

Discovery News

Setting A High Bar

Welcome back to school! It is a new year and a new beginning. In the Discovery Program, we are setting goals for our students and talking with our students about goals. Although our individual students have goals that are unique to them, we all share one overarching goal for our students. That goal is for our students to become independent learners, i.e. students that know how to take ownership for their own learning because they have the proper tools. The tools gained in therapy need to come out of the tool bag and be used in and out of the classroom. This is the big picture. As believers in Jesus, we know—no matter what our goals—we do depend on our God!

The Discovery Program comes with techniques and a prescription that is followed in order to strengthen the deficits that make it difficult to learn. Our students' success is dependent on following the program as it is set out. It is also a team effort. As a reminder of the parent's role on our team, please review the Discovery contract that you signed last spring.

Ways parents evidence their support:

- *encouraging their child to be actively engaged in the educational therapy process (including homework)
- *actively supervising Rhythmic Writing
- *observing their child in therapy

In addition, the student has a significant stake in the process. He or she needs to:

- *be on time
- *be actively engaged during his/her session

(Continued on page 4)



Fall Parent Night & Graduation

Tuesday,

October 2, 2018

7:00 pm

LC High School Library

We invite and strongly encourage all Discovery *students and their parents* to attend our annual parent night and Discovery graduation. A student graduating from the Discovery program will be honored and we will learn more about the keys to success in learning and growth.

Come for dessert, as well as encouragement and inspiration!





Rx 4 Math

Rx 4 Math is a small group early math intervention that builds and strengthens number sense, math fluency, math vocabulary, and problem solving strategies in an atmosphere where thinking is maximized and math anxiety is minimized.

Rx 4 Math is designed for students who need to master basic number sense skills, and for those who rely on procedural understanding without a conceptual understanding. These are students who regularly give answers that don't make sense or who have gotten extra help in the classroom and are still not "getting it." This program has been offered to 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders. They are placed in groups with students of similar ability level. They meet twice weekly for 45 minute sessions. Groups are formed for up to a year. Students are referred for Rx for Math if their classroom test scores are consistently low and standardized testing shows a lag of a grade equivalent or more. Students exit the program when testing reflects that the achievement gap has been closed.

The primary purpose of Rx 4 Math is to teach number sense. Without good number sense a student will not benefit from formal math instruction. The following are characteristics of those **who have good number sense**:

- Think and reason flexibly with numbers
- Use numbers to solve problems
- Spot unreasonable answers
- Understand how numbers can be taken apart and put together in different ways
- See connections among operations
- Figure mentally
- Make reasonable estimates



Rx For Reading

The Rx for Reading Program began at Lynden Christian School in the fall of 2017. It is a small group intervention for elementary age students that meets twice a week for 45-minute sessions. If students are found to have reading skills that are below grade level, they may qualify to join a group to have reading skills retaught, reviewed, and applied through practice. Goals for each student participating in a Rx for Reading group are as follows:

- To review letter sounds.
- To learn and practice letter patterns and syllable rules.
- To improve in phonics skills (sound out and blend sounds to read words).
- To increase sight word vocabulary (reading whole words automatically).
- To become a fluent reader and speller (reading and spelling words correctly at a good speed).
- To build reading vocabulary (knowing and remembering definitions of words).
- To develop reading comprehension strategies (ways to understand what has been read).

WELCOME New Therapists!

Karen Sebens is currently working with students in the high school as well as at Evergreen with two students who are part of the Spanish Immersion program.

My name is Karen Sebens, and I am thrilled to be part of the Discovery Program! Prior to my role as a therapist, I taught in the classroom for 14 years. I'm thankful to now have the opportunity to support students in a one-on-one setting. My deep hope is that each of my students will find their worth as beloved children of God, recognize and celebrate their unique gifts and talents, and be encouraged to grow in a safe and caring environment. My husband and I have two children, Andrew (6th grade) and Ava (4th grade). We enjoy camping, going for bike rides and playing games.

