

# The Xavier Zone

## What's happening at your high school



### Online Shopper? Check This Out!

Welcome to YellowBrickMall.com!! A website page on the Yellow Brick Mall has been created for **Xavier High School!** The web address is: [www.yellowbrickmall.com/xavierappleton.php](http://www.yellowbrickmall.com/xavierappleton.php) or you can go to the Xavier web page at [www.xavier.k12.wi.us](http://www.xavier.k12.wi.us) and click on the yellow "Shop online – support our school" icon on the bottom left corner of the page.

You can support Xavier High School by going to the above address and simply linking to any of the hundreds and hundreds of online national stores shown on that page. When you link to a store and make a purchase, a portion of that purchase (the percentage or dollar amount listed under the merchant's name) goes to Xavier High School. It's that easy!!

**What's even better, there is NO login required!! Your personal information, buying habits, or credit card information is NEVER shared with Yellow Brick Mall.** Your purchase is directly with the online merchant and your shopping experience is not altered in any way.

The Christmas shopping season has begun! And you can help support Xavier High School by shopping online this year at the YellowBrickMall! Over 750 online stores to choose from including Lands' End, Amazon, Target, Best Buy, Circuit City, Dell, Old Navy, Aeropostle, Kohl's, Macy's, Barnes & Noble, Cabela's, Bass Pro Shops, Dick's Sporting Goods....just to name a few! Check out the restaurants in your area from Restaurant.com, or the hundreds of stores available through Shop.com and GiftCertificates.com. ALL of your online Christmas shopping can be done from Xavier High School's web page on the YellowBrickMall. Your support is very much appreciated.

Check out our recruitment web page at:

[www.XavierRanks1.com](http://www.XavierRanks1.com)

December 2007

### XHS Tuition vs. Day Care

There is no question that Catholic school tuition can be expensive and taxing on a family's income. Most families make significant sacrifices in order to provide a solid foundation in the Catholic faith by placing their children in a Catholic school. Considering this, sometimes Catholic school tuition just seems to be exorbitant and not affordable for the average family.

The following information does not make Catholic education any less expensive but it does put things in perspective. We checked out the cost of day care at seven day-care centers from throughout the Fox Valley. We obtained the weekly rate from each center and then multiplied it by 36 – for the 36 weeks in a school year. **The average cost for these seven day-care centers is \$7,622** for a 6-12 week-old child, **\$6,691** for a 2-3 year-old child and **\$6,187** for a child at least 3 years old.

**Xavier's tuition for this school year is \$5,490** including all required fees. Although this tuition is significant, compared to day care it is quite a bargain! We certainly do not intend to demean day care services because they are important and necessary but when you consider all the expenses that go into providing a high school education, it seems like it is even more of a bargain.

What do students get for \$5,500 at Xavier? They receive the opportunity to grow in their relationship with the Lord, study the Scriptures, and learn about the doctrine and traditions of the Catholic Church and at the same time receive an outstanding academic preparation for college and life in general. When the education affects a person's entire future, moral character, and even eternal life – again, what a bargain!

# Xavier

has been selected as  
one of the

## TOP 50

CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOLS  
IN THE NATION



2007

*"Exhibiting Academic Excellence,  
Catholic Identity and Civic Education"*

## Fall Athletic News

Another great fall for Xavier athletics! Fifty percent of our students were involved on a fall athletic team. The fall sports teams won three conference championships plus three second-place finishes and a fourth-place finish. In addition, almost every team was represented at the state level!

### Girls' & Boys' Cross Country

Under the guidance of fifth year head coach Scott Doering, the girls' team was conference champions, and the boys' team placed second, just the reverse of last year. Three senior athletes advanced through sectionals to state: Heidi Brittnacher, Joy Willenbrink, and Thomas Reader.

### Football

Under seventh year coach David Hinkens, the Hawks enjoyed another winning season and qualified the sixth consecutive year for the WIAA playoffs. The Hawks placed second in the conference. For the fourth time, Xavier advanced in the state playoffs, beating Wrightstown (who had eliminated the Hawks last year), Denmark, and eventually losing in the level 3 playoff game.

