at home. By fostering that environment, they can naturally become their own person, with their own mind, and find comfort in being supported to do so. Practice asking questions. Not dead end ones which result in “yes”, “no”, or “I don’t know”. Not questions which cause kids to become stubborn or guarded, on the defense wondering what answer you are looking for. Ask open ended questions in a genuine caring fashion; ones that facilitate thinking. Independent thinking. Give kids opportunities to make their own decisions. I have long been a proponent of this. It helps kids develop gut instincts, critical thinking skills, and face consequences of their actions which are a result of their thoughts and decisions. Over time, they learn to follow their gut too- which includes internal dialogue that, in part with research, fosters a belief system that begins to develop naturally and over time and cannot be swayed to do things that are not in alignment with life goals or their core feelings. Be honest with them. Tell them that over time they may lose friends, because they will. But also explain that these are their developing years and it is normal. As they grow and mature, they will move forward, in and out of circles of friends. Tell them it’s very okay, even though it might hurt, and in time they will wind up finding more of their tribe of like-minded people and will appreciate those relationships immensely.

Fostering independent vs stubborn thinkers

Modeling what we want from our children is always first. Restrain yourself from being overly opinionated with responses (which, frankly, is more reaction than response). Otherwise, they’ll shut down, or worse, argue with you. Main-

SEE PAGE 16



A LOOK AT AREA

Private Schools

HERSHEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Hershey Montessori School's Concord Campus serves children from infancy through sixth grade. The facility sits on 13 acres with beautiful classrooms intentionally designed and prepared with Montessori materials. Students regularly enjoy outdoor spaces that include vegetable gardens, trails, and open green space for play.

Our elementary program cultivates your child's imagination, reasoning skills, social development, and great intellect by providing individualized and small group lessons and projects.

Beyond the standard academic curriculum, students benefit from lessons with specialists in music, art, movement, and Spanish.

Morning and aftercare, as well as extra-curricular options and summer camps are available.

Hershey's 97-acre Huntsburg

SEE PAGE 15

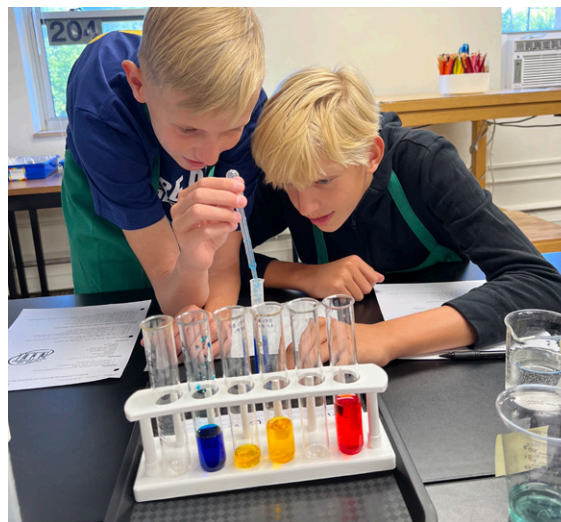
Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School

On the 450-acre campus of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School, as well as, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin, educate over 1100 students in preschool-12th grade.

We are excited to announce the restructuring of our school to include a middle school. Notre Dame Middle School features dedicated space for our sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. The middle school curriculum rigorously prepares our students to be successful in high school and offers honors classes in all three grades in ELA and math. Enriched learning opportunities are offered in academic core classes, as well as the special classes, to offer a rich and wide variety of learning experiences.

Notre Dame Elementary and Middle School provides a strong foundation for students to pursue their dreams, achieve academic excellence, realize their full potential, and help them to make a transformational difference in the world.

Contact Barbara Williams in Admissions at (440) 279-1129 to schedule a tour or shadow day.




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- ★ Innovations in Catholic Education Award Finalist-2020



SAINT PASCHAL BAYLON CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 5360 Wilson Mills Rd., Highland Heights (440) 442-6766 • www.saintpaschal.com

Nurturing Minds and Souls at All Saints School

Nestled within the picturesque and college-like setting of the Center for Pastoral Leadership on Euclid Ave. in Wickliffe, Ohio, All Saints School is not only blessed with a stunning physical environment but also the opportunity to engage in a special partnership with the seminarians who call this campus home. We have the privilege of having seminarians visit and actively contribute to the education of our students.

These dedicated individuals bring a wealth of knowledge, passion, and a unique perspective to our classrooms. Their presence enriches our educational environment, offering our students insights into faith, service, and a deeper understanding of their Catholic identity. The reciprocal nature of this relationship is truly remarkable. While our students benefit from the mentorship and teachings of the seminarians, the seminarians, in turn, gain valuable experience in engaging with the younger members of our faith community. It creates a symbiotic dynamic that fosters a sense of unity and shared purpose. This distinctive relationship has become a cornerstone of our educational experience, providing students a unique experience over other schools.

At All Saints School, we understand that children are individuals with distinct ways of learning and diverse strengths. Our commitment to fostering growth extends beyond a one-size-fits-all approach, and we embrace a variety of teaching methods to cater to the diverse needs of our students. This dedication to

accommodating different learning styles ensures that each child has the opportunity to thrive and reach their fullest potential.

Our courses of study are designed to meet both the State of Ohio and Diocesan standards, providing a comprehensive and rigorous education that prepares our students for academic success. Beyond academic excellence, our curriculum is infused with the Catholic school philosophy, creating a faith-filled environment that nurtures the spiritual, moral, and ethical development of our students.

We believe in the power of education to transform lives, and our commitment to academic excellence is complemented by a dedication to instilling strong values and a deep sense of faith. Our goal is not only to educate the minds of our students but also to shape their characters, fostering a love for learning, compas-



sion for others, and a profound connection to their Catholic identity. Call today to schedule a tour (440) 943-1395 of our unique campus.

At University School, boys have the freedom to explore, create, and play

Young boys have boundless energy and a natural tendency to explore. At University School, boys thrive in an environment with the freedom to explore, create, move, and play. Our teachers understand and support the needs of young boys and small class sizes allow students and teachers to build close and trusted connections.

University Schools's Shaker Heights Campus, for

boys Junior Kindergarten through Grade 8, includes outdoor learning and play areas, including a reimagined arboretum with an amphitheater, plus an exciting new play park with climbing structures and a turf field. Indoors, our facilities include a gym, pool, auditorium, cozy libraries, and a modern maker-space. University School is excited to announce that

SEE PAGE 6



Villa Angela-St. Joseph
HIGH SCHOOL

Faith. Family. Future.

FEEL THE VIKING SPIRIT!

JOIN US AT AN ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE:

Sunday, October 13, 2024 • 12-2 PM

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 • 6-8 PM

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 • 6-8 PM

[VASJ.COM/ADMISSIONS](https://vasj.com/admissions)

Mater Dei Academy



Mater Dei Academy, an Ohio Department of Education STEM-designated school located on the grounds of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Wickliffe educates students from ages 3 through Grade 8.

