

Handle-gram

Anniversary

August marks Handle Associates' "Sweet Sixteen." I have had the privilege of working with hundreds of extraordinary families during this period. I've also had the good fortune of witnessing the growth of students from kindergarten to college. To celebrate, I am offering a special referral discount for the month. If you refer someone who begins in August, you will receive a 16% referral discount of your tuition for the month. The offer is good until August 15th.

Summer hours:

Tuesdays: Test Preparation
3:00-7:00

Wednesdays: Essential Skills
(math & reading) 3:00-6:00

Thursdays: Writing
3:00-7:00

Saturdays: Essential Skills (math
& reading) 10:00-1:00
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Study Skills Workshop

Does your student know the difference between reading and studying? Does she know how to telescope projects for maximum efficiency? Can he prioritize work? Does he wait until the last minute to complete assignments? Does she become overwhelmed by the workload? Would he like more discretionary time for hobbies and activities?

If you answered in the negative for any of the first three questions or in the positive for the last three, then your student would benefit from a special workshop that I will offer on four Mondays in August from 3:00-5:00. The workshop is appropriate for students entering grades 7-12. Cost is \$200. Enrollment is very limited, so contact me today. A \$50 registration fee due by July 28 will be applied to the tuition:

Best Wishes

Lealia Xiong, a long-term student at Handle Associates, graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy in June. At 16, she will be among the youngest students in the freshman class at MIT in the fall. Until her departure next month, Lealia is working as a clerical assistant in the Essential Skills Program. Congratulations and best wishes!

Homework

from a recent blog

Homework should never be "busy work." It should have real connection to the day's lessons. According to Harris Cooper, a professor of psychology and neuroscience at Duke University, "Research has long suggested that homework in small doses can reinforce basic skills and help young children develop study habits, but that there are diminishing returns. The 10-minute guideline has generally been shown to be effective."

Moderation is the key component. When teachers assign homework, they must review it the next day, so that students understand that their efforts at home are a valuable part of the learning experience. Furthermore, timeliness is essential. Teachers should make every effort to return assignments within a reasonable period.

According to the *Times* article, "Homework wars have divided communities for over a century. In the 1950s, the Sputnik launching ushered in heavier workloads for American students in the race to keep up with the Soviet Union." So, the homework wars continue!

handleoneducation.blogspot.com