### Girls' Golf

This fall marked the sixth season Xavier sponsored girls' golf. The team, co-coached by brothers Troy and Jason Thiel, and assisted by Steve Howe, finished fourth in the conference, third at regionals, and third in sectionals. Junior Colleen Mares qualified for state for the third consecutive year!

### Boys' Soccer

The boys' soccer team, led by second year coach Kasey Smith, had another banner season, finishing first in the conference. For the fifth consecutive year, they were regional champions.

### Girls' Tennis

The Mike Mauthe coached girls' tennis team swept the conference, winning every dual meet as well as the conference meet. They were represented at the state meet by junior Rachel Vrabec, who placed fourth, and was named to the 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-State.

### Volleyball

The Xavier volleyball team, led by second year coach Andrew Heimerman, placed second in the conference and were regional champions.

## Food Fair Book Shoppe

Looking for somewhere to donate your gently used books? Why not bring them to the Xavier office to be used at Food Fair!! We welcome hardcovers, paperbacks, VCR tapes, and DVDs as well as puzzles and games. All proceeds from Food Fair go to tuition assistance for our students.

## Grandparents' Day

On Friday, November 16, over 400 grandparents visited Xavier to have lunch with their grandchild(ren) and to see the drama department's production of "Annie". A team of over 40 parent volunteers helped serve a turkey dinner to 650 grandparents and students.

This event is one of the highlights of the year. The gym is wall-to-wall tables. We all look forward to this event and hope it continues to be a huge success. Everyone seemed to have a great time again. We thank the grandparents for spending some time with us at Xavier and with their grandchildren.

A special thank you to all the parents who helped make this day so very special by helping with preparation, serving and clean-up.

## Relevant Radio 1050am to Broadcast Xavier Basketball

PRESS RELEASE: Relevant Radio 1050AM plans to begin broadcasting Xavier Hawk basketball games. Veteran sports broadcaster Bob O'Halloran will handle the play-by-play from courtside.

"As a Catholic high school, Xavier is well-known as a perennial power in academics and in sports. The opportunity for us to join forces with Xavier and broadcast these basketball games is exciting," according to Bob Seering, General Manager of Relevant Radio 1050AM. "Our station is part of a network that carries Catholic talk radio programming 24 hours per day. In the evenings, we primarily broadcast encore presentations of our daytime shows. This live coverage of boys' and girls' basketball games will enable us to attract new listeners while having minimal affect by preempting regularly scheduled programs."

In addition to live coverage of all boys' conference games, 1050AM will also provide live coverage of select girls' games on dates and times to be determined. "I think this partnership between Xavier High School and Relevant Radio is an excellent idea." Principal Matt Reynebeau commented. "I believe many listeners will want to tune to the broadcasts of Xavier basketball games and many Xavier fans will hopefully continue to listen to the many wonderful programs offered by Relevant Radio."

Beyond exciting basketball play-by-play, the broadcasts will also serve to tell the story of the highly successful ACES Xavier Educational System that educates children from kindergarten through high school in an environment that holds true to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

## Xavier Book Club – New!

The new Xavier Book Club recently held an organizational meeting and 60 students showed up. This club was initiated by Rachel Vrabec, Pat Revord and Abby Wisnet. Mr. Riordan has agreed to be the moderator of the club. The first book the group will read and discuss is "Into Thin Air" by Jon Krakauer.

# LITTLE HAWKS

# BASKETBALL PROGRAM



SPONSORED BY THE XAVIER YOUTH BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

FOR GIRLS IN GRADES 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup>, AND 4<sup>TH</sup>

THIS PROGRAM IS SET UP TO INTRODUCE THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BASKETBALL AND TO GIVE EACH GIRL AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE HER SKILL LEVEL.

THE PROGRAM WILL MEET FROM 12:30PM – 1:45PM ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS:

JANUARY 6, 13, 20, 27

FEBRUARY 3, 10

\* Please note that the Little Hawks will perform during halftime of the JV game on Feb. 7th.