Jayleen Corkill is working with an LC student in the elementary school this year in addition to serving at Ebenezer Christian School.

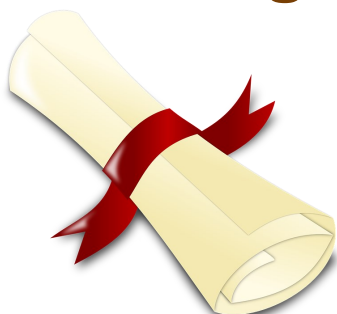
Hi! I'm Jayleen Corkill, one of the newest members of the Lynden Christian Discovery Program. I currently serve Discovery students at both Lynden Christian and Ebenezer Christian School. I also serve as the Resource Room teacher at Ebenezer. Before I began my role as an educational therapist, I was a classroom teacher for 15 years, taking a 7 year leave in the middle to be home with my children. My husband Mark and I have two high school students at Lynden Christian; Paige is a freshman and Jackson is a junior. When I'm not at school, you can find me watching LC sports, at home in the kitchen or yard, reading a good book or camping. I'm thrilled that the Lord has chosen me to serve Him as an educational therapist and have a deep hope that through Discovery my students will not only strengthen their academic skills, but learn to use these gifts to be His hands and feet.

Changes This Year

In addition to gaining new therapists at Lynden Christian, we have had a shift in duties among our therapists. Sid Hartwell has served as Discovery Program Coordinator for the last six years. She continues to work with students, but has passed Program Coordinator duties to Amy Vande Voort.

Congratulations to our Graduate!

Ella Libolt, 8th grade



We want to recognize the hard work you have put in, Ella, and wish you rich blessings as you continue to be a LEARNER in this amazing, complex, beautiful world. We pray that God will use you in unique and wonderful ways and that all that you have gained through Discovery will benefit you all your life.

***“He who began a good work in you
will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”***

- Philippians 1:6

*complete homework

*work hard in the regular classroom

We, as educational therapists, are committed to challenge and encourage students as we walk alongside them through educational therapy. In order for a student to make significant progress, adequate intervention must be given. Rhythmic Writing is a powerful technique used in the Discovery Program that helps us to reach our goals. Be encouraged to stay faithful to this routine at home!

In regards to Rhythmic Writing, **please schedule this into your week**, just as you would soccer, football or dance lessons. Write it on the family calendar. Once the student has been in therapy for a while, this routine can realistically be completed in about 10 minutes. If you are just starting out, it may take a bit longer. Limit the time to about 15 minutes and, in your next session, pick it up where you left off. Students should go through the cards sequentially, one card per day (non-therapy days). Rhythmic Writing should happen six times a week, with **four** of those times happening at home. **Your student WILL progress more quickly with faithful Rhythmic Writing at home.**

Thank you for your commitment and for partnering with us!

From your Discovery therapists, *Amy VandeVoort, Sid Hartwell, Deanna Pawlowski, Amy Libolt, Lora Johnson, Gladys Senti, Karen Sebens and Jayleen Corkill*

“The next best thing to being wise oneself is to live in a circle of those who are.”



- C. S. Lewis

DISCOVERY PROGRAM
Lynden Christian Schools
413 Lyncs Drive
Lynden, WA 98264

Phone: 360-318-9525
Fax: 360-318-1094
www.lyncs.org



Expectations for DISCOVERY students:

Do Rhythmic Writing
at home 4 times a week
do it willingly

Independent behavior
do your own work and
check it for accuracy

Seek help when needed
advocate for yourself

Complete homework
done well and on time

gOod attitude
toward parents and teachers

Very best effort
in therapy sessions and
in the classroom

transfEr learning to the classroom
take out the tools learned in therapy
and use them in class

Responsible student
come to therapy sessions on time;
bring your books and homework

You will be successful!!