



## **Dulce Elementary Family Newsletter**

### **February 11, 2010**

**George Schumpelt, Principal**

**Inky Vicenti, School Counselor**

**Joyce Lindauer, Asst. Principal**

[jlindauer@dulceschools.com](mailto:jlindauer@dulceschools.com)

759-2945

Dear Families:

**Friday, February 12: School in session as usual – POW WOW! and Valentine parties**



**Social Pow Wow “Honoring Children”**  
8:30 – 11:00 a.m. in Dulce Elementary Gym

**New Safety Bus Issue:** From now on when school is dismissed early due to bad weather, the school will make every effort to contact parents through an announcement on the local radio channel, and contract parents individually for you to come and pick up your child. Students who are not picked up by their parent/guardian or designee (according to school records) will remain at school until the end of the regular school day (3:10) to ride home on a school bus. **School buses will not leave early even if school lets out early.** Our concern is that a parent may not have heard of the early dismissal and therefore not be at home when the child would arrive at home during an early dismissal.

**2/17 EEO Fun, Fitness Family Night:** This family night will focus on health and fitness. If our children are not healthy and fit, they cannot learn to their potential. **Join us at 5:30 – 7:00** for a pot luck supper, followed by “fun” physical activity events, healthy snack making, and experience “Brain Gym.” Door prizes and a healthy reminder for all who attend.

**Important Upcoming Dates:**

**2/15 Presidents’ Day: No School**

**2/18 Ski trip for grade 5**

**State testing** for grades 3-5 will be from March 23<sup>rd</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please make sure to not schedule any appointments for your child during this timeframe. It is imperative your child be here to take his/her state tests. Thank you.

**Breakfast next week:**

Monday: No school

Tuesday: French toast, sausage, applesauce

Wednesday: Breakfast burrito, salsa, orange juice

Thursday: Ham & egg on biscuit, mixed fruit

Friday: cereal, fruit yogurt, orange smiles

**Lunch next week:**

Monday: No school

Tuesday: Nacho supreme, lettuce & tomatoes, salsa, carrots, mixed fruit

Wednesday: Grilled ham & cheese, tater tots, orange smiles

Thursday: Teriyaki chicken, rice, Oriental veggies, mini egg roll, watermelon

Friday: Bean & cheese burritos, green salad with dressing, grapes

**WebMD – Better Information, Better Health:** Attention Deficit hyperactivity disorder (**ADHD**) robs children of their ability to focus and pay attention. Children with ADHD are often fidgety and easily distracted. This makes it difficult to stay “on task,” whether it’s listening to a teacher or finishing a chore. The National Institute of Mental Health estimates 3% to 5% of children have ADHD, but some experts believe that figure could be as high as 10%. Without treatment, ADHD can affect a child’s development socially and academically. The inability to focus often leads to poor performance in school. Children who interrupt or cut in line may have trouble making and keeping friends. These setbacks can lead to low self-esteem. ADHD also increases the risk of childhood depression and anxiety disorders. If your child is experiencing problems achieving in school and is exhibiting any of these signs, you might want to discuss this with your child’s physician.

**Nurse:** Ms Cedar McGrath

We just had the puberty talk for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys. Parents, you might take this time to add to their knowledge about their bodies or ask them what they learned from Mr. “Art” Trujillo or the school nurse, Ms “Cedar.” Please do not send medications for your child to take during the day. Give those medications to the nurse who will give them to your child according to your directions. This includes inhalers. Any child who needs treatment for asthma, should have an inhaler at school, kept in the nurse’s office.

**P.E.:** Ms Dess

The first PE class of the week the K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders got to play Chickens to the Rescue. This is a tag game based on the book Chickens to the Rescue by John Himmelman. They also played 101 Dalmations Tag and Keep Your Backyard Clean, a throwing/punting game. The 3-5<sup>th</sup> graders did Team Marathon and Dr. Dodgeball. Team Marathon is a group warm-up activity. Each group tries to see how many of the 26 different warm-up activities they can complete in 15 minutes. The second lesson of the week, classes will be doing Valentine’s themed activities such as Valentine’s Tag and Valentine’s from the Heart, a warm-up activity. Our next **5<sup>th</sup> grade ski trip** is Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. The students really did a great job on our first trip. I look forward to seeing how much they improve this next trip. Since students will be given a grade for going on the ski trips, any students who do not, need to complete an activity log.