As a community working together in an atmosphere of mutual respect, we guide our students to grow in Catholic values and service to the community. Mater Dei students attend daily religion classes and weekly school Masses. They are empowered to grow spiritually, academically, and socially through worship, a challenging curriculum, service, and extracurricular activities.

Our students and families can expect a proven quality Catholic education with a

stimulating academic curriculum based on 21st century skills, all within a faith-filled environment. This includes opportunities for high school credit classes for our 8th graders, Title I reading and math support in the elementary grades and specials classes including Spanish and Technology for all students. Classrooms are interactive and students are challenged to become critical thinkers. In addition, Mater Dei Academy is engaged with the community institutes of higher learning such as Cleveland State University to support our STEM-style of learning.

Campus tours are available during the school day. Please call the school office to schedule your visit! 440-585-0800

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL FROM PAGE 5

Learn why University School is ranked #1 in Ohio



our renovated and expanded Middle School, for boys Grades 5-8, opens in Fall 2025.

Our Hunting Valley Campus serves students in Grades 9-12. The 220-acre campus includes a hardwood forest, a trout hatchery, a maple sugaring operation, an apiary, and a lake for fishing and canoeing. Our Upper School features state-of-the-art science labs, arts, sculpture, and CAD studios, a woodshop, a music rehearsal space, a theater, an indoor pool, track, and gyms, and newly renovated wrestling center and squash courts, plus extensive outdoor athletic facilities.

University School is ranked as Ohio's #1 Private K-12 School for 2024 by Niche.com and we are perennially recognized as one of the top schools for STEM in Ohio.

Open House! University School is a vibrant and welcoming community where each boy is known and loved. A visit to our campuses is the best way to get to know us. We invite your family to our Open House on Sunday, October 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or to schedule a personal family tour. Learn more at www.us.edu/visit.

Discovery Days! University School invites your family to this series of free monthly events designed for boys ages 4-8, where imagination and adventure come to life!

Our faculty will spark wonder through energizing hands-on activities including outdoor explorations and creative art and building projects. The first Discovery Day is on the morning of Saturday, October 26. Register for this and other upcoming Discovery Days at www.us.edu/discovery.

Mater Dei Academy is committed to providing a quality Catholic education centered on gospel values.

Our students and families can expect a challenging academic curriculum in a faith-filled environment.

MATER DEI ACADEMY PRESCHOOL-GRADE 8

CALL US TO SET UP A VISIT

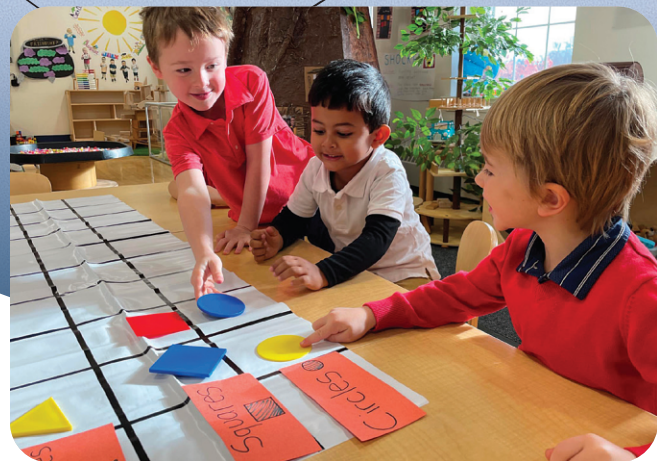
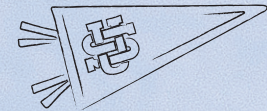
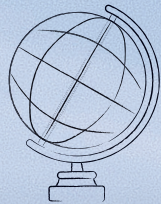


MATER DEI ACADEMY
29840 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, Oh 44092
440-585-0800
www.materdeiacademy.us



Discovery Days

Join us to explore, create,
and play at University School!



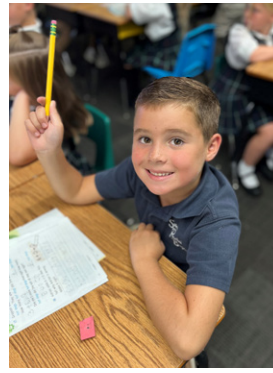
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL

University School invites your family to a series of free monthly events designed for boys ages 4-8, where imagination and adventure come to life! Our faculty will spark wonder through energizing hands-on activities including outdoor explorations and creative art and building projects.

Register Today!
www.us.edu/discovery



Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic School



Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic School educates nearly 400 students in pre-K through grade 8 with a commitment to faith formation and academic excellence. The school's mission is to focus on Christ-centered values and to develop the unique potential of each student through a rigorous and engaging curriculum. Saint

Paschal Baylon has earned the Governor's Thomas Edison Award for Excellence in STEM Education and Student Research for eleven years and was named a finalist for the Innovations in Catholic Education Award from Today's Catholic Teacher, a national magazine, in 2020.

Offering a program that prepares students for their secondary education and beyond, the faculty and staff recognize each student as an individual with unique gifts. The faculty and staff truly care about their students and are dedicated to helping each child succeed and attain his or her academic and spiritual potential.

The academic program is aligned with diocesan, state, and national standards. In addition, Saint Paschal Baylon offers daily religion instruction, Span-



ish (pre-K through 8), fine arts, service learning opportunities, cocurricular activities, gifted education classes, as well as psychological, speech/language, intervention, and learning disability services.

Please visit www.saintpaschal.com to learn more about enrollment and the admissions process.



Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

When you become a student at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School, you become a member of a family where everyone knows you. It is a place where you can grow in your faith, be challenged academically, follow your passions, and create high school memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Our students proudly embrace our diversity, and it shows in their school routine and the family spirit that makes our Viking Village something truly special.

Learn more about VASJ by attending one of our upcoming Open Houses:

Sunday, October 13, 2024 from 12-2 PM

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 from 6-8 PM

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 from 6-8 PM

For more information, visit vasj.com/admissions. Go Vikings!

Providing children the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.

BIRTH-12TH GRADE



HERSHEY

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Scan for Open House dates.



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PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8

Rooted in Faith & Built on Excellence

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- Academic Excellence
- Family Atmosphere
- Numerous Clubs & Sports



JOIN OUR SPARTAN FAMILY!

CHESTERLAND, OH

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Explore Laurel School for your Kindergarten-Grade 12 Daughter

Laurel's two-campus advantage gives girls the edge. The 11-acre Lyman Campus is in suburban Shaker Heights and just seven miles away in Novelty, Laurel students immerse themselves in the natural world and athletics at the beautiful 150-acre Butler Campus.