LOCATION: THE NEW BLUE GYM AT XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

COST: \$30.00 (INCLUDES T-SHIRT AND SHORTS)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: XYBA

PLEASE SEND REGISTRATION FORM AND MONEY TO:  
DAN RIORDAN/LITTLE HAWKS  
1600 W. PROSPECT AVE  
APPLETON, WI. 54914

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## REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

T-SHIRT SIZE

YL ADULT: SM MED LG

SHORTS

YL ADULT: SM MED LG

ATTENTION PARENTS:

I HEREBY WAIVE AND RELEASE THE XYBA FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY INJURIES INCURRED WHILE IN THE PROGRAM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN)

# Reading Connection

Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

January 2008

Kaukauna Catholic School System

## Book Picks

Read-aloud favorites



### ■ *Sam and the Lucky Money*

Bright, bustling Chinatown is the setting for Karen Chinn's book. Sam's grandparents have given him money to celebrate the Chinese New Year, but he has a hard time finding something he can afford. When he sees a homeless man, Sam winds up learning the true meaning of giving. (Also available in Spanish.)

### ■ *100 Days of School*

"If you go to school for 95 days, and then go 5 more days, what do you get?" Trudy Harris's book about the 100th day of school teaches youngsters the many different ways to get to 100. Count the toes of 10 children or the legs on a centipede. It all adds up to 100!



### ■ *Behold the Bold Umbrellaphant*

Each poem in Jack Prelutsky's collection features an animal combined with an object. Cross an alarm clock and an armadillo, and you get an "armadillo." A clock and an octopus make a "clocktopus." Your child will giggle at the poems—and at the illustrations of these funny creatures.

### ■ *In My Family/En mi familia*

Author Carmen Lomas Garza shares fond memories of growing up in a Mexican-American community. In beautiful pictures and stories, she tells about times like the warm summer nights when her whole family danced outside. Written in English and Spanish.



## Motivated to read

The more time your child spends reading, the better a reader she will become and the more she will enjoy books. Use these tips to encourage your youngster to read every day.



### Complete the puzzle.

For each book your child reads, give her a piece of a 12-piece jigsaw puzzle. When she finishes 12 books, she'll be able to complete the puzzle.

**Hold a "sleep-in."** On a weekend, have a family reading night in the living room. Leave the lights on and let everyone read themselves to sleep. Or read aloud by flashlight as they drift off one by one.

**Make a quilt.** Cut poster board into 6-inch squares, and have your youngster use each one to draw a picture about a book she reads. When she has decorated 9 squares, help her connect them with wide, clear tape. Then, display her "reading quilt" on her bedroom wall.

**Spend special time.** If you have more than one child, spend time reading with each one of them alone. Pick a regular time (Saturday morning, Tuesday afternoon), a special place (an oversized chair, outside on the lawn), and even a name ("Casey's Book Time").

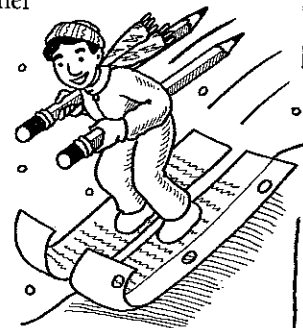
**Read to others.** Visit a nursing home and have

your youngster read aloud to residents. Or record her as she reads stories, and donate the tapes to a shelter. The thanks she'll get will boost her reading confidence and inspire her to read more. ♥

## Brr! Chilly writing

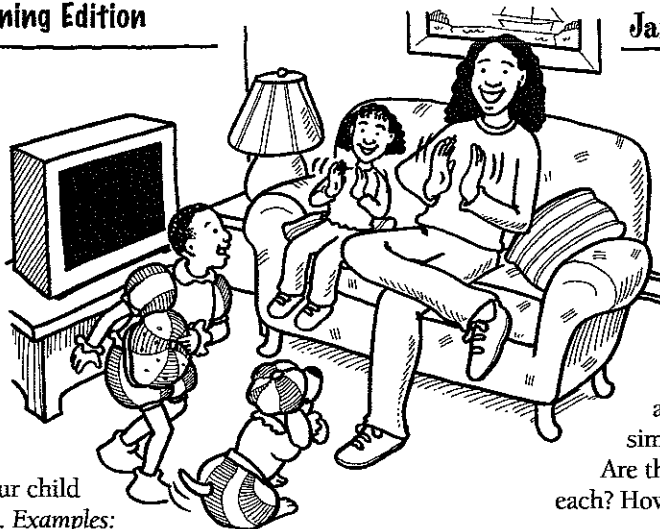
Polar bears and sledding and snow days—oh my! Cold weather means lots of fun things for your youngster to write about. Try these ideas:

