



Dulce Elementary Family Newsletter

February 25, 2010

George Schumpelt, Principal

Inky Vicenti, School Counselor

Joyce Lindauer, Asst. Principal

jlindauer@dulceschools.com

759-2945

Dear Families:

State testing for grades 3-5 will be from March 23rd through April 1st. 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.

A Celebration to Dr. Seuss: Come Join us for the Dr. Seuss Family Reading Night, March 1st from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Visit all five reading stations. Each station includes a fun activity; At Green Eggs & Ham we will be treated to the real thing, green eggs and ham; at Bartholomew and the Oobleck, we get to make ooey gooey oobleck; at One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish, there will be a fish pond activity; at The Foot Book we will play the game "Twister," and at everyone's favorite, The Cat in the Hat everyone will get to make a stove pipe hat just like in the book. In addition, there will be prizes and other treats. **Remember, this Friday is Whacky Hat Day (everyone wears a crazy hat to school) and Monday is Pajama Day (everyone wears their PJs).**

US Census Bureau's "Tribal Road Tour, Stops in Dulce! Join the tour, Friday February 26th from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Jicarilla Shopping Center. Who cares...We care! The Federal and State Government need to know that Jicarilla is still here and we count, counting you ensures that Jicarilla receives its fair share of federal and state funding allocated by the 2010 count. Funding for education, health care, roads, emergency services, and other important community projects. Filling out the 2010 census is safe, confidential, and only takes a few minutes. The strength of Jicarilla comes from your voice. Help continue to keep our heritage strong. Be counted! For more information call 759-4205 or 759-4218.

Did you know that **Child Obesity** can cause sleep apnea, asthma, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, gallstones, reflux disease, constipation, Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, depression, orthopedic problems, and much more. To help children win the fight against obesity, children should spend at least 60 minutes a day doing moderate to vigorous physical activities; eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables every day; minimize sugar-sweetened beverages; limit eating at fast food restaurants; eat at the table as a family at least five or six times a week, eat a healthy breakfast, and limit portion sizes. Crash diets and diet pills can compromise growth. If you have a concern your child may be becoming overweight, talk to your child's physician. He/she will be able to personalize a proper diet and exercise program for your child.

Breakfast serving ends at 8:00 a.m. Grab and Go breakfasts will not be given out after 8:15 a.m. If your child is going to be late to school, please make sure he/she has a healthy breakfast before coming to school.

Breakfast next week:

Monday: Cereal, grilled ham, banana

Tuesday: Pancake w/syrup, sausage, applesauce

Wednesday: Breakfast burrito, salsa, orange juice

Thursday: Egg & cheese on English muffin, mixed fruit

Friday: French toast sticks, fruit yogurt, orange smiles

Lunch next week:

Monday: Italian spaghetti, garlic bread stick, mixed veggies, peaches

Tuesday: Green chile chicken, enchiladas, tossed salad w/dressing, mixed fruit

Wednesday: Beef vegetable stew, hot roll, grapes

Thursday: Posole, tortilla, broccoli w/dip, pears

Friday: Beefy tostada, lettuce, tomatoes & cheese, corn, apple crisp

Fine Arts: Mr. Cunningham

All students (K-5) are finishing up on using “Skip Count Kid CD” songs and Schoolhouse Rock videos in the Fine Arts room to reinforce and enhance skills in Math and Language Arts. All second graders through 5th graders are finishing up taking multiplication practice quizzes using what they have learned from these skip count songs on the CD and the music videos. Kinders can count by 10s, 5s, 2s, and even their 3s. In addition to these, first graders are learning to skip count by 4s, second graders by 6s and third, fourth, and fifth graders are learning to skip count by 7s, 8s, 9s, and 12s so that they can do all of their multiplication tables by songs (if they don’t have them memorized already) in preparation for the state tests that are coming up soon. Students are learning that music and the arts in general can help them in other subjects.

P.E.: Ms Dess

We will continue with “**Whacky Olympic Games**” to celebrate the Winter Olympics. The following is a list of some of the activities we have done thus far: push-up hockey, speed skating races using paper plates as our skates; bobsled races using scooters, a biathlon event using paper plates as our skis, pool noodles as our ski poles, and beanbags for shooting at targets. **Wednesday, March 3rd is our final 5th grade ski trip to Wolf Creek.** The students did a fantastic job! It sure is exciting to watch how much they have improved. I would like to thank all the family members who came as chaperones. It sure makes things a lot easier with all the extra supportive hands.

