

Dallas E.S.D. #327 What's Happening

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Principal Gary R. Miller

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Principal's Corner

The Fourth "R" for School

Every parent knows the importance of the three "R's:" reading, writing, and arithmetic. Some call them the basis of a good education. But I have one more "R" - RESPONSIBILITY - and it is the foundation for learning.

Well disciplined students take responsibility for their own learning and behavior at home and at school. They are self-motivated and self-directed.

Well disciplined students do not make excuses and blame others for their problems. They make good choices about what to do and when to do it.

But none of this is inborn. Students taking responsibility for their action is an important step in becoming self-disciplined - and it must be learned. Because parents are a child's best teacher, the very best place for children to learn to take responsibility for their own learning and behavior is right at home!

Upcoming Events

02/15 No School - Presidents' Day

02/18 Dental Sealant Day

02/18 Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m.

02/19 Early Dismissal 12:37 p.m. - SIP Day

02/19 Midterm

What's Happening in Kindergarten

Mrs. J. Olson

Mrs. J. Olson's class has been very busy using the new Promethean board in our room. We have tried a few activities with the alphabet and a few in math. Mrs. Olson took some classes to learn how to use the board and now she is teaching us how to use it. It is really fun!

Mrs. Finch

We had a great week! We celebrated the 100th day of school this Tuesday. We made crowns, necklaces, and counted footprints down the hall. I bet we even counted to 100 a 100 times!

We added a new sight word to our list. So far we have I, am, the, and introducing little! Keep reading and practicing those letters and their sounds.

We continue to learn how to read with our Reading Street program. Many of us are bringing home books to practice reading. In math, we are learning about patterns and measurement.

We celebrated our 100th day of school on the 2nd and are looking forward to our spring party on the 12th.



What's Happening in Second Grade

Mrs. Hartrick

Mrs. Hartrick's class is celebrating this week. We started the week celebrating Elisha's 8th birthday. On Tuesday, we celebrated the 100th day of school. On Friday, we are celebrating the Super Bowl of Reading. We have been reading at home and turning in football slips to see who is going to be the MVP of reading for each team. We are celebrating by having a reading party with lots of goodies!

In math we are working on our addition skills. We are practicing our facts and working on problem solving. Our Valentine's Party will be next Friday from 2-3p.m. Your child may bring his or her valentines anytime next week. Have a great weekend!

What's Happening in Third Grade

Mrs. Ryner

In reading we read A Symphony of Whales. This is a story about a girl who communicates with whales. She discovers a group of stranded whales. She and her fellow villagers come up with a plan to help save the whales using classical music. Students then researched whales and discovered many interesting facts. Some of these facts are:
A blue whale can have as many as 700,000,000 plates in its mouth. - Drew McDowell
Beluga whales are one of the smallest whales. - Isabella Mertens

Whales are the largest predators. - Katie Kaminski

There are 18 different kinds of whales. - Shayna Todd

An orca calf can gain about 2 pounds every hour and double its size in one week. - Hailee Wiseman

A blue whale's heart weighs about 900 pounds. - Jeremiah Settle

Instead of teeth, beluga whales have 300-400 comb-like plates. - Jason Martin
Please keep reading every night with your child and practicing multiplication facts.

What's Happening in Fourth & Fifth Grade

Miss Billings

The fourth and fifth grades are writing, writing, writing! We are writing in every subject and working hard to make sure that we incorporate Six Plus One trait writing strategies into our pieces.

The fifth grade is working on an explorer paper for social studies. They have each chosen an explorer and are learning many facts about the explorer.

Both classes are working on extended response items. These are great practice for ISAT and we want to be as prepared as possible.

The fifth grade is starting to prepare for their Valentine's Day party and are looking for parents that would like to help. We also need large coffee cans so that we can make valentine holders for the party!

What's Happening in Junior High

Mrs. Haskins' Junior High Language Arts / Reading

It's been exciting and challenging to learn how to use the new Promethean Activboard in my classroom. The board offers many different possibilities. A teacher can use it to display internet sites, present lessons and quiz students. The board is designed to interact with handheld devices used by students to respond to questions. Once the student responds, the responses are recorded and can be displayed in graph form and saved by the teacher for scoring. Even the most reluctant student participates in the class when the devices are in use.

Two all beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions on a sesame seed bun. Those are the ingredients to McDonald's Big Mac. It's also a reminder to writers when writing a paragraph. The buns represent the opening and closing of the paragraph. Although the two parts of the bun are both bread, they don't look exactly alike. That's true of the opening and closing of a paragraph. They may use some of the same ideas and words, but they shouldn't be exactly alike. All the ingredients in between the buns are the supporting facts and details that give the paragraph its own special flavor. When your student is struggling to write a paragraph, remind him/her of that hamburger. Make sure that hamburger isn't plain; load it up.

What's Happening in P.E.