From Early Childhood to Upper School, the Butler Campus provides a dynamic learning environment. Its youngest learners visit the Butler Campus frequently for interdisciplinary lessons, Middle School students engage in immersive weeks focused on place-based learning, and it is home to the Environmental Justice Semester which is open to girls in 10th and 11th grade from any school in Northeast Ohio.

Third-Fifth Graders spend the entire school year at Butler engaged in an innovative curriculum that

invites them to grapple with concepts from multiple perspectives. Students develop autonomy as they develop intellectual strengths, academic skills, and resilience while they deepen their engagement with the environment. This experience for 8-11-year-old girls is unmatched by any other in Northeast Ohio.

Beyond academics, Butler boasts state-of-the-art athletics facilities and fields that serve as a home for many of the school's sports teams as well as some youth athletics programming. Laurel's student athletes practice, compete, and benefit from the expertise of dedicated strength and conditioning coaches. The unparalleled advantages of Laurel's Butler Campus foster academic excellence and athletic development to empower students on and off the field.



Laurel is committed to enrolling academically qualified students and offers Variable Tuition, whereby tuition rates are customized according to each family's ability to contribute to their educational expenses. Additionally, Laurel offers merit scholarships, including the Sarah Lyman Scholarship which covers all four years of tuition and fees in Laurel's Upper School—up to five are made available each year to rising 9th graders and are awarded regardless of financial need. Consideration for a Sarah Lyman Scholarship is highly selective. Successful candidates will have achieved excellence in academics and extracurricular activities.

Visit LaurelSchool.org/OpenHouse for open house information.



Did you know?

Families have their own reasons for choosing private school over public, and class size may factor into those decisions. According to U.S. News and World Report, the student-to-teacher ratio at private schools in 2021 was 12.5 students per teacher, lower than the average 15.4 at public schools. The National Center for Education Statistics says public schools have an average class size of 25 students, compared to 19 students per class in private schools. ThoughtCo. indicates public school classes can be as large as 25 to 30 students, particularly in urban neighborhoods, while most private schools keep their classes limited to 10 to 15 students. Freemont University reports that students learn faster and perform better in smaller classes. Those in classes with fewer than 20 students often get more individualized attention, participate with greater frequency, and have better communication with the teacher.



NOTRE DAME ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL



PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8

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- ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
- TECHNOLOGY, SPANISH & STEM K-8
- HONORS & ON-TRACK MATH AND ELA FOR GRADES 6-8
- OUTDOOR LEARNING EXPERIENCES ON BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS

Register for a Tour at www.ndes.org

Barbara Williams, Director of Admissions

440.279.1129 bwilliams@ndes.org



Scan QR Code
To Register

Sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame

Lakeshore Dance & Gymnastics

Lakeshore Dance & Gymnastics offers something for every age and skill level. They strive to train the total athlete in a family-friendly atmosphere.

Their 27,000 square-foot facility is home to competitive teams, Prestige Dance Company & Prestige Gymnastics. In summer 2024 everyone is looking forward to the addition of the in-ground foam pit, which will be ready by fall for use by all Lakeshore athletes.

Lakeshore has two large dance studios with viewing windows and custom-built professional floors. From 16 months to adults everyone can find a class to take! They have 4 competitive dance teams ranging from 4 years old to teens, that compete in all genres. Their 2024 season was fantastic; multiple 1st places overall, judges awards, and has been invited to the Battle of the Seas- a luxury cruise dance competition.

Young gymnasts, preschool to school age, have their own training space, catering to each athlete with age-appropriate equipment. This year Lakeshore added homeschool specific classes to their program.

Lakeshore offers boys and girls competitive gymnastics and rhythmic gymnastics. Each



team has a space designed specifically for them! In the 2024 season Prestige went to Level 9 Nationals with gymnast Bree Rubin taking 1st place on Floor, 5th on Beam, 5th All Around and 9th on Vault! Prestige Gymnastics has its first ever National Champion!

At every age, Lakeshore's quality facility, equipment, and professional staff, provide their athletes with a home away from home.

Owner, Irene Graber, is thankful for her dedicated staff and all the awesome Lakeshore families. 2023/2024 was a year full of amazing accomplishments, which she hopes to see more of in 2025.

Lakeshore Dance and Gymnastics is located in Mayfield Village off of Wilson Mills Road at 760 Beta Drive, Suite G.



NATURE GAME DAY

October 6, 2024

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Penitentiary Glen's best new fall event is back again with no whammies and all fun! Learn about nature while playing fun takes on some classic games. From trivia to physical challenges, we double dare you to be a part of the action. There will even be a special edition of our popular Trivia Night at the Glen program! In addition to the games and activities, miniature steam train rides will be offered courtesy of the Lake Shore Live Steamers from 1 to 3 pm, weather permitting.

Note: For safety reasons, pregnant women are not permitted to ride the trains. All children must be able to sit in their own designated seat; lap sitting is not permitted.

Penitentiary Glen Reservation
8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd.
Kirtland, Ohio 44094

No registration required! Make Nature Game Day your final answer!

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- Open Gyms
- Birthday Parties
- Parent & Tot classes
- Competitive Teams





#1 ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL IN OHIO!

Leaders are made at Ohio's #1 All-Girls School.

Explore a Laurel education for your daughter. Learn about how Laurel's Center for Research on Girls puts cutting-edge research into action to create an environment in which girls thrive.

SHAKER HEIGHTS | NOVELTY | est. 1896

JOIN US FOR A K-12 OPEN HOUSE:

Tuesday, October 8 | 5:00-7:00 pm
Lyman Campus • Shaker Heights, Ohio

Wednesday, October 23 | 4:00-6:00 pm
Butler Campus • Novelty, Ohio

Scan the QR code to RSVP today!



LAUREL
LaurelSchool.org

Parental involvement is a key factor in students' performance

Success in school can carry over to successful experiences later in life. That underscores the benefits of developing skills in the classroom. Students learn in their own way, and at times there may need to overcome various obstacles.

The job of education does not fully fall on educators and administrators. Education begins at home. Research has found that kids benefit significantly when parents and other caregivers are strongly involved in a child's education. A 2020 study published in the Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community found that parental involvement in a child's education is associated with improved academic performance. Specifically, children whose parents are more involved in their educations have higher levels of academic performance than children whose parents were not as involved.

A 2005 study from researchers at the Johns Hopkins University Center of School, Family and Community Partnerships showed that school practices that encourage families to support their students' math learning at home led to

higher percentages of students scoring at or above proficiency on standardized math tests. Additional research indicates the benefits also extend to other subjects and areas of learning, including language comprehension and expressive language skills.

With so much to gain from parental involvement in students' educations, parents can embrace these strategies to get more involved.

- **Develop a partnership with the teacher.** Open communication with the teacher(s) can help parents stay up-to-date on what is going on in the classroom and learn early on where a student may need extra support. Then parents can offer extra guidance if it is feasible, or look into an experienced tutor.

