

# Norup Notes

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## Norup International School

November 2010

### Fall Semester Schedule

Nov. 22: K-2 Family  
Feast 2:15-3:30 p.m.

Nov. 24-26 no school  
Thanksgiving  
Holiday

December break:  
December 20-31

Classes resume  
January 3, 2011

## Homework 911: Help your child study by knowing their learning

Research has shown that your child's learning style may be the single most important key to improving their study habits and their grades.

Students learn in many ways, like seeing, hearing, and experiencing things first hand. But for most students, one of these methods stands out.

Why is this important? Research has shown that students can perform better on tests if they change study habits to fit their own learning styles.

For example, visual-learning students will sometimes struggle during essay exams, because they can't recall test material that was "heard" in a lecture.

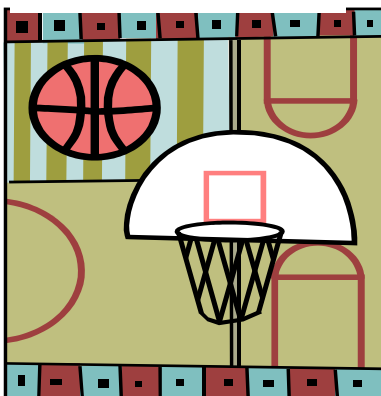
However, if the visual learner uses a visual aid when studying, like a

colorful outline of test materials, he or she may retain more information. For this type of learner, visual tools improve the ability to recall information more completely.

A simple explanation of learning styles is this: Some students remember best materials they've seen; some remember things they've heard, while others remember things they've experienced.

You may recognize your child's style quickly by looking at the attached chart.

Norup's Learning Specialists - Mrs. Werber, Mrs. Martens, and Mrs. Landstrom: 248-837-8359



### Norup 2010-2011 Boys Basketball Schedule

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (all games at 6 p.m.)

Thu Dec 2 @ Detroit Country Day Junior  
Thu Dec 9 @ Anderson Middle School  
Tue Dec 14 vs. Ferndale Middle School  
Thu Dec 16 vs. East Middle School  
Tue Jan 4 @ Dunckel Middle School  
Thu Jan 6 @ Clarenceville Middle School  
Tue Jan 11 vs. Royal Oak Middle School  
Thu Jan 13 @ Hazel Park Junior High School  
Tue Jan 18 @ East Middle School  
Thu Jan 20 vs. Dunckel Middle School  
Tue Jan 25 vs. Clarenceville Middle School  
Wed Jan 26 @ Royal Oak Middle School

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade (all games at 4:30 p.m.)

Thu Dec 2 @ Detroit Country Day Junior  
Thu Dec 9 @ Anderson Middle School  
Tue Dec 14 vs. Ferndale Middle School  
Thu Dec 16 vs. East Middle School  
Tue Jan 4 @ Dunckel Middle School  
Thu Jan 6 @ Clarenceville Middle School  
Tue Jan 11 vs. Royal Oak Middle School  
Thu Jan 13 @ Hazel Park Junior High School  
Tue Jan 18 @ East Middle School  
Thu Jan 20 vs. Dunckel Middle School

There are **three** U.S. cities named after turkey: Turkey, Texas, Turkey Creek, La., and Turkey, N.C. **Eight** cities in the United States are named after the cranberry. There are **28 places** in the United States named Plymouth.



## Thanksgiving Traditions Around the World

In America, we celebrate Thanksgiving by having a big dinner with our family and friends. Have you ever wondered how others show their gratitude?

The Chinese Thanksgiving (Chung Ch'ui) is called the August Moon Festival or Mid-Autumn Festival. The festival is held on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month. At the end of the harvest season, the Chinese have a big feast that includes moon cakes. Family and friends send each other moon cakes as a form of giving thanks. Chinese legend states that the moon is the brightest on this day, and it's an auspicious time to make and renew friendships.

The Vietnamese Thanksgiving is known as the Tet-Trung-Thu or Mid Autumn Festival. Also, like the Chinese it is celebrated on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month. Vietnamese family plan this day around their children, which is why this festival is also known as the Children's Festival. At dawn, the parents give children lanterns so they can participate in the Candlelit Lantern Procession. Lanterns represent brightness, while the procession represents success. They also do arts and crafts, dance and enter contests that allow them to win prizes and scholarships.

The Jewish Thanksgiving is known as Sukkot. It starts on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Tishri, usually September or October. This celebration lasts for 7 days. The festival recalls the period in biblical times when the Hebrews wandered through the wilderness on their way to Israel. During this time, they lived in booths, or *sukkot*, and so modern-day Jews build "sukkahs" in their yards – crude structures where they eat for 7 days and which are decorated with children's artwork and harvest items like gourds and Indian corn.

The Indian Thanksgiving is known as Pongal. Pongal is a popular harvest festival in South India named after a sweet rice dish. Pongal starts on January 14th and last 3 days. They offer pongal to Bhogi or Indran (the rain gods) to thank them for the rain that allows crops to be harvested. On the second day, pongal is offered to Surya (the sun). On the third day, they celebrate the cattle for all their hard work that year. Cattle are dressed up in flowers, bells, and color powder. Entire villages celebrate with a communal feast to which everyone brings food from their harvest.