Mrs. Hall

The music and physical education departments have come together for third and fourth graders. Ms. Wieggers and Mrs. Hall are teaching the students the moves needed for an old fashion square dance. The students are learning quickly. We hope to show off their skills during a fifth and sixth grade boys' basketball game sometime during the month of February. More details are coming.

First and second grade students will also be learning the basic square dance moves.

Dance is a state requirement for both the physical education and the music departments. Ms. Wieggers and I are enjoying co-teaching and love to square dance ourselves.

Information will be coming soon about our unit on roller skating.

What's Happening in Sports

Go to www.dcbulldogs.com and select activities to see all sports schedules.

Saturday, January 30, 2010 the sixth grade volleyball team made up of girls from Dallas City and LaHarpe brought home another first place trophy from the Southeastern Suns Volleyball Tournament. The girls participated in a round robin tournament defeating West Prairie, Astoria and Southeastern. The fifth grade team received second place defeating West Prairie and Astoria. The sixth grade team has a 9-0 record. The fifth grade has an 8-1 record. The teams are fun to watch. The schedule of remaining games are posted on the school website.



What's Happening in the After School Program

Mr. Gayton

The After-School Program winners for January's good character award were:

Pre-K - Kindergarten Kloe Norris

1st - 2nd grade Kevin Lionberger

3rd - 5th grade Kayla Robey and Isaiah Harry

6th - 8th grade Kolton Lewis

Congratulations to the students and rewards will be coming to them. For the month of February perseverance is the good character trait.

The After-School Program was able to obtain two Wii for recreation time. The students are having a wonderful time and enjoying them.

What's Happening in PTO

PTO

First of all the PTO would like to thank our many volunteers who helped with the Christmas store this year. Lila Gittings, Shorty Kline, Darla Newberry, Esther Newberry, and Holly Hutchins are always willing to help out. We appreciate you all very much. Mrs. Hartrick is busy making plans for the Penny Carnival. It is approaching fast and we are all excited for everyone to see her ideas.

Right now we are selling candles and dips from Celebrating Home to raise money for Penny Carnival. If you need order forms or have any questions feel free to call Cindy Logan at 217-449-3467. We appreciate everything you all do to support the PTO. Our next meeting will be Monday, February 8th at 7 p.m. in the school library. We would love to hear your ideas!!

What's Happening in Breakfast & Lunch

Breakfast Menu - each day includes juice & milk:

02/08 Cereal, muffin
 02/09 Waffles, syrup
 02/10 Cereal, cinnamon roll
 02/11 Scrambled eggs, toast
 02/12 Cereal, pop tart
 02/15 No School
 02/16 Sausage gravy, biscuit
 02/17 Cereal, toast
 02/18 Breakfast pizza
 02/19 Cereal, doughnut

Lunch Menu - each day includes milk:

02/08 Hot dog on bun, french fries, orange half, cookie
 02/09 Chicken & noodles, corn, applesauce, hot rolls
 02/10 Hamburger on bun, baked beans, pears, cake
 02/11 Taco boat, lettuce, cheese, onion, tomato, refried beans, cobbler
 02/12 Chicken patty on bun, mashed potatoes, fruit cocktail, cookie
 02/15 No School
 02/16 Mexican lasagna, lettuce salad, applesauce, hot rolls
 02/17 Grilled cheese, fresh veggies, orange half, pretzels, cookie
 02/18 Chicken gravy on biscuit, peas, peaches, cake
 02/19 Fish sandwich, french fries, fruit cocktail, lemon dessert
Jr. High choice available on: 02/09, 02/16 & 02/18

Other Important Information

The early dismissal SIP days are considered a full day of school. If your child does not attend on those days, they are counted absent for the whole day. Also, a student is only allowed to miss 10 days of school before they are considered truant unless they have a doctor's excuse or a pre-arranged absence.

NOTICE - AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

After School Program hours are 3:05 - 5:30 p.m.

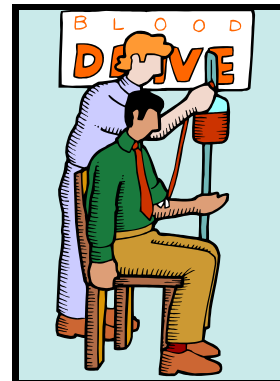
It is important that all students are picked up by 5:30 p.m. Beginning on December 14th, students picked up from 5:31-5:45 will be assessed a \$15 fee per family. A charge of \$15 will be assessed for every fifteen minutes the children are left in our care.

Please make arrangements for a back up person to pick up your children in case you are unable to get here on time.

Parents: Do not park in the fire lane when dropping off your students. Please pull into a parking space. Buses continue to arrive at various times in the morning and need to pull up to unload students.

Pint Size Hero Blood Drive

Dallas City held its 4th annual Pint Size Hero Blood Drive. We had 44 people come and give blood. *Thank you for all who gave their time and blood! Look for more in the next issue!*



2009-2010 Yearbook order forms - Please fill out and return your yearbook order forms to the office before Friday, February 26, 2010.