

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

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## Upcoming Events

**12/08 Senior Citizens  
Christmas Dinner 5:00  
p.m.**

**12/17 Regular Board  
of Education Meeting  
7:00 p.m.**

**12/22 SIP Day - 12:37  
Dismissal**

**12/23-01/04 Winter  
Break**

**01/04 No School -  
Teacher Institute**

**01/05 First Day of  
School After Winter  
Break**

## Principal's Corner

### Study Habits

Studying is a skill your child will need throughout their school career. Parents need to help their children learn to study.

### Start a Habit

We need to encourage our students to treat studying as a daily assignment, not just something you do before a test. Instead of studying the day before a spelling test, try studying fifteen minutes each night.

### Textbook Book Clues

When your child has a chapter to study, you can help them do the following:

- Preview
- Glance over headings, graphics, and photos
- Look up boldfaced words

### Try Different Things

Try reviewing material in different ways. Mix up the review.

### Picture This

How can you help your child improve their reading? To improve your child's comprehension, read a book without letting them see it. Then ask them to guess what the illustrations look like. They might tell how the characters dress or have them give a description of the setting.

### 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.

## What's Happening in Early Kindergarten

### Mrs. J. Olson

Mrs. J. Olson's class has been working hard on the songs we will sing for the program on Thursday. We are very excited about getting all dressed up to perform.

In class we continue to work on our Reading Series. We now know most all of our letters and sounds and at least 6 high frequency words. Learning to read by ourselves is fun!

In Math we are still working with numbers to make sure we have great "number sense". We are also beginning to add numbers together to solve problems. Patterning and recognizing money has also begun through our work with Problem of the Day.

## What's Happening in Second Grade

### Mrs. Hartrick

We enjoyed our Thanksgiving break and are eager for Christmas to come. We are working on writing our letter to Santa. Every year the Hancock County Journal Pilot publishes Second Grade's letters to Santa. It will appear in the December 23<sup>rd</sup> issue.

This week we are reading "The Strongest One" in our Reading Street book. It is a fantasy about an ant with a question. We are focusing on Character and Setting. We are also working on drawing conclusions.

In math we are continuing to practice our math facts everyday and working on passing our facts test in one minute. Please help your child work on addition and subtraction facts. This week we are working on patterns on a hundreds chart.

We want to thank Ms. Weigers for all her hard work on the Winter program. We had a great time learning the songs and our lines.

"We are going to do a Christmas play. It is fun because we get to sing." Haylee W.

"Free choice is fun because we get to play with anything. It happens on Fridays. I like to play with the moon sand." Isaac T.

"Centers in our room are fun. We go to the computers and get to jot stuff down on papers." Joey T.

## What's Happening in Title I

### Mrs. Leenerts

In centers we were very busy getting ready for Thanksgiving. We made turkeys out of our hands and feet. Now we are concentrating on winter and Christmas activities. During centers we have a story of the week and then the students are writing about the beginning, middle, and ending. We also focus on phonics and phonemic awareness.

Each week we have a phonics game related to what we learn in the classroom. Lately, we have been enjoying the active board. Kindergarten is working on letter recognition and beginning to build words. The first and second graders are working on sight words. The students like using the active board to make learning more adventurous and exciting.

## What's Happening in Junior High

### Miss Clayton

#### SCIENCE

It is hard to believe that it is already December! The next three weeks are going to be very busy for our young scientists. In 6th grade we are currently studying viruses and bacteria. We have learned the difference between viruses and bacteria, examples of viruses and bacteria, and how to protect yourself against viruses and bacteria. One of the best defenses against viruses and bacteria is to wash your hands with warm soapy water!

In 7th grade we have been learning about food and digestion. We have studied the Food Guide Pyramid, how to read a nutrition label, and how food is digested in our bodies. Eighth grade students are currently studying forces. We have been incorporating math into our daily lessons. We have been figuring force on many different types of problems using the following equation:  $\text{Force} = \text{Mass} \times \text{Acceleration}$ . Ask your child to show you a good way to remember this equation! All Junior High science students can expect to have a chapter test before Christmas break.

### Miss Clayton

#### COOKING

The cooking class has been hard at work these past few weeks. Last week we took a break from cooking to make Thanksgiving centerpieces. Using a candle holder and tissue paper, we constructed a turkey to include on our tables at Thanksgiving. This week we made brownies and peanut butter cookies and sold them on the A La Carte at lunch. It was a big success! We plan to sell baked goods until Christmas break. They will be sold for 50 cents.

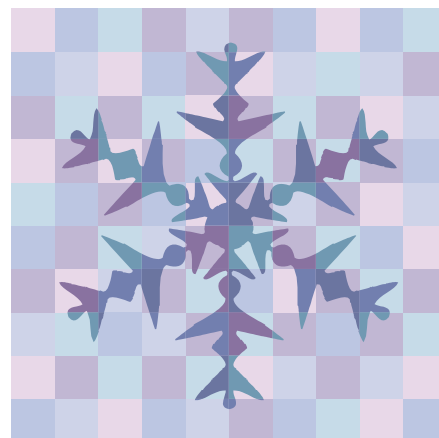
### Mrs. Haskins' L.A./RDG

Picture books are not just for lower elementary students. Junior high students listened to picture books to get ideas for their own writing. After reading Franklin Messy students were challenged to rewrite the introduction to Franklin as though he was a junior high student. The original story provided a template for their writing. Franklin could multiply and divide. He could unlock his locker and get to class on time. He could walk the walk and talk the talk. But Franklin was so messy that he could hardly ever find his things. Even important things.

