

Our 39th Year Serving Estill County!

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**New Year's Dream**

Jenna was taking an afternoon nap on New Year's Eve before the festivities. After she woke up, she confided to Dave, her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond ring for a New Year's present. What do you think it all means?"

"Aha, you'll know tonight," answered Dave.

At midnight, as the New Year was chiming, Dave approached Jenna and handed her small package. Delighted and excited she opened it quickly. There in her hand rested a funny book entitled "The meaning of dreams."

**New Year's Wedding**

At a friend's wedding, everything went smoothly until it was time for the flower girl and her young escort to come down the aisle.

The boy stopped at every pew, growling at the guests. When asked afterward why he behaved so badly, he explained, "I was just trying to be a good ring bear."

**New Year's Companion**

On New Year's Eve, Marilyn stood up in the local pub and said that it was time to get ready.

At the stroke of midnight, she wanted every husband to be standing next to the one person who made his life worth living.

Well, it was kind of embarrassing. As the clock struck, the bartender was almost crushed to death.

**New Year's Depression**

There's a man sitting at a bar just looking at his drink. He stays like that for half an hour. Then, a big trouble-making truck driver steps next to him, takes the drink from the guy, and just drinks it all down.

The poor man starts crying. The truck driver says, "Come on man, I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I just can't stand seeing a man crying."

"No, it's not that. This day is the worst of my life. First, I fall asleep, and I'm late to my office. My boss, in an outrage, fires me. When I leave the building to my car, I found out it was stolen. The police say they can do nothing. I get a cab to return home and when I leave it, I remember I left my wallet and credit cards there. The cab driver just drives away. I go home and when I get there, I find my wife sleeping with the gardener. I leave home and come to this bar. And when I was thinking about putting an end to my life, you show up and drink my poison."

**New Year's Prayer for the Elderly**

God, grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones that I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

**New Year's Day Prayer for One and All**

Dear Lord, So far this year I've done well.

I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper, I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot more help.

Amen

**New Year's Lecture**

On New Year's Eve, Daniel was in no shape to drive, so he sensibly left his van in the car park and walked home. As he was wobbling along, he was stopped by a policeman. "What are you doing out here at four o'clock in the morning?" asked the police officer.

"I'm on my way to a lecture," answered Roger.

"And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time on New Year's Eve?" enquired the constable sarcastically.

"My wife," slurred Daniel grimly.

**Resolution To Quit Smoking**

Peter, at a New Year's party, turns to his friend, Ken, and asks for a cigarette.

"I thought you made a New Year's resolution to quit smoking," Ken responds.

"I'm in the process of quitting," replies Peter with a grin. "Right now, I am in the middle of phase one."

"Phase one?" wonders Ken.

"Yeah," laughs Peter, "I've quit buying."



Message from Estill superintendent Jeff Saylor

**January Back to School Update**

December 22, 2020

**Students, Parents and Staff,**

After careful consideration and many discussions with various stakeholders, Estill County Students will return to in-person classes on Monday, January 4th, 2021. After considering the Governor's recommendation, we believe that continuous remote learning is having a definite impact on the social and emotional needs of our students and many are struggling academically as well. Our staff members have reported to work on a daily basis and they have worked very hard to meet the needs of our students and families. However, there is no substitute for the interaction our students get with our employees when they are at a structured setting in school. We see no advantage to waiting an additional week to begin classes for the Spring Semester.

We are finalizing guidance documents this week and will post additional information before the New Year. As of today, this is our plan for our return on January 4th:

1. All pre-school students at South Irvine will return to their 4 day per week schedule, with Wednesdays set aside for students needing additional help and staff planning.
2. Students in grades K - 12 will remain on the Hybrid A/B schedule, with Wednesday being set aside for students needing additional help and staff planning.
3. All "Healthy at School" guidelines will be followed.
4. Our Mode of Metric Guidance Document

will be posted next week. If our community experiences a spike in cases that causes our Metric to go above 50 cases/100,000 in population, we will return to remote learning at all schools. There will be opportunities for targeted instruction for students in the most need.

5. Students and families that have chosen remote instruction will remain on remote instruction and receive help from teachers in their school.

6. If a student that has previously been on remote learning wishes to change to in-person instruction, they will need to wait until after January 15th. This allows us the ability to make the necessary adjustments to follow social distancing guidelines.

I hope this information will allow our families and schools to start making the necessary arrangements to welcome our students back to begin the New Year.

We will continue to update everyone as additional guidance is released.

We wish all of our families a wonderful Holiday Season!

Jeff Saylor

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