

# Black Mountain

GEAR UP Promise Zone

155 Highway 215, Evarts, Kentucky 40828

606-837-2214

Dear Reader:

We have started a newsletter for Black Mountain Elementary School to highlight events and activities for the GEAR UP program.

GEAR UP stands for Guiding Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. It is a grant funded by Berea College, Partners for Education.

This program follows a group of students from sixth grade to their freshman year in college. It emphasizes college readiness through academic success and the building of a college-going culture. Services include:

- in-school tutoring
- career exploration
- test preparation
- college visits
- career site visits
- mentoring
- family engagement activities

## Academic Specialists

Jackie Hensley  
Karen Phillips



Home of the Tigers



## Upcoming Events

### March 7

-End of Third Nine Weeks  
-Math Benchmark Test

### March 13

-Parent Teacher Conference  
3 to 5, BMES

### March 13 – 17 TBA

-Science Field Test 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades

### March 27 - 31

-Spring Break Week  
(Make-up Days if Needed)

**"All Day Every Day"**

## Attendance is Important

When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating high school.

[www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)

Page 1 of 4

## College Visit News



Students in the eighth grade at Black Mountain Elementary School had the opportunity to visit the campus of Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee. Twenty-three students attended a day long visit learning more about the campus life and areas of study at LMU. Teachers chaperoning the trip were Mr. Greg Edens, teacher; Mr. Andrew Williams, teacher; and Karen Phillips, academic specialist.

Students were able to tour the new mathematics building, fine arts building and campus. Those attending were also able to visit dormitory housing, along with eating lunch in the LMU cafeteria with LMU students and students from J. Frank White academy, a K-8 school on campus. (Our students couldn't believe they wore uniforms everyday)

LMU offers a relevant curriculum for the 21st century in business, humanities, arts and sciences, education, and health professions. The quality liberal arts and sciences programs offer students a broad preparation for selected majors and programs of professional study. Numerous academic majors give students an array of undergraduate options.

Multiply these academic options by LMU's [extended learning sites](#), online courses and interactive television classrooms, and you get an exceptional opportunity for study. Students may enroll at 10 conveniently accessible LMU locations in eastern Kentucky and east Tennessee. An expanding catalog of site-based, online and interactive television courses and programs supported by caring faculty permit students to study and complete their degree at various regional locations...or from anywhere in the world..

### Costs (2015-2016)

Undergraduate Tuition: \$20,016 per year

Room/Board: \$7,300/year (based on Liles and West, Meal Plan #1)

Total cost for a full-time, residential, undergraduate student: \$27,316 per year

### Financial Aid

A private college education at LMU is a fantastic value. Nearly 65 percent of students receive some type of financial assistance. The school awards scholarships as well as federal and state assistance.

Some of the unique majors LMU offers are Veterinary Medical Technology and Health Sciences; BSN in Nursing; a degree in Athletic Training and Professional Golf Management. For a complete listing of programs visit:

<https://www.lmunet.edu/academics/undergraduate>

Some

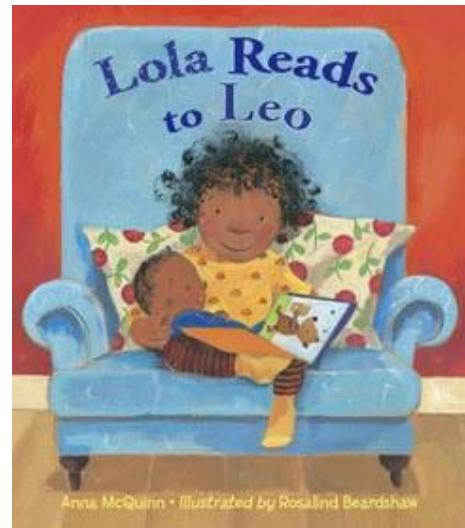
I will **study and get ready**, and perhaps my chance will come.