- **Be firm but supportive.** Too much academic pressure may cause a child to pull back or even test boundaries, and that can lead to students falling behind in school. Parents must find the right level of involvement and guide their kids without sounding like good grades are "make or break" the relationship.

- **Attend school functions.** Parents



can go to open houses, back-to-school nights, conferences, and other events held at school to show support and interest in their children's education. Involved parents also build school-based networks this way, which can be called upon if their student needs additional support in the future.

- **Establish a schedule at home.** Stu-

dents can benefit from a schedule, with regular bedtime, homework time and opportunities to relax. Knowing what to expect and when to expect it can take some of the stress out of learning and studying, according to Nemours health.

Parents working in concert with schools and their children can lead to better academic outcomes.

A Community Where We Learn, Love and Serve Like Jesus

While academics is the core at St. Francis of Assisi School, we see our mission as serving the individual students and their God-given gifts and talents.

Preschool through Grade 8

- Student-led initiatives such as broadcast studio, aquaponics gardening and service projects
- Prayer Partners
- Intervention opportunities
- Families come from 21 cities
- High school level math and literature through a partnership with Lake Catholic High School
- Extracurricular activities including Drama Club, CYO Athletics, and Math Club



St. Francis of Assisi School

6850 Mayfield Road, Gates Mills • 440-442-7450 • sfaschoolgm.org

4 Ways Students Can Develop Entrepreneurial Skills

(Family Features) Today's students are tomorrow's leaders. Young people who aspire to become prominent business professionals can now get a head start on the knowledge and skills necessary to become successful entrepreneurs before they ever leave high school.

Training for a particular field is an essential step in career preparation, but success comes from more than academic training. Developing ingenuity and creativity can take young professionals far, and those skills aren't necessarily found in a classroom.

If you, or a student in your life, is set on embarking on a challenging and rewarding path toward economic success, explore those entrepreneurial interests with these tips from the experts at Junior Achievement (JA), whose research shows 61% of teens would rather start their own businesses than have traditional jobs.

Tap Into Your Network

Role models can provide immeasurable insight into the world of business and economics, demonstrating what it takes to build a successful and sustainable ca-

reer. Identify someone in your circle who can serve as a mentor as you plan for the future. This might be a teacher, neighbor, someone who attends your church or a business owner in your community. Meeting and chatting even a couple of times a month can help you channel your ambition.

Participate in Leadership Events

Leaders put their skills into action. As a student, you can begin practicing your leadership skills by participating in events that challenge and engage you. For example, the JA National Summit allows student teams - through the support of leading businesses like Staples, the Pacific Life Foundation and Chick-fil-A - to demonstrate their business acumen, creativity and entrepreneurial thinking in a competitive environment, showcasing their companies to Members of Congress.

Through one of the four dynamic competitions, the Company of the Year Competition, students launch and operate real business enterprises under the guidance of dedicated local business volunteers, conceptualize and market



a product or service that addresses unmet consumer needs and attracts investors for their ventures. By most effectively demonstrating its company's achievements, as well as the personal development of each team member,

FlameGuard, which offers a variety of fire safety products, was crowned this year's JA Company of the Year.

Understand Your Intended Industry

It's never too early to begin follow-

SEE PAGE 15

Discover what All Saints School has to offer!



Faith



Family



Future Leaders



ALL SAINTS SCHOOL
OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY

www.AllSaintsSJV.org

(440) 943-1395



Essential Skills for Children to Develop in Preschool

(Family Features) The skills young children need for success in elementary school and beyond are developed during the first five years of life. For families, it's critical to select the right preschool - one with thoroughly trained faculty and a curriculum designed to nurture foundational academic, social, emotional and physical skills - then extend learning to home.

Experts from The Goddard School's education team - Dr. Lauren Loquasto, senior vice president and chief academic officer; Dr. Maria Shaheen, director of early childhood research and innovation; and Karie Ann Middleton, director of early childhood education programs - share this guidance to help families prepare their children for success in, and beyond, elementary school.

Core Skills to Prioritize in Preschool

Most families, when thinking about their child's preschool education, naturally default to focusing on academic skills, and those are certainly important. Children should develop a well-rounded foundation of literacy and mathematics skills. This includes building vocabulary,

pairing sounds and letters and sounding out new words, as well as learning to count and connecting a number of objects (e.g., three blocks) to the corresponding numeral (3).

Just as important as the academic skills, however, are social and emotional skills. For example:

- Identifying feelings and emotions in themselves and others, and responding appropriately
- Entering a new social situation, making friends and navigating conflict
- Basic self-help skills, such as knowing how to independently eat, use the bathroom and zip up their jackets

Lastly is the development of early physical skills, such as balance and learning to use a pencil and scissors.

Inquiry-Based Learning: The Optimal Approach

The best educational approach supports all skill development - academic, social, emotional and physical - while children are engaged in play and exploration. In these supportive environments, teachers can actively observe children

SEE PAGE 15



CALLING ALL LAKE, GEAUGA AND ASHTABULA STUDENTS

Enter our T-Shirt Design Contest!!

The contest is open to all students enrolled in middle school or high school within the tri-county area of Lake, Ashtabula and Geauga Counties.

All entries will be judged on their artistry, creativity, originality, and their ability to communicate a clear and positive message about *equality and diversity*.

1st Place winner- \$150.00 • 2nd Place Winner-\$75.00 • 3rd Place Winner-\$500.00

Contest ends on November 25, 2024

Winners Announced December 2, 2024

All Entries submitted to:

Fair Housing Resource Center, Inc. • 1100 Mentor Avenue Painesville, Ohio 44077 • Phone: 440-392-0147

For more information and the contest guidelines contact Hollie @fhrc.org

Enter!
to Win!



ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS

FROM PAGE 13

ing notable happenings in professional fields that interest you. That might mean monitoring news stories and setting up search terms to alert you to the latest articles. You may also be able to subscribe to publications dedicated to the industry and join professional organizations connected to the field as a student ambassador. Researching the field can give you a stronger idea of how you can become more directly involved as a student.

Expand Your Education

As a student, you may have limited opportunities to explore your career field while also meeting the requirements for your high school diploma. However, you can join (or start) a club to sharpen your focus on areas you have a special interest. You can also look for ways to learn more about your chosen field outside of school



hours by attending camps, seminars and workshops. You may even be able to land a part-time job, internship or apprenticeship that provides greater visibility to your future career plans.

Find more ideas to support your growth as a future business leader at ja.org.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS FROM PAGE 14

and listen carefully to understand their interests and curiosities then guide the instruction accordingly.

This is the basis of inquiry-based learning, a framework that embraces the natural curiosity and sense of wonder children bring into the classroom. Researchers from leading universities found when children are interested in what they are learning, attention spans are maximized, and when they feel in control of their learning, engagement is higher.

