

Thursday, January 19th, 2017

Dear Parents,

Just a couple of things to inform you of.

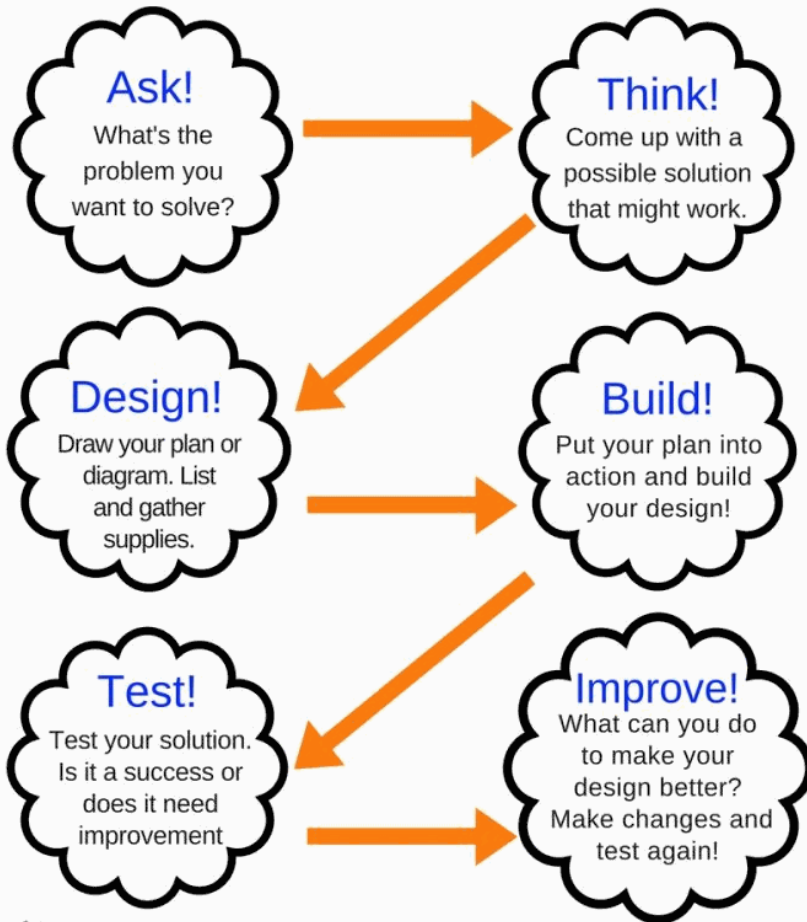
1. Tomorrow is **School Spirit Day**. Staff and students are being asked to wear red and white to support our girls and boys basketball teams as they play in the Championship game that night. Games will be played at about 6pm at the HS.

2. The PTA is sponsoring a **magic show** after school on Friday. Internationally known illusionist Jason Purdy will be here to perform the show which begins at 3pm in the school gym.

January is already more than half over! We are having a wonderful month learning about 2D and 3D shapes, adding simple numbers, reading fairy tales, reading and writing many simple CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words, adding to our list of "heart" words and so much more! Tomorrow we will be reading *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and attempting to build a bridge for the goats to cross. Each child will build their own small bridge from a variety of materials I have collected and then test out their design and construction at the end of the day by having a small toy goat cross it. This type of activity is known as STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) or STEAM (add arts to STEM). STEM activities involve "inventing" something, building, hypothesizing, counting, estimating, sorting, etc., and then possibly using an iPad or camera to document the work that is done. STEM activities encourage experimenting, building, observing, exploring, problem solving and curiosity. Here is a graphic I found online that may help to better explain the process

Design Process for Kids

design | build | test | improve



LITTLE BINS
BY LITTLE HANDS

That's it for now! Hope that 2017 is off to a wonderful start for everyone!

All the best,
Denise