**Kindergarten:** Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms Laub, Ms Mason, and Mrs. Tafoya

For **reading** our students will identify and produce rhyme, isolate and blend final consonant sounds /m/ and /s/, review the names of the letters of the alphabet, attach the sounds /a/ or /t/ to the letter, identify the beginning, middle, ending position of a sound in a word, and begin to identify sounds represented by letters to decode written words, which is part of the reading process. Students will also read a decodable book, Sam Sat and review the sight word “on”. Allow your child to read these books to you or a family member to build fluency. Our big book story selection is “Tillie and the Wall,” a story about perseverance; here students will follow a sequence of plot events, recognize a character

problem and how it was solved, use the comprehension skill of compare and contrast, and review print and book features. For **language arts**, students will be introduced to synonyms and antonyms and develop an understanding of how they are related. For **writing**, students will continue to develop and understand narrative writing and develop a picture book in the process, plus use words that show action. For **math**, students will continue with “What’s my Rule,” to introduce rules for sorting, use number stories to develop an understanding of mathematical symbols and language used for addition and subtraction, and continue to practice reading and representing two-digit numbers as groups of tens and ones using manipulatives. We will have our Valentines party on Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup>. Check with your child’s teacher for times and food donations. Also, if you would like your child to participate in the Pow Wow held on the same day, please have your child dressed in traditional native attire and ready to go. Parents, you are invited!

**Grade 1:** Ms Cunningham, Ms Garcia, Mr. Hill, and Mrs. Snarr

The first graders are headed around the world! For the next few Fridays each classroom will **read** stories about different parts of the world. We will learn about different cultures, languages, food, music, and literature. The first week’s travels will take us to Mexico, Australia, Ireland, and South America. In **math**, a new unit is fast approaching. Soon we will be introduced to our own personal reference books. These will help us with the upcoming topics of function machines, fact triangles, fact families, name collection boxes and addition/subtraction fact tables.

**Grade 2:** Mr. Archuleta, Mr. Shields, Mrs. Valdez

**Reading:** Students will be reading “Fossils.” This story is an expository text, which includes diagrams, photographs, and other illustrations that assist the author in presenting the information in a clear way. **Language Arts:** Students will be learning about linking and helping verbs. **Math:** Students continue working on Unit 5; 3-D and 2-D shapes, which includes point and line segments, classifying polygons, and exploring symmetry.

**Grade 3:** Ms Corr, Mrs. Fuller & Mrs. Salazar

**Reading:** We continue our unit on “Money.” This week we are reading a story called, “Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday.” In this story, the character uses humor to tell how he squandered a sum of money in a very short time. Ask your child to tell you about the story. **Language Arts:** This week’s spelling words are words that have final double consonants, such as ‘spill’ and ‘odd’. We will learn about subjects and predicates – the subject names ‘who or what’ the sentence is about and the predicate tells what the subject ‘is or does’. We will study the comprehension skill ‘cause and effect’ – the cause is ‘why’ something happens and the effect is ‘what’ happens as a result. Lastly, we will study the suffix -ly and time and order words, such as first, next, then, and before. **Math:** We continue our unit on multiplication and division. This week we learn about number models with parentheses, estimating costs, and problems using extended multiplication and division facts.

**Snacks:** An extra special thank you to parents/guardians who are sending snacks.

**Grade 4:** Ms Gray, Ms Pixley, and Mrs. Velarde

**Reading:** The story for this week is “Shadow of a bull.” Comprehension strategies include asking questions, visualizing, and making connections. **Spelling & vocabulary skills:** Review /j/, /s/, /k/, /ch/ sounds, metaphors and similies. **Grammar:** Review apostrophies, verb tenses, and subject-verb agreement. **Math:** We will be working on rectangular coordinate grids for maps.

**Grade 5:** Mrs. “E”versgerd and Mrs. Rogers

**Reading:** We will continue reading stories about the heritage of different cultures. One emphasis is practicing reading and answering questions correctly. Students will practice reading questions carefully during weekly reading assessments and social studies homework. **Language Arts:** Students will continue to practice identifying the parts of speech. Adjectives and adverbs appear to be giving the students the most difficulty. **Math:** We will be going into high gear in preparing for state assessments. We will be reviewing algebra, geometry, data, probability, and statistics.