1. Serve chili or hot apple cider, and have your child use his five senses to write a story describing it (spicy, steamy, dark).
2. Give him a calendar where he can note a word about the weather each day (icy, windy, sunny).
3. Together, watch snow fall. Ask your youngster to jot down 10 words that come to mind (soft, silent, cotton) and write a paragraph using the words.
4. Have your child pretend he's taking a trip to the North Pole and make a packing list (three coats, five sweaters, ear muffs). ♥



# TV thinking time

Did you know that you can use television time to work on your child's comprehension and thinking skills? While you don't want your youngster watching too much TV, you can turn the time he does watch into learning time. Here are some suggestions:



▲ Watch programs together and ask your child questions about the characters and plot. *Examples:* "Which character would you like to have as a friend?" "What do you think will happen next?" "How would you have solved that problem?"

▲ Suggest that your youngster create his own show by acting out his favorite book. Since television programs often include music, he might want to play background music while he pretends.

▲ Read a book based on a program, and discuss the similarities and differences. Are the characters the same in each? How are the settings different?

▲ Turn off the sound during part or all of a show. Have your child tell the story in his own words as it happens.

*Note:* Experts recommend that young children watch no more than an hour of TV a day.♥

## Fun with Words

### Reading clues

After hearing the Gingerbread Man story, your youngster might wish she could chase the cookie herself. Let her pretend to do just that with this hide-and-seek reading game.

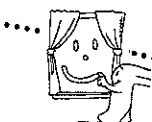
Read aloud Jim Aylesworth's *The Gingerbread Man*. Encourage your child to join in with the repeated lines: "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me—I'm the gingerbread man."



Then, cut out 10 gingerbread characters from brown construction paper. (*Tip:* Trace around a cookie cutter.) On each one, write a clue about

where to find the next one: "behind the couch" or "on the bookshelf."

Hide the cutouts, and give your youngster a hint to find the first one. Ask her to read each clue out loud as she finds it. On the last one, you could lead your child to a real gingerbread cookie!♥



## Q&A Word recognition

Q My daughter needs to work on reading smoothly. How can I help her?

A Knowing how to read common words—called sight words—will help your youngster read without stumbling. You can find these words by looking through some of her books and jotting down words that appear often (*examples:* are, the, said). Also, your child's teacher might be able to give you a list of sight words.

To help your daughter notice the words, have her keep track of a different one each week. She can make a tally mark on scrap paper whenever she sees the word (on a sign, in the grocery store, on a book cover).

Then, make a chart to celebrate your youngster's progress. List the words down one side of a large piece of paper. Place a star sticker next to each one when she can read it easily.♥



## Parent to Parent

### Books and behavior

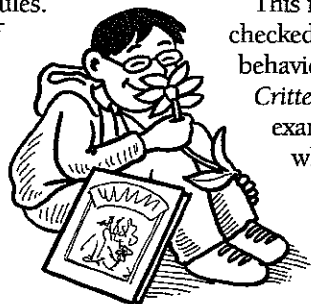
My son Martin loves to read. When I decided his behavior could use some improvement, I turned to storybooks to help him learn to follow rules.

I found a great book, *If Everybody Did*, by Jo Ann Stover. It shows what would happen if everyone slammed doors, jumped in the mud, or squeezed the cat. I loved that the book gave alternatives to breaking the

rules (you can smell a flower instead of pulling off the petals). The story seemed to help Martin understand why rules are important.

This idea worked so well that I checked out some books with good behavior role models. *The Little Critter* series by Mercer Mayer, for example, has a cute character who learns to say he's sorry and deal with anger. Now

Martin associates his favorite characters with good character!♥



**OUR PURPOSE**

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children's reading, writing, and language skills.

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# Middle Years

Working together for school success

## Short Stops

### Knock, knock

Your middle grader wants her privacy, but you want to stay in touch. If she shuts herself in her room after school or in the evening, give her a little while. Then, knock to see what she's up to. Let her know you're available if she wants to talk.

