



The Mercer Minute



October 2009

Fall



FALL IS IN THE AIR

During the month of October, you will have a great opportunity to conference with your child's teacher about his/her progress here at OTE. Here are some suggestions that may help you get the most of your conference:

- ▣ Talk with your child about school, and take a moment to list any questions/concerns you would like to discuss.
- ▣ Arrive at the conference on time or a few minutes early so you are not feeling rushed. Your child's teacher is looking forward to sharing your child's progress with you! --Mrs. Mercer

Tease Your Brain!

What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, and has a bed but never sleeps??

Answer:
A river!

Techno Splash!

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Websites of the Month...

www.brainybetty.com

<http://brainconnection.positscience.com/teasers/>

TALKING POINTS...

On Homework...

The purpose for homework is to provide students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of-and proficiency with-the content they are learning. It varies by grade level and the amount of parental involvement required should be minimal.

At times, students may be asked to complete a project at home. Allowing your child to make most of the decisions when it comes to the project's outcomes will help your child develop a greater sense of responsibility, ownership to his/her learning, and also promote independent thinking.

It is okay to check over your child's homework for accuracy, but try to avoid correcting the work for him/her. If your child appears to be struggling with a particular homework assignment, you may need to send a note to your child's teacher explaining his/her level of frustration.

Remember, homework is designed to reinforce previously explored concepts, assist children in developing good study habits, encourage children to work independently, and promote self-discipline and responsibility.

Finally, parents can promote a positive attitude toward homework by establishing routines, rewarding effort, and celebrating success!