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

This week for **reading** students will identify and say initial consonant sounds in words, read Decodable Books, “Hat, and “Sit Lil.” These focus on words with initial and final /h/, /p/, and /l/. They will blend sounds to read words, identify and read high-frequency words ‘has’ and ‘my,’ review long vowel sounds “A,E,I,O,U,” review the names of the letters of the alphabet, isolate and say final consonant sounds in words, attain mastery in attaching the /i/ and /l/ sound to the letter/spelling li, Ll, identify initial, middle, and final sounds in words. Students will also recall and retell information about personal perseverance, identify print and book features, which will include end punctuation marks and sentence boundaries, understand the use of quotation marks and continue to use the comprehension strategies of monitoring and clarifying. **Language arts** students will classify vocabulary words, continue to build their knowledge of narrative writing through make-believe stories, and learn the writing formation of li. For **math** students will explore measurement with standard and non-standard measurement units, learn to skip count by 5s and become familiar with tally marks as another way to count.

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

Second grade is right around the corner! With the start of unit 7, we are preparing ourselves for the **reading** lessons in the next grade level. What we are working on, and what we should be practicing at home is answering all questions in complete sentences. Another new unit in **math** brings about fun new activities for all classes. We will be working with fact families, equivalent name boxes, as well as fact triangles. As always, we need to continue practicing our basic addition and subtraction facts at home.

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

Next week we will begin unit 4, lesson 5 in Open Court **Reading**. This unit is a continuation of expository text. Students will have the opportunity to make their own imprints. In language arts, students will identify compound words. They will use their knowledge of individual words to predict the compound word's meaning. Students will identify the suffix *-ly* and inflectional endings. In **math**, students will begin unit 6, which covers whole-number operations and number stories.

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

Reading: This week's story, "The Cobbler's Song," is a fable originally written in the 1600s. It teaches us about the value of money that is earned. The main character in the story is a poor, but happy, hardworking cobbler who loves to sing while he works throughout the day. Unfortunately his songs keep awake a very worried rich man on the floor above him. Although the cobbler doesn't want money not honestly earned, he takes it and soon becomes as worried as the rich man about losing his gold. Ask your child about the lesson the cobbler learned about happiness without riches. Language Arts: This week's **spelling** words are base words that add *ing* and *ed*. Spelling lists are sent home on Mondays. We are also working on singular possessive pronouns such as *my*, *your*, *his* and *her* and on plural possessive pronouns including *their* and *our*. We will also be working on the **writing process** and getting ready for the SBA coming up in March. **Math:** We will begin our unit on fractions including equivalent fractions. You should have received a family letter explaining the different ways students will develop an understanding of fractions that have the same value. We will also continue to practice multiplication and division on an ongoing basis. Snacks: An extra special thank you to parents/guardians who are sending snacks!

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

Open Court **Reading:** We will begin unit 4, lesson 1, "Island of the Blue Dolphins" **Language Arts:** Grammar and usage – comparative and superlative adjectives Narrative writing: personal narrative, students will write their idea, do prewriting, revise, and write a draft. **Math:** We are working hard preparing the students for the Standard Base Assessment (SBA) by practicing basic math skills. Parents are encouraged to help your children with math facts, practice and know their multiplication. Most of all encourage your children to be at school every day.

Grade 5: Mrs. "E"versgerd and Mrs. Rogers

Fifth graders are working very hard. There are approximately 200 ducks on our grade improvement pond, which reflects a lot of hard work. Work for the next two weeks includes: **Math:** We will continue to work on test prep. This is not just scraping off the rust from what we have done since the beginning of the year, but also reviewing and teaching test taking strategies. As we prepare for the test we will continue to work on core curriculum. We will be studying area, perimeter, and positive and negative numbers. **Language Arts:** We will be starting a new unit this week and finish up the last unit's assessment. Our new unit is called, "Making a New Nation." The first story is called, "If

*you lived in the Time of the American Revolution.” Grammar will focus on types of sentences and clauses. In **writing** we will briefly review figurative language. In the March class newsletter some of the students’ poems that they have written about winter will be printed. **Science:** We will be looking at Mendel’s experiment with peas and looking at genetics, recessive and dominant genes. The goal is that we do some of our own experimenting with tomato plants. **Social Studies:** is on hold for a few weeks so we can have more time to work on taking the Language Arts portion of the state test.*