### Be on time

Help your child do his best by making sure he gets to school for first period. Try to see that he's up early enough to get ready and eat breakfast. Arriving before the first bell will let him start the day calmly and stay focused on learning.

### DID YOU KNOW?

According to a recent survey, 34 percent of eighth-graders have consumed alcohol within the last year. Discuss with your middle grader the serious risks of underage drinking—including trouble in school, problems with friends, arrest, addiction, and brain damage.

### Worth quoting

"The time is always right to do what is right."

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

### Just for fun



**Q:** Which direction are the Rockies?

**A:** Up!

## Test prep

When should your child start studying for a test? The day the test is announced! After all, the sooner she starts preparing, the better her chances are of doing well.

Use these ideas to help your middle grader succeed at test time.

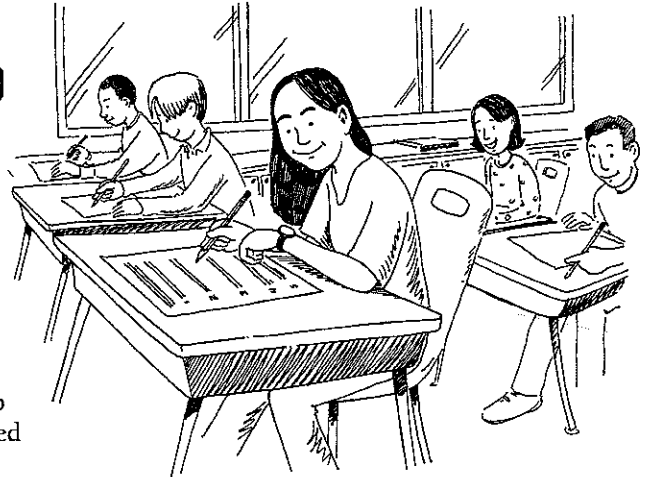
### Know what's ahead

Advise your youngster to find out as much as possible about the test. She should know which terms, formulas, or chapters will be covered. Also, she can ask the teacher what type of format to expect. For multiple-choice, she'll want to brush up on facts, dates, and definitions. For essay and short-answer questions, she'll need to be able to explain ideas and concepts.

*Tip:* If the teacher holds a review session, be sure your child attends.

### Study daily

Suggest that your middle grader study a set amount (say, 30 minutes) each day. She can go over class notes and fill in details she didn't have time to write down during class. Another idea is for her to reread textbook sections and make charts or lists (history timeline, chemical symbols). Consistent reviewing will help your youngster remember the facts.



### Plot test strategy

When the test is handed out, your child should read the instructions carefully. She might want to answer easier questions first and then dive into more challenging sections. Encourage her to watch the clock to make sure she leaves enough time for each part, as well as time to review and proofread her answers. 👍

## Go math!

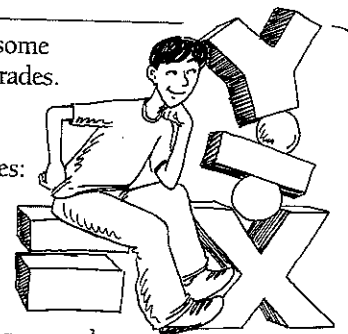
Math gets harder for some students in the middle grades. Here are ways you can support your child as he takes more difficult classes:

- Hang a poster board or large piece of paper on the wall so he can solve problems on it while standing or walking around.

A break from the desk-and-chair routine can be motivating.

- Encourage your middle grader to do the practice tests in each chapter of his math book. Suggest that he check his answers in the back of the book and rework the ones he missed until he gets them right.

- Be your middle grader's cheerleader. Applaud completed homework, good quiz scores, and improved grades. 👍