At The Goddard School, inquiry-based learning is brought to life via its exclusive education program, Wonder of Learning. With teacher-guided inquiry topics, children learn about themselves and the world around them by exploring their interests, investigating concepts and asking questions. This ensures learning is not only relevant to skill-building but also timely, contextual and meaningful, helping children master the foundational skills before entering elementary school.

Taking Inquiry-Based Learning Home Inquiry-based learning is not limited to the classroom. In fact, to best support young children, families should practice the approach at home, too.

Families can start by narrating what they and their children are doing and verbalizing the emotions that correspond with their experiences. For example, "I can see by your face you aren't sure if you like that new vegetable. I wonder if

it's the flavor or the texture?" Beyond listening to their responses, watch their faces for cues and respond accordingly. Through narration, children's vocabularies are expanded and they learn to apply words to their emotions and experiences.

Give children choices, when possible and safe, such as choosing their outfits or snacks. Making choices helps them develop critical thinking skills and builds confidence and motivation.

Infuse open-ended questions throughout daily life. For example, ask "What makes you curious?" Going further, have children draw what they are curious about.

To help families practice inquiry-based learning, The Goddard School published a children's book, "Curious Blueberry the Carousel Horse," written by Steve Metzger and illustrated by Bruno Robert. The story follows Blueberry and her colorful carousel animal friends as they learn to find joy through curiosity and questions. Cues throughout the story prompt the reader to ask open-ended questions, creating an engaging and individualized experience for children.

To watch a webinar featuring Loquasto, Shaheen and Middleton sharing additional information and guidance, and to access a wealth of parenting insights and resources, visit the Parent Resource Center at GoddardSchool.com.



The Fair Housing Resource Center (FHRC), Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that offers several housing programs that benefit residents of Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula County, Ohio. Our mission is to promote equal housing opportunities for all persons and to advocate for fair housing and diversity in Lake County and surrounding communities through the education and involvement of the public, the governments, and the business community. **For more information call 440-392-0147 or check our website at www.fhrc.org**

HERSHEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 4

serves adolescents in 7th through 12th grade. Students enjoy integrated and project-based studies designed to give a comprehensive understanding of topics and academics. Experiential learning causes students to grow and to develop deep understanding, critical thinking, and self-construct their individualized identity, interests, and passions.

Hershey accepts Ohio EdChoice. Transportation, full and partial boarding options, and financial aid are available.

Contact Hershey to schedule a visit or student shadow day at 440-357-0918.



WILLOUGHBY LIONS CLUB

e-clubhouse.org/sites/willoughby/



Sweetest Day ROSE SALE

**Friday and Saturday
October 18th & 19th
Friday 8am - 5pm
Saturday 8am - 1pm
(or until sold out)**

Long Stem Roses
\$20⁰⁰
Dozen

Proceeds go to
Lions Eyecare Projects

**Available in the Truck
In Front of the Willoughby Library**

For more information call 440-223-6138



CORN MAZE
Now - October 6, 2024
 Farmpark admission applies
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
LAKE METROPARKS
FARMPARK
8800 Euclid Chardon Rd.
Kirtland, OH 44094

COLLEGE 2024 COLLEGE
Dorm Décor Trends

A new Duck® brand survey* shows that college students are on a mission to turn their drab dorms into stylish retreats. From vibrant string nooks to glowing string lights, uncover today's coolest campus trends.

DREAM DORM VIBES:
 College students flag these dorm styles as favorites:
 43% like a "cozy" feel best
 28% fancy a "colorful" flair
 14% love a "minimalist" look

STYLISH SHORTCUTS:
52% will revamp the room with removable wallpaper with DIY projects like bulletin boards, refreshing cubby shelves or covering desks and appliances like mini-fridges or microwaves

MAKEOVER MUST-HAVES:
Over 50% will deck out their dorm room with:
 • Canvas art • Plants
 • Decorative pillows • String lights
 • Photo wall

MORE THAN HALF of students will use these easy decorating solutions to achieve their dream dorm: removable wallpaper, removable, double-sided tape and temporary hooks & mounts

80% plan to create a "smart" dorm, using things like smart lighting

56% will hang smart speakers

Duck® brand offers an array of dorm-friendly decorating products to make it easy to turn any space into the study haven of your dreams. Visit [DuckBrand.com](https://www.duckbrand.com) to learn more about Duck Max Strength® Nano-Grab® Gel Tape, EasyLiner® Removable Adhesive Laminate and more.

*Survey conducted by Duck® brand in July 2024 polled 968 K-12 teachers, college students and parents/guardians of students to learn how they plan to style their school spaces, such as classrooms, dorms and offices.

Check Out These 2024 Dorm Décor Trends

(StatePoint) A dorm room is not just a place to rest one's head at night, it's where students will have late night study sessions, relax after a long day of classes, and make memories with new friends. That's why many undergraduates are taking measures to make the space feel like it's their own. For style inspiration, as well as dorm-friendly décor that can be easily removed at the end of the year, visit <https://www.duckbrand.com>. From string lights and throw pillows to removable wallpaper, all students need is a little creativity and the right products to make a dorm room home.

INDEPENDENT THINKERS FROM PAGE 3

tain a flexible mind; open to change, potential to be wrong, and give yourself the freedom to pivot your opinion with proper research and listening to perspectives. Kids should learn how to be open minded; show them how.

Can raising an independent thinker create challenges for parents?

Yes. So be ready, if you want to raise a strong child. It could lead to some push and pull. That can be scary and challenging. Ask me how I know. I have a middle child, and her way is THE way. But she's also teachable, and that's smart. She hears what is being said. While she may not always agree in the moment, I do often have the privilege of hearing, "See, I listen". The above approach should help. But be patient, it may take time; don't give up.

Will independent thinkers make better choices?

Raising independent thinkers can create better decision makers. Rather than doing something based on what the crowd is doing, a child who is strong in their own identity will follow their

own compass. They may avoid jumping on the bandwagon, or at the very least give it a second thought; seeing more quickly how a decision might lead them down an undesirable path. Instead of operating out of fear, a need to fit in and be accepted because they lack belief in themselves, they'll stand up and do something better.

Is it too late for your teen?

That's probably one of the most misleading myths that exist about humanity; that you can't teach an old dog new tricks. If you've been reading my column for any length of time, you will know what my answer is. No. it's never too late, it's not even too late for you. You can support the teenager in your life to become more of an independent thinker, even when they seem to have their mind (and entire lives) figured out. To start, follow the same suggestions above during your interactions with them and keep an open mind yourself, and you'll already begin the process (and maybe even the reversal of a follower).

BELONGING BEGINS WITH US



Small acts of kindness can have a big impact in making people feel welcome. When we reach out and connect with others, we can build a stronger community where everyone - regardless of their background - feels like they belong.