### Mrs. Walker

#### JH Math

The seventh graders are working on a cross curricular project with math, reading, and social studies. They have created a city while writing their own laws, finding research on different cities, writing a persuasive essay, and mapping out the city. In Math we are working on graphing different aspects of the city, making a map with a key, and the final project will be to make a 3D display of the city. We hope to have the final project finished by Christmas.



## What's Happening in the Library

### Mrs. Ryan

Here are two more 2010 Monarch books worth checking out...

Words bring stories to life in **Max's Words**, by Kate Banks, with pictures by Boris Kulikov. Max is the youngest in his family. Benjamin collects stamps; Karl collects coins. Neither will share. Max desperately wants to collect *something*, and finally he decides to collect words. Clipping from magazines and newspapers, Max finds small and big words, words that make him feel good, words for things he likes to eat, favorite colors and more. One day sibling rivalry leads them to create a story out of Max's words. Really cool illustrations make this good story great.

**Andy Shane and the Very Bossy Dolores Starbuckle** is a school story by Jennifer Richard Jacobson, with pictures by Abby Carter. Meet Andy, who doesn't like school. Meet his classmate Dolores, the bully who knows everything. Things are looking pretty bad until Andy's Granny Webb steps in to help Andy teach Dolores a lesson. Kids will like the rhyming game the students play in class and the clever way a bully is put in her place.

The next two Rebecca Caudill books are both written in verse, so they look like poems but they don't rhyme. The pages are full of imagery and strong emotions, but are also a fast read (if a student happens to be under pressure from a deadline, let's say).

**Home of the Brave**, by Katherine Applegate, is about an African boy named Kek who is uprooted from his country by violence and brought to live in the US. His new home in the frozen heartland of America has nothing in common with the sunny warm world he has always known, until he sees the old cow in the field. Other friends come along, and Kek begins to rebuild his life as he waits in hope to hear from his missing mother.

A shark attack almost kills 15-year-old Jane, but the shark took more than just her arm. It took her future, for one thing. How will she become an artist, or ever draw again? It took her identity as well - she's now "that Shark Girl" on the news, as seen by friends, neighbors, schoolmates, and the whole world. **Shark Girl**, Kelly Bingham's first novel, follows Jane's life as she struggles to meet new challenges and accept the person that she has become.

## What's Happening in the After School Program

### Mr. Gayton

The After-School Program took a field trip to the Des Moines County museum in Burlington, Iowa. The students were intrigued by seeing artifacts such as Native-American arrow heads to Chief Blackhawk's most prized possession, his hat. Students listened as the museum narrators described how Chief Blackhawk had to barter his most favorite item for food.

Students also got to see pelts from skunks, fox and many other animals. On display were artifacts from World War I to the Civil War. The seventh graders also recognized a 38 star flag that was on display. We most gratefully thank the museum and the staff for the tour and hospitality.

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## What's Happening in Breakfast & Lunch

**Breakfast Menu** - each day includes juice & milk:

12/07 Sausage gravy, biscuit  
 12/08 Cereal, peanut butter toast  
 12/09 Breakfast burrito, salsa  
 12/10 Cereal, cinnamon toast  
 12/11 Breakfast pizza  
 12/14 Cereal, banana bread  
 12/15 Scrambled eggs, toast  
 12/16 Cereal, pop tart  
 12/17 Pancakes, syrup  
 12/18 Cereal, doughnut  
 12/21 French toast sticks, syrup  
 12/22 Jump starts

**Lunch Menu** - each day includes milk:

12/07 Chicken fajita, corn, fruit cocktail, cookie, peanut butter sandwich  
 12/08 Ham & cheese on bun, baby carrots, banana 1/2, cookie, pretzels  
 12/09 Macaroni & cheese, green beans, peaches, bread & butter, cake  
 12/10 BBQ pork on bun, tri tator, apple 1/2, cookie  
 12/11 Walking taco, lettuce, cheese, onion, tomato, refried beans, cobbler  
 12/14 Creamed chicken on biscuit, peas, peaches, cake  
 12/15 Hamburger casserole, green beans, applesauce, hot rolls  
 12/16 Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, pineapple, bread & butter, cookie  
 12/17 Chili, cheese, crackers, pickles, cobbler, peanut butter sandwich  
 12/18 Pork patty on bun, french fries, banana 1/2, cookie  
 12/21 Pizza, corn, fruit cocktail  
 12/22 Hot dog on bun, potato rounds, orange 1/2, cookie  
**Jr. High choice available on: 12/09, 12/14 & 12/15**

## What's Happening in Sports

Go to [www.dcbulldogs.com](http://www.dcbulldogs.com) and select activities to see all sports schedules.

## 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.

**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.**

## Community News

Santa Claus will be at the Senior Citizens Center on Saturday, December 5th from 10am until 12pm.

DCHS Class of 1985 is hosting a benefit for classmate Ricky Northup's children (Nathan and Neely). Ricky passed away after his battle with a rare form of cancer. This will be held at Hagy's Bar & Grill on Saturday, December 12th beginning at 4:00 p.m. Soups, sandwiches, raffles, etc., auction at 6:30 p.m. Anyone wishing to donate to the college fund for the children or the benefit, please call:  
 Pam (Pence) Johnson 319-759-7810 or  
 Cheri (Harrison) Stevens 319-759-9078