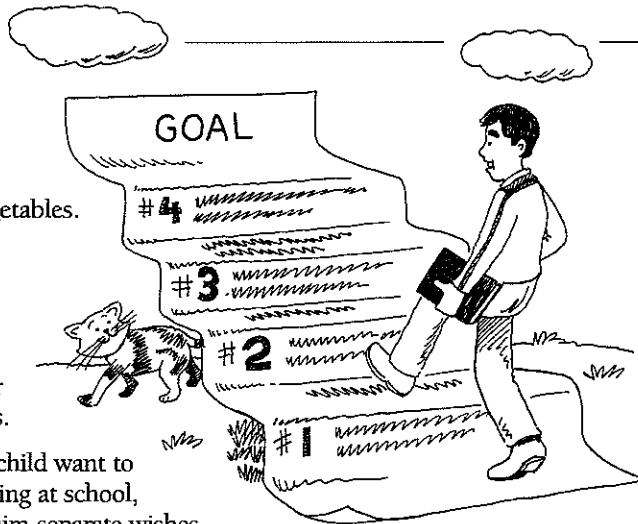


# Setting goals

- Goal #1: Write better essays.
- Goal #2: Eat more fruits and vegetables.
- Goal #3: Save for a fishing pole.

Setting goals gives kids something specific to work toward and a sense of satisfaction when they succeed. Encourage your middle grader to achieve his goals with these steps.

**1. Identify targets.** What does your child want to do better? Discuss how things are going at school, with friends, and in activities. Help him separate wishes from goals—goals are things he can make happen!



Tip: For a goal to work, it has to be something that's important to him.

**2. Write them down.** Have your middle grader write himself a letter outlining his plans and put it in an envelope marked "Goals." He can read the letter each week to stay inspired. Or suggest that he post his goals on a bulletin board as a regular reminder.

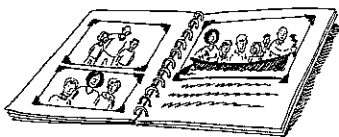
**3. Check progress.**

Encourage your child to try something different if his actions aren't moving him closer to his goal. Changing his strategy can keep him on track—and prevent him from giving up. 👍

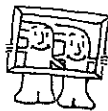
## Family activities

To keep your family strong, start new traditions that will bring you closer and create lasting memories. Try these simple ideas for family togetherness:

- Keep a jigsaw puzzle on a card table, and sit down regularly to work on it together.
- Choose a family home improvement project for each season (paint a room, build bookshelves).
- Hold regular craft nights (scrapbooking, beading).



- Attend an evening concert at the high school or community center.
- Watch a game show on television every week. Have friendly competitions to see who can get the most answers right.
- Take an overnight camping trip in the spring, summer, or fall.
- Plan zany parties. For example, if your team makes it to the Orange Bowl, serve orange snacks and wear orange clothes. 👍

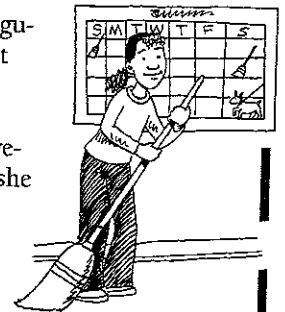


## Parent to Parent Chore solution

When our daughter was younger, she did her chores regularly. This year, however, Chandra began "forgetting" to set the table or empty the trash.

One afternoon when I came home from work, I saw Chandra raking leaves. She seemed to enjoy it. But that evening she still resisted doing her other chores. She told us she understood chores had to be done, but she was tired of doing the same ones every week. "Why can't we switch?" she asked.

We decided to try it out. We made a list of the daily and weekly chores and then took turns choosing the ones we would each do. Happily, our new system is working. Chandra still doesn't like all the chores, but at least she knows she'll have different ones each day. 👍



## Q & A Cyberbullying

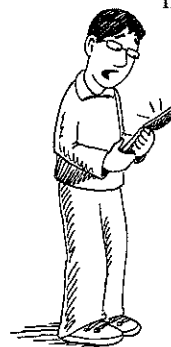
**Q** I'm worried about cyberbullying. How can I protect my middle grader from this new kind of bullying?

**A** Cyberbullying occurs when someone sends hurtful messages online or by cell phone. It can take many forms, from writing rude comments to spreading rumors in chatrooms or posting embarrassing pictures.

Your child can discourage cyberbullying by giving personal information (name, e-mail address, cell

phone number) only to friends. If he receives nasty e-mails or text messages, he should not respond. Explain that replying just gives the person the satisfaction of having upset him. A good thing to do is simply to log off the computer or turn off the cell phone.

Let your youngster know he should tell an adult if he experiences cyberbullying. You can report problems to your Internet provider, school authorities, or even the police. 👍



**OUR PURPOSE**

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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