LEARN HOW AT
BELONGINGBEGINSWITHUS.ORG



ARTWORK BY NINA YAGUAL - AMPLIFIER.ORG

Library Lovers



MENTOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Main Library

8215 Mentor Ave. Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-8811

Mentor-on-the-Lake

5642 Andrews Rd.
Mentor-on-the-Lake 44060
(440) 257-2512

Headlands

4669 Corduroy Rd. Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 257-2000

www.mentor.lib.oh.us

Inktober All October Headlands Branch Join Mentor Public Library for a month-long celebration of drawing! The library will have sketchbooks (while supplies last) and a daily list of drawing prompts to help everyone get started at the Headlands Branch. Artists of all ages and skill levels are invited to participate. No registration required.

Poe's Missing Crows Scavenger Hunt All October Children's Area, Main Branch Help Edgar Allan Poe find his missing crows!

Great Pumpkin Coloring Contest Sept. 30 – Oct. 12 Lake Branch Kids can transform a pumpkin into their favorite book character. Pick up a coloring page from the Lake Branch, color it at home, and then return it to the Lake Branch by October 12. It'll be posted in the library, and patrons can vote for their favorite pumpkin through Oct. 30. The fan favorite will win a spooky cool prize.

Zombie Outbreak Scavenger Hunt

All October Lake Branch Kids can search the shelves at the Lake Branch for zombies! The zombies change their hiding places daily. Play this game (once a day) to win a small prize.

Family Story Time Mondays at 10 a.m. Children's Story Time Room, Main Branch Children will enjoy stories, songs and activities that promote early literacy and healthy development. Geared toward children aged two to six, but all ages are welcome. And story time ends with a parade!

Tiddlywinks Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Children's Story Time Room, Main Branch Kids (from birth to three years old) will love this interactive story time filled with stories, songs and rhymes.

Storytime Stars Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages six month to five years) will enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and a craft. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Preschool Story Time Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Children's Story Time Room, Main Branch Kids (ages three to six) will enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and a craft. Children attend without an adult.

PJ Story Time Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Children's Story Time Room Main Branch Children can wear their snuggliest pajamas while they enjoy stories, songs, rhymes, a craft and a snack. All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Musical Munchkins Thursdays at 10:30

a.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages five and younger) can enjoy an interactive musical story time with singing, stories, and exploration of simple musical concepts. All kids must be accompanied by an adult.

Kindergarten Prep Story Time Thursdays at 11 a.m. Children's Story Time Room Main Branch A short story time, followed by prekindergarten activities. Open to children entering kindergarten or wanting to get a jump on skills they will need for it. Children are encouraged to participate without a parent.

Reading Buddies Thursdays, Sept. 19 to Oct. 24, at 4 p.m. Children's Story Time Room, Main Branch Kids in kindergarten through third grade can reinforce their reading skills through games and activities during this early literacy series. Children will receive a reading buddy to take home and read to. This program is supported by a Libraries Accelerating Learning grant.

Finger Paint Fridays Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Headlands Branch Kids can explore their creativity with finger-painting every Friday at the Headlands Branch. The library will provide paper, paint and aprons. This activity will largely be self-directed with limited assistance from staff. Registration is not required; but space is limited, so children may need to wait their turns.

Wiggle, Giggle & Shake Fridays at 10 a.m. James R. Garfield Room, Main Branch Kids and caregivers will have fun clapping, marching and moving to music together. For ages two to six.

Conference Night at Mentor High Tuesdays, Oct. 1, from 5 to 8 p.m. The HUB Visit the library's table during Parent-Teacher Conferences at Mentor High School. Learn about The HUB and the great services provided by the library's partnership with Mentor Schools.

My Pet Ghost Wednesdays, Oct. 2 and 9, at 4 p.m. The HUB Kids (ages six to 11) can make a home for their new pet ghost using The HUB's laser engraver. Registration required.

Travel Club Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 4 p.m. Children's Story Time Room, Main Branch Kids (ages six to 12) can experience a new country without boarding a plane. Make a craft, have a snack, and enjoy activities from a different country every month. Registration required.

Paws to Read Wednesday, Oct. 2, with sessions starting at 6 and 6:30 p.m. Headlands Branch Kids who can read independently are invited to practice their reading skills in these 30-minute sessions with a licensed therapy dog. Paw-fect for the reluctant reader! Registration required.

Yoga Kids Thursday, Oct. 3, at 1 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Kids (ages three to six) can enjoy a special story time. Yoga instructor Darlene Kelbach and library staff will guide the little ones and their grown-ups through exercises in breathing movement, all put together with a story and music. Please bring a yoga mat or towel. Registration required.

LEGO at the Library Saturday, Oct. 5, at 11 a.m. James R. Garfield Room, Main Branch Kids (ages five to 12) can rock the blocks on the first Saturday of every month. No registration required.

Book-to-Movie Book Club Monday, Oct. 7, at 4 p.m. Children's Story Room, Main Branch New book club! Kids (ages eight to 12) will read part of a classic children's book, watch a snippet of the movie it inspired, and enjoy related activities. This month, the club will spotlight "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." Registration required.

The Fine Arts Club Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 4 p.m. Children's Story Room, Main Branch Children (ages seven to 12) will learn about dance, theatre, poetry, painting and other forms of art using history and hands-on activities. This month, kids will explore theatrical dialogue by reading scary stories. Registration required.

Master Builders Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 4 p.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages five to 11) can enjoy free play with LEGO blocks, magnetic tiles, magnet sticks and Brain Flakes. No registration required.

Next Level Video Game Club Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 6:30 p.m. Headlands Branch Kids (ages eight and older) can play games like Smash Brothers, Mario Kart and Nintendo Sports on Switch. They're also welcome to bring their own portable device. Registration required.

Firehouse Friends Thursday, Oct. 10, at 10 a.m. Children's Story Room, Main Branch Join Fireman Dan from Mentor Fire Department as he reads stories and offers tips on staying safe. No registration required.

Teen Art Night Thursday, Oct. 10, at 6:30 p.m. Lake Branch Tweens and teens will enjoy fall paper crafts. All supplies provided. Registration required.

Back to Hogwarts — Muggle Mayhem! Friday, Oct. 11, at 1 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Kids (ages eight to 12) can celebrate all things Harry Potter on their day off from school — snacks, games, and crafts! Registration required.

Intro to Tae Kwon Do with Mentor ATA Friday, Oct. 11, at 2:30 p.m. Headlands Community Center (9096 Lake Overlook Drive, Mentor) Tiny tigers and karate kids (ages four to 12) can join the instructors from Mentor ATA to learn about Tae Kwon Do, as well as self-defense, discipline, courtesy, respect and fitness. Wear clothes that are comfortable for movement. Registration required.

Yarn-Wrapped Pumpkin Craft Saturday, Oct. 12, at 10 a.m. Village Room, Main Branch Create yarn-wrapped pumpkins using pool noodles to create fun décor that's perfect for Halloween or Thanksgiving. This crafty program is open to teens and adults. All supplies provided. Registration required.

