



All Sailors on Board

StJPII Middle School Newsletter

October 2018

Skills for Now and Later

Did you know that the skills your tween/teen needs to succeed in school are the same ones that will help them thrive in the workplace as an adult?

- **Communication-**
 - ➔ Role-play employer and applicant. Show your middle schooler how to make an introduction with a firm handshake and eye contact.
- **Collaboration**
 - ➔ Team trumps in today's workplace. Have your kiddo negotiate a family schedule conflict by tracking everyone's feedback and responding to viewpoints.
- **Critical Thinking**
 - ➔ Our information society can be overwhelming. Model think-aloud at home for your middle schooler and have he/she imitate your thinking process (e.g. gym membership value).



One thing I've learned as a parent is that you'll never win an argument with a middle schooler...neutralize! Go "brain-dead" and repeat one-liners, but avoid sarcasm:

- ➔ "I bet it feels that way"
- ➔ "Thanks for letting me know"
- ➔ "I'll listen when you're calm"

October Safety:

- **Trick or Treat-** If your middle schooler is mature enough to be without supervision, have them stick with familiar areas in groups- better yet bring the family to *Trunk or Treat* on 10/26 at StJPII!
- **Red Ribbon Week-** Children of parents who talk to their teens regularly about drugs are 42% less likely to use drugs than those who don't- Be not afraid...of these conversations!
- **Fire Prevention Month-** Electronics can consume bedrooms/game rooms. Avoid overloading circuits/extension cords and placing wires under rugs in high traffic areas. Connections between plug/outlet need to be secure or overheating may occur- especially when decorating for Halloween!

SAINTS SNAPSHOT!

StuCo 2018-2019



