



Dulce Elementary Family Newsletter

March 18, 2010

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Dear Families:

Important Upcoming Dates:

March 23 – April 1 – SBA State Assessments for grades 3-5 - Please make sure your child arrives at school each day on time for the state testing.

March 24 – 26 – Early dismissal

March 25 – Parent/Teacher Conferences

April 1 – Early Release

April 2 – Beginning of Spring Break (no school)

April 12 – Return from Spring Break (school in session)

Breakfast next week:

Monday: Hot cereal, grilled ham, orange juice

Tuesday: Piggie sticks, chilled peaches

Wednesday: Breakfast burrito, salsa, orange juice

Thursday: Egg & cheese biscuit, chilled mixed fruit

Friday: French toast sticks, grilled ham, orange smiles

Lunch next week:

Monday: Beefy macaroni, roll, steamed carrots, chilled pears

Tuesday: BBQ sandwich on bun, veggie sticks w/ dressing, honeydew melon

Wednesday: Roast turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, peas, fruit shape ups

Thursday: Red chile enchiladas, Spanish rice, green salad w/ dressing, applesauce

Friday: Pepperoni pizza, green beans, orange smiles, oatmeal raisin cookie

Health & Wellness: Nurse Cedar McGrath

This year's Health Fair is on May 6th at the Community Center. The Children's Health Fair will happen at the same time at the Community Center, but in a separate area. Parents and adults can go through the children's section, but the children won't go through the adult section, (except, maybe 5th graders). There is also a poster contest in connection with the health fair. The theme this year is "Back to Basics." There will also be a poster contest and prizes given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.

Fine Arts: Mr. Cunningham

All students are continuing to create works of art, focusing primarily on one of the "elements" of art – line. While they are incorporating other elements in their artwork (color, shape, balance, rhythm, etc.) they are specifically identifying and using different types of lines (vertical, horizontal, diagonal, curved, zigzag, thick, thin, rough, smooth, solid, and broken lines). Students are currently working with markers, but will begin using tempera paints as well on this project. Grades 2-5 will also take an assessment in Fine Arts using skip count songs and grammar songs to help them work

multiplication problems and identify nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in sentences. This will be used to measure their progress from the beginning of the year when they took the same assessment.

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

For **Reading**, kinder will produce rhyming words, replace final sounds in words to make new words, segment words into sounds, focus on the sound/spelling, /Kk/ - Xx, /z/- Zz, /z/- Ss, /w/-Ww, read high-frequency words in a Decodable book, blend sounds into words, and identify long-vowel words that end in the silent-e. For **Language Arts**, students will use Vocabulary Skill words from a Big Book story selection to classify objects into groups, understand poetry as another form of writing, recognize pronouns, and practice writing the letter Uu. For **Reading Comprehension**, students will identify print and book features, understand what a Fable is, compare and contrast characters in a story, retell events in a story, and understand characters and settings in a story. For **Math**, students will continue to locate and identify numbers on a number grid, and explore number patterns. For our unit wrap-up we will review our unit this week.

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

This week the students will be starting a new unit in **reading**. We've studied animals, things that go, and weather. We've learned how important it is to keep trying, and now we're focusing on games! Play is a vital part of children's development both academically and socially. The reading selections and activities this unit will be about the games we play, rules for being a good sport and how to come up with new games that we can play here in the classroom and at home with our families. Our new **math** unit has brought us into the world of geometry. Last week we were reminded the names and features of common shapes. This week we will be creating our own designs using these shapes. The study of 3-D objects will begin for us this week also. We're going to need help from our families at home finding these objects in our everyday lives. Please continue helping us with our addition and subtraction facts.

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

New week in **Reading:** Students will be reading the story, "Dragons and Giants." This is a fantasy in which Frog and Toad set out on an adventure which takes them through frightening events. Students will review the different sounds for /a/. Students will also review present and past tense verbs. In **Math:** Students will begin Unit 7 which includes exploration of number patterns to reinforce numeration skills and develop readiness for multiplication and division. Unit 7 has three main areas of focus: to describe patterns that result from skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s, to build mental arithmetic skills for adding 1 and 2 digit numbers, and to make frequency tables, line plots, and bar graphs from real-life data.

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

Reading: This week we are reading a story called, "Uncle Jed's Barbershop." It is the last story in our unit on 'Money'. The story is of a determined man who was also a loving uncle. Uncle Jed had a dream that was challenged by a family crisis and The Great Depression. Ask your child to tell you about Uncle Jed's dream and how he finally achieved his dream. **Language Arts:** We will have a review of Unit 4 about prepositional phrases; subjects and predicates; and periods and parentheses. The **spelling** words are also a mix of words from Unit 4. **Math:** We continue our unit on Multiplication and Division. This week we will learn about a different way to multiply called the partial products algorithm. We will also learn about factors of a whole number and using multiplication facts to solve problems. Again, thank to all the parents/guardians who are sending snacks!

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

Reading: "McBroom and the Big Wind" is a story about a family surviving the 'big wind'.

Comprehension Strategies: Monitoring and clarifying helps readers understand the meaning of words and difficult ideas, and passages. Visualizing allows readers to form mental images as they read through the text. Making predictions causes readers to analyze information given about story events and characters. Language Arts: Conjunctions and interjections, and review parts of speech. Writing: Narrative writing, tall tale. Math: data sets, whole numbers, review addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Parents, please begin a practice for your child to go to bed early to adjust to the new time so he/she will be tired in class.

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

Fabulous Fifth Facts - **Reading:** "Listen my children and you will hear the midnight ride of Paul Revere". Yes, this week we are reading the poem of Paul Revere's ride as well as some interesting facts. For example in the poem it states that Paul Revere arrived in Concord at 2:00 a.m. when in reality he had been stopped by the British and didn't even make it to Concord. **Math:** We are wrapping up the study of geometry for the time being. We will also be studying algebraic equations specifically, although the students have been using algebraic equations all year. We will also be doing our last rehearsal for the math **SBA testing.** **Grammar and writing:** The students are learning if they can set down or sit down and if they may or can do something. Yes, those troublesome words are our focus this week. Thursday and Friday students will be writing and illustrating a metaphorical essay. **Science:** We got another new student; his name is Bob. Bob is over 5 feet high and he is very open about life. As a matter of fact you can see his muscle system, skeletal system, circulatory system, part of his respiratory system and some of his vital organs. Did I mention Bob is made of paper and cardboard? That's it for this week.