Headlands Trivia Saturday, Oct. 12, at noon Headlands Branch Kids can test their trivia know-how and learn something new with a fun afternoon of trivia challenges. Signup required to play.

ROBLOX Saturday Saturday, Oct. 12, at 2 p.m. Headlands Branch Join the library online or in-person for a different game from ROBLOX each month. Register to get in the game.

A Boo-tiful Night Monday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. Main Lawn, Main Branch Families can enjoy a special Halloween movie outdoor on the Main Branch's lawn. Bring blankets and chairs. Costumes encouraged but not required. Popcorn and hot chocolate will be provided. No registration required.

Halloween Candy Totes Tuesdays, Oct. 15 and 22, at 4 p.m. The HUB Kids (ages six to 11) can trick or treat with a personalized tote bag, decorated using The HUB's Cricut and heat press. Registration required.

Graham Cracker Haunted Houses Wednesday, Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m. Lake Branch Kids (ages six to 12) will have a sweet time building haunted houses out of graham crackers, icing and candy. Registration required.

Black Cat Hand Puppet Thursdays, Oct. 17 and 24, at 4 p.m. The HUB Kids (ages six to 11) can learn how to sew the purrrrrfect friend for Halloween at The HUB. Registration required.

Paint a 3D Ghost Thursday, Oct. 17, at 6 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Kids (ages seven to 12) can paint a 3D-printed ghost and create creepy cool crafts. Registration required.

Teen Advisory Board Thursday, Oct. 17, at 6:30 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Teens can join the library's advisory board to discuss and influence teen services at Mentor Public Library. The board is open to everyone in seventh through 12th grade. They help develop teen programs, make suggestions for teen spaces, and much more. The meeting will also include snacks and a Halloween mason jar craft. Registration required.

Saturday Family Story Time Saturday, Oct. 19, at 10:30 a.m. Lake Branch Children of all ages (along with an adult) can enjoy stories, music, rhymes and a craft at the library's Saturday story time. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Celebrating 100 Years of Mentor-on-the-Lake Tuesday, Oct. 22, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lake Branch Celebrate a century of Mentor-on-the-Lake with guessing games, activities and a sweet treat. Originally part of Mentor Township, the village of Mentor-on-the-Lake was established on Oct. 22, 1924. Since then, it's developed a rich history worth celebrating.

Nature Journaling Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 6 p.m. Mentor Lagoons (8365 Harbor Drive, Mentor) Join the library at a different park in Mentor each month to forge a deeper connection with yourself and the marvels of nature. Explore different journaling techniques across a variety of mediums. Open to all ages and skill levels. No experience necessary. Limited instruction will be given, as this is a way for each individual to create their own way of observing and connecting to nature. All supplies provided, but feel free to bring your own. Registration required.

Not-So-Spooky Family Story Time Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 6:30 p.m. Lake Branch Families can enjoy Halloween stories, a craft and sweet treat during this special story time. Kids of all ages

are welcome, but the stories will be most appropriate for those aged three to 10. Costumes are encouraged. Registration required.

Malley's Outreach Story Time Saturday, Oct. 26, at 11 a.m. Malley's Chocolates (8920 Mentor Ave. B, Mentor) All ages will enjoy a special story time at Malley's Chocolates.

HUB's Halloween Week Spooktacular Oct. 28 – Oct. 31 The HUB Teen (ages 12 to 17) can enjoy a different walk-in activity the week of Halloween at The HUB. On Monday, enjoy a spooky scavenger hunt. On Tuesday, take a snapshot to dismember — oops, we mean "remember" — with The HUB's green screen studio. On Wednesday, create your own wizard's wand. On Thursday, make spooky shrinky-dinks. No registration required.

Drawn In To Graphic Novels Book Club Monday, Oct. 28, at 6:30 p.m. Headlands Branch Tweens and teens (ages 12 to 17) can enjoy reading and discussing some of the best graphic novels available. In October, they'll talk about "Coven" by Jennifer Dugan and Kit Seaton. Book club members receive their own graphic novel journal and are encouraged to write and share their own stories with the group. Registration required.

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 6:30 p.m. Village Room, Main Branch Kids (ages eight to 12) can enjoy a bone-chilling night as the library revisits this Halloween classic. Wear your spookiest attire. Registration required.

Trick or Treating at the Library Thursday, Oct. 31 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Main Branch Children can don their costumes and trick-or-treat through the library. No registration required.

WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Eastlake Public Library

36706 Lake Shore Blvd. Eastlake 44095
(440) 942-7880 x. 105

Willoughby Public Library

30 Public Sq. Willoughby, OH 44094
(440) 942-3200 x. 104

Willowick Public Library

263 E. 305 St. Willowick, OH 44095
(440) 943-4151 x. 116
(440) 516-0843 TTY

Willoughby Hills Public Library

35400 Chardon Rd.
Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
(440) 942-3362
www.welibrary.info

Homeschool Mario Kart Tournament

Show off your Mario Kart skills! Kids ages 10-18 are invited to join us for a Mario Kart tournament. Compete against your fellow racers to see who the ultimate winner is. Pizza and snacks provided.

Tuesday, October 1, 1-3 pm
Willoughby Hills Public Library

Bad Family Photos Book a "bad" photoshoot with library staff. Wear lots of denim, matching outfits, or something silly to add to your Holiday cards. Tease that hair or bring your favorite toy. We'll have you select from some classic bad poses or plan your own. Then we'll edit and email the photos to you so you can share them with the world! Space is limited, registration is required.

Tuesday, October 1, 5-8 pm
Thursday October 3, 5-8 pm
Willowick Public Library

Adaptive Storytime Children of all ages and abilities are welcomed to this interactive, inclusive storytime specifically designed to support varying developmental needs.

Tuesday, October 1, 6 pm (Online via Zoom)

Tuesday, October 8, 6 pm (In-Person)
Eastlake Public Library

Music and Movement Join us for a fun program followed by an optional opportunity to socialize and play. Ages 2-5.
Tuesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 6:30 pm
Willoughby Hills Public Library

Story, Craft & Play Hear stories, make a craft & play! Ages 2-5. Wednesdays, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 10 am
Eastlake Public Library

Tween & Teen Anime Awesomeness Join us for a new anime each session. Draw, chat, snack, and have anime-zing time. Ages 10-18. Wednesdays, October 2, 16, 3:30 pm
Willowick Public Library

Ghost Walk Join us for a ghost tour around the library with Cathi Weber, author of Haunted Willoughby. Ages 12-18. Wednesday, October 2, 6:30 pm
Monday, October 7, 6:30 pm (Rain Date)
Willoughby Public Library

Sew a Fabric Pumpkin Learn to sew a

decorative fabric pumpkin. All equipment and supplies provided. This class is being offered twice due to limited space. Please sign up for only one session. Ages 12 and up.