Abraham Lincoln

## At Any Age

Regardless of the age of your child, reading aloud is an important ritual, even when your child knows how to read. Here are some of the many reasons why:

1. **Children understand at a higher level than they can read.** Learners can typically comprehend text that is 2 or more grade levels above their independent reading level.
2. **Build vocabulary.** The more words you use, the more words a child knows and can use. Children's books have been shown to use more unique words than television, movies, or other media. New words encountered in context are easier to define and understand.
3. **Improved achievement.** Numerous studies show a direct correlation between reading to a child and academic success. Students who are read to have a higher aptitude for learning and more positive attitude about school.
4. **Develop a love of reading.** Research shows that motivation, interest, and engagement are enhanced when reading aloud. This can improve children's attitudes about books and foster a love of reading.
5. **Help them be better writers.** Linguistic information is best stored in the brain auditory. Children who listen to books being read over many years are more likely to develop competence in written and verbal communication skills.
6. **Help us talk about tough issues.** When you have to talk to your child about a difficult topic, books (both fiction and nonfiction) can be useful. For parents, a book can help lessen anxiety; for the child, a book can provide context and make it easier to ask questions.
7. **Broadens their horizons.** When children pick their own books, they tend to pick the same type of texts (over and over). Children tend to be more open to new genres and themes when read aloud.
8. **Improve decision-making.** When reading with your child, you have the opportunity to discuss topics and ideas that might not come up in the normal course of events. Children's author Katherine Patterson said, "Books are a dress rehearsal for life." You
9. **Bonding time.** Spending time reading with your child is an opportunity to get closer, both physically and emotionally. Even if you don't snuggle up, just being close to your child to share a book can foster deep bonding.
10. **Your child wants you to.** 83% of children across all age groups say they love to be read to.



# Free Books from myOn Reading Program

Every student in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> has been assigned usernames and passwords to access the myOn reading program. This program is free and given to your student to access to over 6,000 books, 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

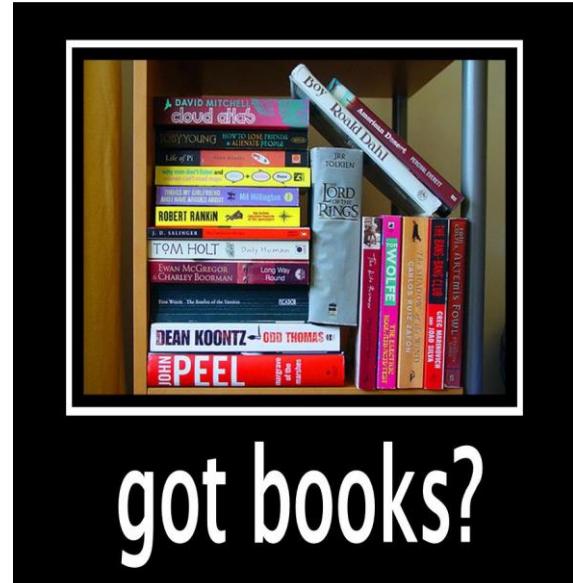
Each student should have brought home a Student User Guide so you may assist them at home logging on if you have internet access. The address is [www.myOn.com](http://www.myOn.com).

In the top right hand corner a special code is provided for you to access myOn from I-phones, androids, Nooks, Kindles, I-pads etc. so you can download up to twenty books at a time so your student can read at any place at any time.

The app can be downloaded free from the Apple I-tunes page.

In the first week of using myOn Black Mountain students have logged reading and read books as follows:

Grade Level	Number of Students	Number of Books	Hours of Reading
3rd			
Grade 4	38	41	8.05
Grade 5	47	112	31.32
Grade 6	28	63	23.27
Grade 7	28	78	25.42
Grade 8	30	32	19.71
Grade	29	24	18.16



got books?

Students can read any topic of book, complete the book by pressing end and answer five questions and the book will be counted as read in their library. Students may complete AR tests on the books that have been completed.

**For more information about myOn contact:**

**Karen.Phillips@harlan.kyschools.us or Jackie.Hensley@harlan.kyschools.us**