The Korean Thanksgiving is held on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month and is known as Chusok, meaning a great day in the middle of August. At this time, Korean families thank their ancestors for providing them with rice and fruits. The celebration starts with a family gathering, where a rice cake (Sonphyun) is served. Families pay their respects to ancestors, visiting tombs where they offer fruits and rice. In the evening, children dance, play games and sing.

Every autumn, the ancient Greeks enjoyed a three-day festival to honor Demeter, the goddess of corn and grains. The Romans had a similar celebration in which they honored Ceres, the goddess of corn (the word "cereal" is derived from her name). The Roman celebration included music, parades, games, sports and a feast, much like modern Thanksgiving.

In fact, one of the most prominent Thanksgiving symbols, the cornucopia, dates back to the ancient Greeks and Romans. The term (generally describing a horn-shaped basket filled with fruit, flowers and other goodies) comes from the Latin **cornu copiae**, literally "horn of plenty." In Greek mythology, the cornucopia is an enchanted severed goat's horn, created by Zeus to produce a never-ending supply of whatever the owner desires.

Ancient Egyptians participated in a harvest festival in honor of Min, the god of vegetation and fertility. Parades, music and sports were a part of the festivities. In the British Isles, the major Thanksgiving forerunner was a harvest festival called Lammas Day, named for the Old English words for "loaf" and "mass." On Lammas Day, everyone attended church with a loaf of bread made from the first wheat harvest. The church would bless the bread, in thanks for that year's harvest.

Thanksgiving day is also related to the English Puritans' practice of setting apart individual days of thanksgiving. These highly religious occasions usually followed times of great difficulty: The Puritans would praise God in thanks for enduring a hardship. In practice, American Thanksgiving isn't a religious occasion, but it is centered around gratitude.

**Gra \* ti \* tude: thankfulness, gratefulness, or appreciation, a positive attitude in acknowledgment of a benefit that one has received or will receive.**



## Caring & Sharing Food Drive

Sponsored by Berkley Area PTSA Council

**Nov. 15-24: Jelly Drive** – donate jars of jelly

**Nov. 29-Dec. 3 – Breakfast Food Drive** – donate cereal, pancake mix, syrup, granola bars, muffin mixes

**Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hat Day** – donate \$1 to Caring & Sharing and wear a hat to school

**Dec. 6-10 – Cruisin' for Crans Drive** – donate non-perishable food and money to feed families

**Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Hat Day** – donate \$1 to Caring & Sharing and wear a hat to school

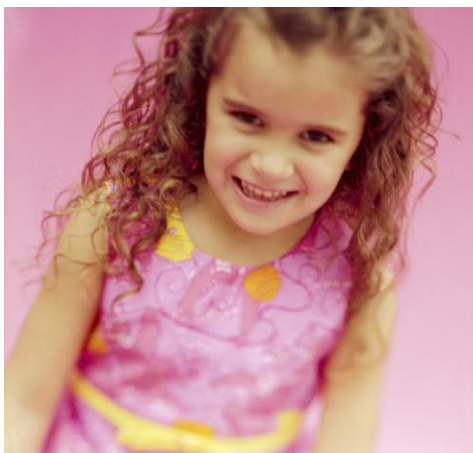
Questions? Contact Cindi Hammer:  
cshammer02@yahoo.com

## ACT Explore

On Thursday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, the ACT Explore test will be administrated to all 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students at Norup International School. Through a funding grant from Oakland Schools, students will be allowed to take this important test free of charge. This opportunity will help evaluate strengths and weaknesses, plan for high school and direct students in setting long-term goals.

Robyn Weiss, counselor for 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades at NIS, will visit classrooms on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, to give students an idea of what to expect.

Questions? Call Ms. Weiss directly: (248) 837-8310 or [rweiss@berkleyschools.org](mailto:rweiss@berkleyschools.org).



## Horizon Treatment Center

Attention Parents! Are you in need of a healthy outlet for parenting-related stress?

Do you have Medicaid or Medicare insurance? Do you want free counseling?

Horizon Treatment Center is now offering group counseling for parents of school-age children.

Mondays or Wednesday, 6 p.m.

17515 W. 9 Mile Rd., Suite 720, Southfield, MI 48075 (248) 423-1728

[www.horizontreatment.org](http://www.horizontreatment.org)

## Love and Logic Tips for a Successful School Year

1. Parents can't teach for teachers and teachers can't parent for parents. Remember that teachers and parents can't learn for kids no matter how much we love them.
2. Show the same amount of love for your children regardless of school success.
  - Show sadness rather than anger when they have trouble at school.
3. Expect your children to do their share of chores at home.
4. Spend some time each day talking with excitement about your work and your day. They will want to imitate you and will soon begin to talk about school and their day.
5. Take turns reading to each other every day.
6. Have your children teach you something they learned at school weekly.
7. Encourage your children to do things that "charge their batteries." Encourage them to try different activities as a way of discovering interests and talents. Remind them that they'll build careers around their talents, not weaknesses.
8. Provide a time and place for homework. Expect that they will study.
  1. Don't fight with children over homework.
  2. Don't fight with teachers over grades or consequences.
  3. Tell your children that you love them regardless of their grades or the number of years it takes to complete each grade.
9. Don't pay children for good grades and don't punish for bad grades. Be excited about good grades and sad for them about their bad grades.
10. Have your children bring home papers. Look at right answers instead of wrong ones. Don't correct wrong answers—leave this for the teacher. Have your children explain the reasons for the answers being right.