

September 2007

# SES GUIDANCE

## Counselor in the Classroom

3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Edition



Hi, I am Bill Fisk, Schweinfurt Elementary School Counselor for grades 3, 4 and 5. As a part of my regular activities I present biweekly guidance lessons in each class. All of my lessons are intended to support your child's growth in the academic and social domains.

### LEARNING STYLES

Have you ever heard of a *Learning Style*? Our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will soon know about them. We will study *Learning Styles* during my first few visits in their classroom this year. My intent is to have the students understand how we learn best and to identify their own personal learning modality or style. They will be given a comprehensive list of "Study Tips" that fit their unique learning style. I will ask each student to personally commit to using 3 of these study techniques during the current school year. The purpose of these activities is to improve learning. Please ask them about their chosen "Study Tips".

### REINTEGRATION & CHILDREN

(Implications & Complications)

In the coming weeks I will present lessons on the concept and practice of successful reunions to all students with the exception our Cav Kids. They will receive their turn prior to their sponsors return next year. The Goals of these lessons are broad. I would like each student to be aware of the feelings that are associated with the return of a loved one after a long separation. After sheer excitement and unrealistic anticipation, a drop off may occur and a period of disappointment could follow. I want our children to set reasonable expectations. They also must be aware of the "Change Factor". Fifteen months is a long time for all, especially for our kids. A lot has changed, so I will ask our children to reflect upon how they have changed during this time. Most of all I want our kids to be patient in renewing their relations and have some practical ways to enhance these relations. Finally I would like our students to rejoice with the accomplishment of having "managed" through this long separation. They must acknowledge their success.



**How can Children strive for a successful homecoming of their sponsor? Here are some of the tips I suggested to our SES kids:**



### WAYS TO HELP A REUNION

1. Be on your best behavior – Don't test boundaries! ☹️
2. Be sure to show appreciation to your parent who stayed with you during the deployment. 😊
3. Make a special gift.
4. Give both parents time alone.
5. Follow through on chores.
6. Continue to do your best in school.
7. Be willing to share your parent's time with all family members.
8. Be patient – everyone needs time to adjust.



### THINGS TO DO TOGETHER

- Go for a walk
- Shop
- Play games
- See a movie
- Cook something special
- Celebrate missed birthdays
- See a ball game
- Build something
- Discuss plans for "Block Leave", the Christmas recess and/or the PCS
- Create a poster or scrapbook of the past 15 months
- Put on a short play of happenings while your parent was gone

## *Parent Happenings*

Did you know that SES has a GAC – Guidance Advisory Council? This team of parent volunteers assists our counselors with goal-setting and program evaluation each year. They also serve as our conduit to community.

In the coming weeks look for:

- ✍️ Parenting Classes at SES

📞 Please contact me if you have any questions regarding my in-class guidance lessons, home misbehavior or just child development concerns in general.

Bill Fisk

Telephone 09721-81895 or 354 6356