Thursday, October 3, 6-7:30 pm

Thursday, October 17, 6-7:30 pm

Willoughby Hills Public Library

LEGO Club We provide the LEGO, you provide the imagination.

Saturday, October 5, 10-11:30 am

Eastlake Public Library, 36706 Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake, 440-942-7880

Saturday, October 19, 1:30 pm

Willowick Public Library

WEPLcon Join us for a day of celebrating geeky fandom! Featuring raffles, panels, cosplay, and more.

Saturday, October 5, 11 am

Willowick Public Library

Less Messy Storytime We're bringing all the storytelling magic and creative activities you loved in Messy Outdoor Storytime, now with a little less mess. Ages 2-5.

Mondays, October 7, 14, 21, 28, 11 am

Eastlake Public Library

Homeschool Story Lab Experience storytime with a twist of science. Ages 2-6.

Monday, October 7, 2:30 pm

Eastlake Public Library

Story Lab Experience storytime with a twist of science! Ages 2-6.

Mondays, October 7, 14, 21, 28, 6 pm

Eastlake Public Library

Teen Homeschool Wednesdays Meet with an exercise physiologist, tour the James A. Garfield National Historic Site, and learn about the science of beekeeping. Open to grades 6-12 (ages 12-18).

Wednesday, October 9, 2 pm

Willoughby Public Library

Story Builders This program combines reading with hands-on creativity, where each book inspires participants to construct imaginative creations with LEGO, magnetic tiles, and more. Ages 5 and up. Wednesday, October 9, 4 pm

Eastlake Public Library

Movies at the Hills Watch movies recently released on DVD up on the big screen. Outside food and drink permitted. Wednesday, October 9, 4 pm

Willoughby Hills Public Library

Rescue Readers In 20-minute sessions, emerging readers will gain confidence, improve skills, and provide soothing company to cats and small critters as

they await adoption at Lake Humane Society. Thursday, October 10, 3-5 pm

Lake Humane Society-Mentor
Exercise Therapy for Sleep Exercise physiologist Michelle Sito, of University Hospitals, will demonstrate exercises everyone can do before bed to make it easier to fall asleep. Ages 12-18.

Friday, October 11, 1 pm

Willoughby Public Library

Fall Storytime & Pumpkin Painting

Paint a small pumpkin to bring home while listening to fun stories. Ages 3 and up. Friday, October 11, 1:30 pm

Willoughby Hills Public Library

Movement and Music Join us for a fun program followed by an optional opportunity to socialize and play. Ages 2-5.

Friday, October 11, 3 pm

Willowick Public Library

Sit, Stay, READ Practice your reading skills by reading to a therapy dog. Grades K to 5. Spaces are very limited.

Registration required.

Saturday, October 12, 10 am

Eastlake Public Library

Perfectly Polite Etiquette Class Ohio Etiquette Factory will demonstrate how to set a table, dining styles, proper introductions, and more.

Saturday, October 12, 11 am

Willowick Public Library

Homeschool Technology: Take Apart In this hands-on program, take apart a piece of technology and learn how the parts work together.

Monday, October 14, 2 pm

Willowick Public Library

Spooky Storytime Halloween tales, fun activities, and festive crafts celebrating the magic of the season.

Tuesday, October 15, 10 am

Eastlake Public Library

Theater Tales Come to the library and learn skills and tips for acting. Each week will feature activity to build confidence on "stage." The last half hour of the final week will be a time for sharing what we have learned. Ages 7-11.

Tuesdays, October 15, 22, 29, 6:30 pm

Willoughby Public Library

Scratch Coding for Homeschoolers

1 pm (Ages 8-11): We will explore computational thinking and problem-solving skills, creative learning, self-expression, and collaboration.

2:30 pm (Ages 5-7): With ScratchJr, young children can program their own

WEPLcon: a micro-convention

Saturday, October 5, 11a-4p

Willowick Library

Join us for a day of celebrating geeky fandoms!
Raffles, panels, cosplay, and more!



interactive stories and games. Limited space available. Wednesday, October 16

Willoughby Public Library

Hills Halloween Bash Join us for a fun Halloween celebration. Don't forget your costume!

Wednesday, October 16, 1:30 pm

Willoughby Hills Public Library

Preschool Playdough Party Each month will feature a different theme with various playdough activities for preschoolers ages 3-6 and caregivers. Please register for each month individually. Thursday, October 17, 2 pm

Willoughby Public Library

Creepy Tales Storytime Join us for fun crafts, activities, and a spooktacular storytime featuring Aaron Reynolds' delightfully eerie books Creepy Crayon, Creepy Pair of Underwear, and Creepy Carrots. Thursday, October 17, 6 pm

Eastlake Public Library

Homeschool LEGO Club We provide the LEGO, you provide the imagination. Friday, October 18, 11 am

Willowick Public Library

First Chapter Reading Club Join us for a reading and discussion group that introduces readers in grades 1-5 to different subjects and genres each month. Through read-alouds and group discussion and play, we'll help young readers find their next favorite book.

Monday, October 21, 6:30 pm

Willoughby Public Library

Learn Improv Learn & practice improv with instructors from Houde School of Acting. Wednesday, October 23, 6 pm

Willoughby Hills Public Library

WilloBoo Visit the Willoughby Library for trick or treating and spooky fun.

Wednesday, October 23, 6-8 pm

Willoughby Public Library

WilloWICKED Halloween Costume Party Enjoy crafts, games and stories during our annual Halloween event. Don't forget your costume!

Thursday, October 24, 6:30 pm

Willowick Public Library

Teen Art Club Join other art-loving teens for Art Club where we will focus on a different artist or style each session. Grades 6-12 (Ages 11-18.)

Thursday, October 24, 6:30 pm

Eastlake Public Library

Family Playgroup Spend some time playing at the library! A variety of books and toys from the Toy Library will be available in the storytime area for everyone to enjoy. Friday, October 25, 11 am

Willowick Public Library

Halloween Carnival Step right up to our spooktacular Halloween event with thrilling games, delightful treats, and more spooky fun than you can imagine. Costumes are encouraged!

Saturday, October 26, 11 am-2 pm

Eastlake Public Library

Learn and Play Chess Club Enjoy playing against people of various experience levels. An excellent opportunity to learn strategies and develop skills. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Saturday, October 26, 12 pm

Willoughby Public Library

Choose Your Own Adventure The Willoughby Children's Department has turned into a museum. Solve riddles and complete activities that will determine which way to go next.

Monday, October 28, 6:30 pm

Willoughby Public Library



EXPERIENCE

MAKES A DIFFERENCE

5528 MAYFIELD ROAD
LYNDHURST, OHIO 44124

MON. - SAT. 10AM - 6PM
CLOSED SUNDAYS

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