



Miami Springs Middle

January Newsletter

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Principal
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January Events

Classes Resume	1/03
Title I Parent Meeting 2012 FCAT 2.0 Information Media Center 6:30 p.m.	1/11
Saturday Academy starts	1/14
Interim Assessment	1/9- 1/17
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday No school	1/16
End of Grading Period	1/20
Teacher Planning Day	1/23
Beginning of Third Grading Period	1/24

What to do if your Child is Skipping School

If you learn that your child is skipping school, the first thing you need to do is to advise the school counselor/administrators. Furthermore, it is crucial that you have an open line of communication with your child to consider some solutions, and make it clear to him or her that school attendance is highly important:

- **If this is a “first time thing,”** give your child a strong warning. Work with him or her on a set of consequences if it happens again.
- **If friends are pressuring him/her** into skipping school, help your child practice saying, “No, this isn’t right for me.” Sometimes roleplaying, with you pretending to try to get him to cut school, and him practicing ways to say no, can help.
- **If there is a school problem,** always get the school involved. Meet with your child’s teacher to try to get to the root of the problem and come up with some ways to help your child.
- **If your child is cutting school because of family problems,** is abusing drugs or alcohol, or is in danger of hurting himself or others, consider professional help. Ask a teacher, counselor, or doctor for advice or where to turn.



Home is where education begins.

Encourage Reading

Research shows that children are more likely to read if their favorite material is available. Here are some suggestions of reading material to keep on hand:

- *Sports books and magazines*
- *Comics and Graphic Novels*
- *Mysteries and detective stories*
- *Your child’s favorite section of the newspaper*
- *Biographies and autobiographies of famous people*
- *Stories about people your child’s age*
- *Popular teen magazines*
- *Historical fiction*

Don’t limit yourself to these, and make plans to spend time at the library.
